

## What is the Sustainable Weston Committee?

In 2016, Weston established a Select Committee for Sustainability to increase awareness of our impact on global warming, to encourage the community to establish energy conservation goals, reduce our consumption of fossil fuels, and to promote social and environmental equity.

The Sustainability Committee also supports Town initiatives to reduce Weston's energy consumption and carbon dioxide emissions. Our accomplishments include:

**Plastic Bag Ordinance (BYO)**  
**Fracking Waste Ordinance**  
**Sustainable Connecticut Bronze Recognition**  
**Sustainable Fairfield County Affiliation and Programming**  
**Low Impact Living Series**  
**Green Leaf Schools Certification**  
**Sustainability Goals included in 2020 POCD**

Our goals for this year include:

**Upgrading Bottle Collection Site at Transfer Station**  
**Food Waste Reduction / Recycling / Composting Initiative**  
**Social Equity / Affordable Housing Policy Inclusion in New Zoning Regulations**  
**Electric Vehicle Charging Stations in Town Center**  
**Energy Tracking Software for Town Properties**  
**Education / Awareness / Event(s)**

## 10 ways Weston Residents Can Be More Sustainable

It's not difficult to be more sustainable. Many times it saves money, sometimes a lot of money. Sometimes a small upfront investment is required.

1. Walk more, drive less. Don't idle. Get a step counter for motivation and compare your steps to family and friends. Carpool.
2. Switch to renewable power generation - solar, geothermal
3. Eat more vegetables and less meat, especially beef.
4. Don't put chemicals on your lawn or yard. Use electric mowers. Cut it and leave it.
5. Compost food waste and leftovers. Reduce food waste by planning your meals (tips at <https://www.savethefood.com/tips/10-easy-tips-for-mealplanning>).
6. Reduce, reuse, recycle. Use reusable shopping bags and recycle plastic shopping bags when you receive them. Reduce paper use by reading books and newspapers on your iPad or other reader. Bring a reusable mug to Starbucks. Don't use disposable items.
7. Reduce your home heating and cooling costs by insulating your home. Lower your thermostat in winter, raise it in summer. Don't heat or cool when you're not home. Wear a sweater.
8. Switch out incandescent lights for energy efficient, long lasting LED bulbs. Use an electric tea kettle. Turn off appliances and lights that you are not using. Replace old, inefficient appliances.
9. Use filtered tap water to fill reusable water bottles, instead of buying plastic water bottles.
10. Educate others.

### Connect with us!

Website: <http://www.westonct.gov/about/sustainability>

Facebook: @SustainableWeston