Sustainable CT Community Certification Report

This is the Sustainable CT Certification Report of Kent, a Sustainable CT bronze certified applicant.

Kent was certified on October 01, 2026 with 285 points. Listed below is information regarding Kent's Sustainable CT efforts and materials associated with the applicant's certified actions.

Contact Information

The designated Sustainable CT contact for Kent is:

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Actions Implemented

Each approved action and supporting documentation for which Kent was approved for in 2026 appears below. Please enjoy this opportunity to view and learn from the information and materials provided.

Notes: Submission content was created by Kent, and Sustainable CT makes no claims, promises or guarantees about the accuracy, completeness, or adequacy of the submission, beyond that an individual reviewer approved at least some elements of the action for certification. Further, standards for actions below may have changed, and the documentation listed may no longer satisfy requirements for that action. Finally, approved actions here may include some documents and descriptions in support of action elements that were not approved, in addition to elements that were approved. In preparing your own application, please rely only on the action write-ups for the current certification year to guide your submission. Please contact info@sustainablect.org with specific questions.

1. Inclusive and Equitable Community Impacts

1.1 Optimize for Equity – REQUIRED for All Certification Levels

10 Points

Approved Information: 1.1 - 10 points

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: KENT CT ACTION 1.1 (1).PDF

Partners: None

2. Thriving Local Economies

2.3 Inventory and Promote Local Products and Services

10 Points

Approved Information: 2.3.1a - 10 points

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: 2.3.1 LISTING OF BUSINESSES.PDF

Partners: Kent Chamber of Commerce.

3. Well-Stewarded Land and Natural Resources

3.12 Enhance Pollinator Pathways

25 Points

Approved Information: 3.12.1 - 5 points; 3.12.3 - 20 points

Supporting Documentation:

WORD: 3.12.3 AGENDA FROM KENT BOARD OF SELECTMEN MARCH 17, 2022, MEETING (POLLINATOR PATHWAY RESOLUTION).DOCX

PDF: 3.12.3 KENT POLLINATOR PATHWAY RESOLUTION

IMAGE: NO MOW MAY PHOTO (1)

IMAGE: NO MOW MAY PHOTO (2)

PDF: BOARD OF SELECTMEN MINUTES MAY 7, 2025 MEETING REAFFIRMING POLLINATOR PATHWAY RESOLUTION

PDF: 3.12 KENT DISPATCH ARTICLE MAY 9 2025 RE KENT'S POLLINATOR PATHWAY INITIATIVE AND NO MOW MAY

Documentation Details: 3.12.3 -- "Agenda from Kent Board of Selectmen March 17, 2022, Meeting" Iten 7.4 identifies the Pollinator Pathway Resolution as required by Action 3.12.3. 3.12.3 -- Copy of the Kent Pollinator Pathway Resolution as passed. 3.12.1 -- "No Mow May Photo (1)" and "No Mow May Photo (2)" are photos of "No Mow May" signage in the Town of Kent advertising the program and additionally showing that no mowing has taken place. (Photos taken on May 29, 2022). Signs were up the entire month of May 2022. Approximately __ signs were placed around town. 3.12.1 -- Copy of News Article Kent Dispatch May 9, 2025 promoting Kent's Pollinator Pathway initiatives and No Mow May 3.12.3 Pollinator Resolution: New Action Credit. Resolution passed on March 17, 2022 (Recorded by Kent Town Clerk on April 6, 2022.) 3.12.1 No Mow May: New Action Credit (May 2022) 3.12.2 -- "Board of Selectmen minutes May 7 2025" reaffirms town leaders' support for Pollinator Pathway Resolution

Partners: 3.12.3: The Resolution was adopted at the Board of Selectmen March 17, 2022, meeting. (Recorded by the Kent Town Clerk on April 6, 2022.) Other partners in the community include: Town of Kent Conservation Commission, Kent Land Trust, Kent Garden Club, and Kent Sustainability Team. 3.12.1: No Mow May Program: Town of Kent; Kent Land Trust.

