



Sustainable CT at CCM: Honoring Towns, Announcing New Initiatives

*Climate Leader designation and
Gold level certification plans unveiled*

Sustainable CT honored twenty-five [Connecticut cities and towns with 2021 Bronze or Silver certifications](#) during a ceremony at the annual CCM Convention held at Mohegan Sun on November 30.

Sustainable CT inspires, supports, and recognizes actions by Connecticut municipalities – from energy efficient schools to safe, walkable streets, healthy food systems to equitable and inclusive municipal decision making – we support local government and local people who are engaged in building more resilient and connected communities.

And in a further indication of support, we've introduced two new initiatives: a "Climate Leader" designation is in the planning stages for 2022; and a new Gold level certification is expected for 2023.

"Today we are launching a new program – the pilot year of Sustainable CT's Climate Leaders designation," said Lynn Stoddard, executive director, in her remarks at the awards ceremony. "We have identified high impact actions that reduce greenhouse gases, and we'll provide extra support to help towns pursue these actions and special recognition to towns that excel as Climate Leaders."

Those who wish to learn more about the Climate Leaders designation program will have the opportunity to share thoughts and questions during [Sustainable CT's next coffee hour](#), which takes place – virtually – on December 17th, from 10 to 11 a.m.

“Also, during 2022, we will be developing a Gold level certification,” Stoddard added. “We invite your input and are eager to launch Gold for the 2023 certification cycle” she said to hundreds of municipal leaders, staff and community activists gathered at the conference.



Throughout 2022, we will be soliciting the help of Connecticut cities and towns to design the next level of certification. There are now sixty-four towns of every size and in every county certified by Sustainable CT – thirty-eight Bronze, and twenty-six Silver. The highest level of certification currently offered is Silver. Towns that want to shape what Gold looks like and refine requirements for Bronze and Silver should watch for future input sessions, and email suggestions to actioninput@sustainablect.org.



Bob Wall, Chair of the Sustainable Fairfield Task Force sounded a positive note. "By adding a Gold level to its Silver and Bronze level certifications and establishing a Climate Leader category for select certified communities," Wall said, "Sustainable CT will strongly signal that communities statewide are seizing new and even more impactful opportunities to build their resilience and wellbeing – and that the achievements of Connecticut's sustainability leaders can be powerful models for the efforts of committed municipalities all over our state."

We couldn't agree more.