Additional Information: None

4. Vibrant and Creative Cultural Ecosystems

4.1 Inventory Tourism and Cultural Assets

5 Points

Approved Information: 4.1.2 - 5 points

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: ACTION 4.1.2 KENT.PDF

Partners: 4.1.2: CT Visit

4.4 Provide an Arts and Culture Program for Youth

20 Points

Approved Information: 4.4.1 - 20 points

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: 441A KENT YOUTH ARTS INVENTORY.PDF

PDF: 441C KENT CURIOSITY LAB .PDF

PDF: 441D FINAL CASE FOR SUPPORT.PDF

PDF: AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMMING SURVEY.PDF

Documentation Details: 4.4.1 b: Programming Survey was sent out to parents in the Fall of 2024 to gauge parent interest in after school programs as well as parent/child programs and community programs. This is being submitted in lieu of a roundtable as there were discussions with different groups at different times and the Board of Ed determined, with the input of the school, that enrichment was lacking in Kent and therefore granted the ARPA money to form a new foundation that would provide arts, culture and STEAM programs. 4.4.1 d Case for Support: this document contains a timeline and budget to ensure sustainability of the foundation. See page 4.

Partners: 4.4.1 c the Kent Board of Education was instrumental in granting money to start the Kent Curiosity Lab and get enrichment programming off the Ground. The Parks and Rec director coordinates with the Kent Curiosity Lab to ensure that programs do not overlap and a wide variety of programs are offered to the youth of Kent. The Sharon Playhouse and the Merryall Center have partnered with the Kent Curiosity lab to provide high quality, ongoing arts programming and to help get funding for the programming.

Additional Information: The town of Kent in partnership with the Kent Curiosity Lab, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, hopes to build sustainable arts and enrichment opportunities for the children of Kent.

5. Dynamic and Resilient Planning

5.1 Integrate Sustainability into Plan of Conservation and Development

40 Points

Approved Information: 5.1.1a - 5 points; 5.1.1b - 35 points

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: 5.1 WORKSHEET 2 KENT

PDF: 5.1.1 WORKSHEET 1 KENT

Partners: 5.1.1: None

5.3 Develop Agriculture-Friendly Practices

20 Points

Approved Information: 5.3.1- 20 points

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: CONSERVATION COMMISSION LETTER TO BOS RE RTF 4.26.23

PDF: MEMORANDUM TO THE PLANNING ^0 ZONING COMMISSION - 4-9-15

PDF: PROTECTION OF FARMS AND FARMERS FROM NUISANCE CLAIMS - ORDINANCE AS REVISED 2024

Documentation Details: The Town of Kent's Conservation Commission worked together with the Board of Selectmen and Planning & Zoning Commission to enact an ordinance to prevent claims made against farmers conducting permissible farming activities that might otherwise give rise to a nuisance claim in the absence of farming. The Ordinance was passed by the Town originally as the "Right to Farm" Ordinance. In subsequent years, several community members, misconstruing the intent of the ordinance, sought to use the ordinance to bring complaints against farmers conducting permissible activities. The Conservation Commission successfully worked to educate the community and to rename the Ordinance the "Protection of Farms and Farmers From Nuisance Claims" to clarify its intent and operation. We are submitting the most recent documentary evidence renaming the Ordinance.

Partners: The Northwest Hills Council of Governments provided the impetus for the ordinance, as well as helpful templates and examples. Examples and resources were also provided by the Connecticut Farm Bureau, Connecticut Farmland Trust, and American Farmland Trust

5.4 Assess Climate Vulnerability

20 Points

Approved Information: 5.4.2 - 20 points

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: COMMUNITY RESILIENCE BUILDING WORKSHOP SUMMARY OF FINDINGS MARCH 2022

Documentation Details: While the Community Resilience Building Workshop conducted with the help of the Nature Conservancy in 2022 is more than three years past, the Workshop's impact continues to inspire partnership and coordination among its various participants. The Summary of Findings provided helpful additive material for the Town in addressing current climate-driven challenges, especially as Kent's most recent Plan of Conservation and Development only tangentially addresses climate change. Kent's municipal leaders have become more aware and better prepared to mitigate and respond to environmental hazards, and many of the Recommendations to Improve Resilience at the close of the report have either been completed, or are being directly pursued.

Partners: 5.4.2 Nature Conservancy (Adam Whelchel); Jessica LeClair (Sustainable CT)

Additional Information: Jessica LeClair notified our group of the opportunity to work with the Nature Conservancy and Sustainable CT on this Action.

6. Clean and Diverse Transportation Systems and Choices

6.4 Support Zero Emission Vehicle Deployment

5 Points

Approved Information: 6.4.1 - 5 points

Supporting Documentation:

IMAGE: 6.4.1_EV ROAD TRIP FLYER_OCTOBER 11 2025.JPG

PDF: 6.4.1 EV ROAD TRIP 10112025.PDF

PDF: 6.4.1_EMAIL_2ND ANNUAL _EV ROAD TRIP THROUGH KENT_OCTOBER 2025.PDF

PDF: 6.4.1_EV ROAD TRIP PROMOTION_TOWN OF KENT OCTOBER 2025 NEWSLETTER.PDF

PDF: 6.4.1_EV ROAD TRIP_KENT DISPATCH ARTICLE.PDF

Partners: 6.4.1: Kent hosted Live Green Connecticut to run the event.

7. Renewable and Efficient Energy Infrastructure and Operations

7.9 Participate in and Promote the C-PACE Program

5 Points

Approved Information: 7.9.2- 5 points

Supporting Documentation:

IMAGE: CPACE PRESENTATION TO CHAMBER_06032026 KENT.JPG

PDF: 7.9.2 KENT.PDF

PDF: 7.9.1 C-PACE URL ON KENT WEBSITE.PDF

Partners: 7.9.1: The Connecticut Green Bank. 7.9.2: The Connecticut Green Bank and Sustainable CT assisted in organizing the C-PACE workshop. The Connecticut Green Bank hosted the workshop for Kent's Chamber of Commerce.

8. Inclusive Engagement, Communication and Education

8.1 Hold a Sustainability Event

20 Points

Approved Information: 8.1.1 - 20 points

Supporting Documentation:

EXCEL: 8.1_TOWN OF KENT EVENTS_UPDATED 08162026.XLSX

Partners: Partners listed in the worksheet

8.2 Provide Effective Community Communications

15 Points

Approved Information: 8.2.1 - 15 points

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: TOWN OF KENT COMMUNICATIONS STRATEGY_APPROVED 07212026.PDF
IMAGE: FRONT OF SURVEY CARD.PNG
PDF: KENT COMMUNICATIONS PRINTED SURVEY.PDF
PDF: TOWN OF KENT RESIDENT COMMUNICATION SURVEY FINAL.PDF
PDF: 8.2.1A_WORKSHEET.PDF

Partners: Kent Memorial Library

8.5 Engage in a Sustainable CT Mentorship with Other Municipalities

5 Points

Approved Information: 8.5.1 - 5 points

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: 8.5_WORKSHEET_1_KENT_ROXBURY.PDF

Partners: 8.5.1: Sustainable Roxbury Committee, Jessyka Patterson

9. Strategic Materials Management

9.1 Report Materials Management Data and Reduce Waste

5 Points

Approved Information: 9.1.1 - 5 points

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: 9.1 KENT MSW FY 2024-25.PDF
PDF: 9.1 KENT MSW FY 2023-24.PDF
PDF: 9.1 KENT MSW FY 2022-23.PDF
PDF: 9.1.2_KENT_WORKSHEET_2.PDF
EXCEL: 9.1.1_KENT WORKSHEET_1.XLSX
IMAGE: WEBSITE SCREENSHOT KENT TRANSFER STATION.PNG

Documentation Details: https://www.townofkentct.gov/transfer-station

Partners: None

9.2 Implement Unit-Based Pricing

15 Points

Approved Information: 9.2.1 - 5 points; 9.2.2 - 10 points

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: 9.2_2025-2026_TRANSFER_STATION APPLICATION.PDF
PDF: 9.2_RESOLUTION-DEEP_SUSTAINABLE MATERIALS MANAGEMENT GRANT.PDF
PDF: 9.2.1_KENT WORKSHEET_1.PDF
PDF: 9.2_HRRA (KENT) DEEP GRANT FOOD SCRAP_UNIT BASED_9.16.24_REDACTED.PDF
PDF: 9.2.2_KENT UNIT BASED PRICING WORKSHEET_2.PDF

Partners: 9.2 Housatonic Resource Recovery Authority

9.4 Compost Organic Waste

15 Points

Approved Information: 9.4.1 - 15 points

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: 9.4_RESOLUTION-DEEP_SUSTAINABLE MATERIALS MANAGEMENT GRANT.PDF
PDF: 9.4_HRRA (KENT) DEEP GRANT FOOD SCRAP_UNIT BASED_9.16.24_REDACTED.PDF
PDF: 9.4_KENT_COMPOST ORGANIC WASTE.PDF

Partners: 9.4.1: The town of Kent and the Housatonic Resource Recovery Authority collaborated to apply for a sustainable materials management grant through DEEP.

10. Optimal Health and Wellness Opportunities

10.7 Improve Outdoor Access for All

20 Points

Approved Information: 10.7.1 - 5 points; 10.7.3 - 15 points

Supporting Documentation:

IMAGE: 10.7.3_EMERY PARK NEW TRAILS MAP.JPG
PDF: 10.7.3 IMPROVE OPEN SPACE_NEW TRAILS AT EMERY PARK.PDF
PDF: 10.7.3_EMERY PARK DAY FLYER.PDF
PDF: 10.7.3_EMERY PARK MAP OCT 2025.PDF
PDF: 10.7.3_TRAILS PROMOTION_TOWN OF KENT OCTOBER 2025 NEWSLETTER.PDF
IMAGE: 10.7.1METEORWATCHPARTY_FLYER KPR_KLT_07302025.JPG
IMAGE: 10.7.1_METEORWATCHPARTY_FACEBOOKPOST 06302025.PNG
PDF: 10.7.1_KENT DISPATCH_METEORS MAKE APPEARANCE IN NIGHT SKY_08152024.PDF

Documentation Details: 10.7.1 Meteor Watch Party Overview in the Kent Dispatch Meteors article.

Partners: 10.7.1; parks and rec 10.7.2: parks and rec, AllTrails

11. Healthy, Efficient and Diverse Housing

11.1 Implement an Affordable Housing Plan

15 Points

Approved Information: 11.1.3 - 15 points

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: 11.1_WORKSHEET_3.PDF

PDF: KENT HOUSING PLAN FINAL.PDF

PDF: NORTHWEST CT AFFORDABLE HOUSING AND CONSERVATION STRATEGY REPORT - 2024 (ONGOING COLLABORATION)

Documentation Details: As seen in the uploaded information, our Affordable Housing Plan was completed and adopted in 2022, and incorporated by reference into Kent's Plan of Conservation and Development. While Kent does not have a municipal Affordable Housing Committee, it has a strong nonprofit housing group that meets regularly to monitor housing needs and opportunities to increase affordable housing in town. Currently there are two projects underway anticipated to bring 29 additional rental and home ownership residences to the town. Note that these projects will fully implement one of the goals of the Affordable Housing Plan: "Expand and preserve dedicated affordable housing by at least 20 units within 5 years." The Town's Planning & Zoning Commission has additionally implemented the following goals/strategies within the plan: 1. Amended the zoning regulations to allow one attached accessory apartment AND one detached (in accessory building or converted barn/garage) per property 2. Meet with the Kent Volunteer Fire Department at least once per year to find out what their volunteers housing needs are and discuss ways to meet those needs. (Kent Affordable Housing conducted extensive study of Workforce Housing in Kent together with the Fire Department) 3. Explored partnership options between land trusts and Kent Affordable Housing (see below and uploaded Northwest CT Affordable Housing and Conservation Strategy: https://cho.thehousingcollective.org/impact/northwest-connecticut-affordable-housing-and-conservation-strategy. 4. Referenced the housing plan in the Town Plan of Conservation & Development (POCD) update. We anticipate updating the Affordable Housing Plan in 2027 with confidence in Kent's progress in its goals and continued focus on updated data on demographics and needs in the town and larger region.

Partners: Convening of the Town's Affordable Housing Steering Committee, facilitation of discussion, and drafting were all accomplished with the tremendous and expert assistance of Jocelyn Ayer, Director of the Litchfield County Center for Housing Opportunity. The Affordable Housing Steering Committee included partners across many municipal entities including the Planning & Zoning Commission, Conservation Commission, Board of Finance, Zoning Board of Appeals, and Board of Selectmen. Additional partners included the private nonprofit Kent Affordable Housing, and Templeton Farms - the managing entity for pre-existing affordable housing in Kent. Since the publication and adoption of Kent's Affordable Housing Plan, the Town Planning & Zoning Commission and First Selectman have joined with the Kent Land Trust, Northwest CT Land Conservancy, and Kent Affordable Housing in a collaborative regional effort to make progress on affordable housing goals articulated in the Plan (See uploaded strategy or this link: https://cho.thehousingcollective.org/impact/northwest-connecticut-affordable-housing-and-conservation-strategy .

11.2 Grow Sustainable and Affordable Housing Options

10 Points

Approved Information: 11.2.2 - 10 points

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: 11.2.2 KENT 2023 AFFORDABLE APPEALS LIST.PDF

WORD: KENT 2025 AFFORDABLE HOUSING APPEALS LIST .DOCX

PDF: KENT AFFORDABLE HOUSING FALL 2025 NEWSLETTER WITH ARTICLE REGARDING 13 UNITS CURRENTLY IN DEVELOPMENT

PDF: APPLICANT'S LETTER OF MARCH 2 2026 PROVIDING DETAIL ON 80 UNIT DEVELOPMENT WITH 20% DEDICATED AFFORDABLE HOUSING CURRENTLY WITHIN PERMITTING PROCESS

PDF: PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION'S MINUTES OF APRIL 9, 2026 MEETING APPROVING PLANNED DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT MOVING FORWARD IN DEVELOPMENT OF 80 UNITS/20% AFFORDABLE

Documentation Details: Kent's affordable housing percentage can be found on pg 3 of both documents. There was a 0.30% increase from 2023 to 2025. Updated 2026: The Town of Kent has two new residential developments in development that will directly impact options for affordable housing within the community. First, Kent Affordable Housing has cleared permitting to construct 13 dedicated affordable units on land transferred to the organization by the Town. See uploaded Fall 2025 newsletter with an article about this development. Second, a private development group is before Planning & Zoning with plans for a development of 80 units, 20% of which will be dedicated as affordable units. This planned development makes use of zoning regulations incentivizing the creation of affordable housing by permitting denser development. See uploaded Letter submitted March 2, 2026 by applicant to the P&Z detailing the incentivized zoning and plans for affordable housing. Also uploaded are the minutes of the P&Z's meeting approving the applicant's Planned Density Development.

Partners: Kent Planning and Zoning Commission Kent Affordable Housing Kent Land Trust Northwest CT Land Conservancy

12. Effective, Compassionate Homelessness Prevention

12.2 Increase Public Awareness and Support for Efforts to End Homelessness

5 Points

Approved Information: 12.2.2 - 5 points

Supporting Documentation:

PDF: 12.2.2 KENT.PDF

Partners: None