

Building Scalable Municipal Food Waste Drop-Off Programs

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Housatonic Resources Recovery Authority**

Regional, governmental, waste management
and recycling authority serving 14 municipalities in Western Connecticut.

HRRA's Collection & Processing Network

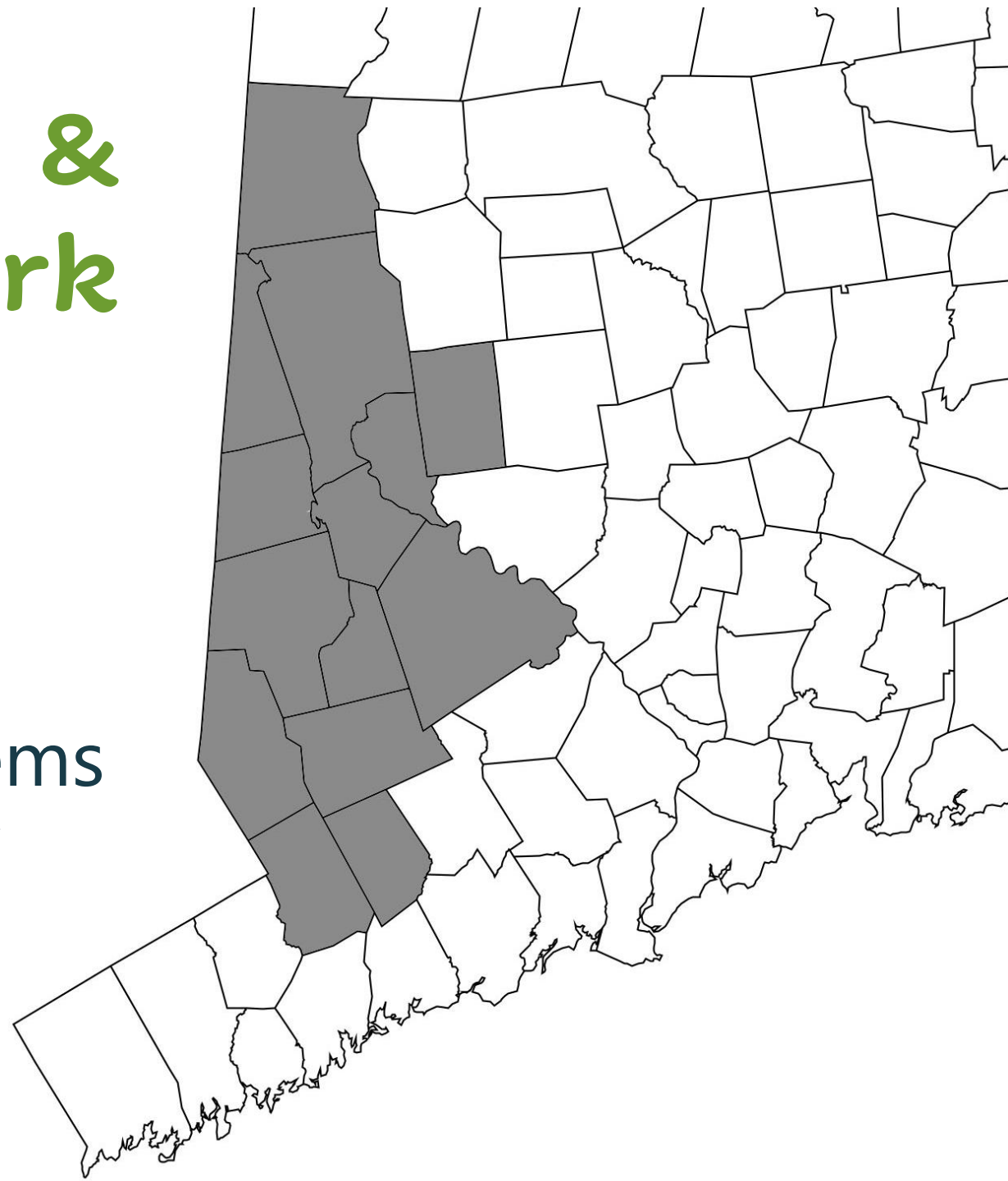
29 Drop-off Locations

3 Commercial Processors

2 Municipal ASP systems

2 In-vessel composting systems

** Regional backyard composting 101 classes*



History

The HRRA began the first municipal collection program in 2014, collecting organics at the curb.



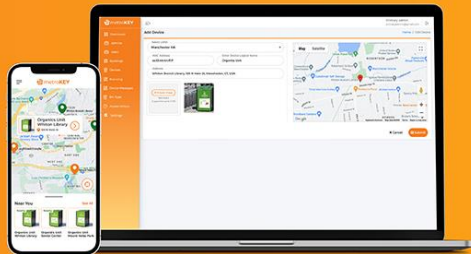
Transfer Station Dropoff Collection

A more cost-effective solution



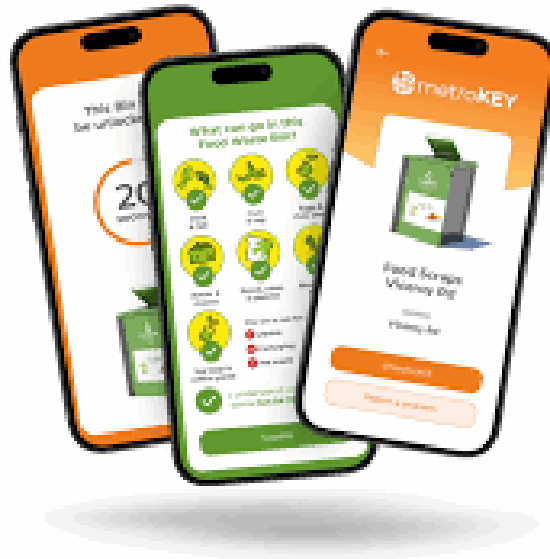
Satellite Dropoff Collection

Building more access



E-Access

Secure System



Housatonic Resources Recovery Authority metroKEY download instructions



Step 1. Open

- App store (iPhone)
- Google play (Android)



Step 4. Registration:
Open the app & tap "Register" to begin creating your account.

Step 2. Click

"search" & enter "metroKEY"



Step 5. Enter Your Account Details.
Be sure your email address is correct for account verification.

Step 3. "Get" metroKEY app



Step 6. Verify Your Email:
Check your inbox for a metroKEY email, then tap "Verify your email". Return to the app to continue. If you don't see an email check your JUNK or SPAM folders.



Step 7. Create your password:

After verifying your email, set a secure password to complete your account setup.



Step 8. Complete your profile:

On iPhone
Tap each field to select your State, Town & Organization. Press "Done" after each to save selection. Then enter your ZIP code & address to finish this step.
On Android
Tap each field to open the drop down & select your State City & Organization, then enter your ZIP code and address.

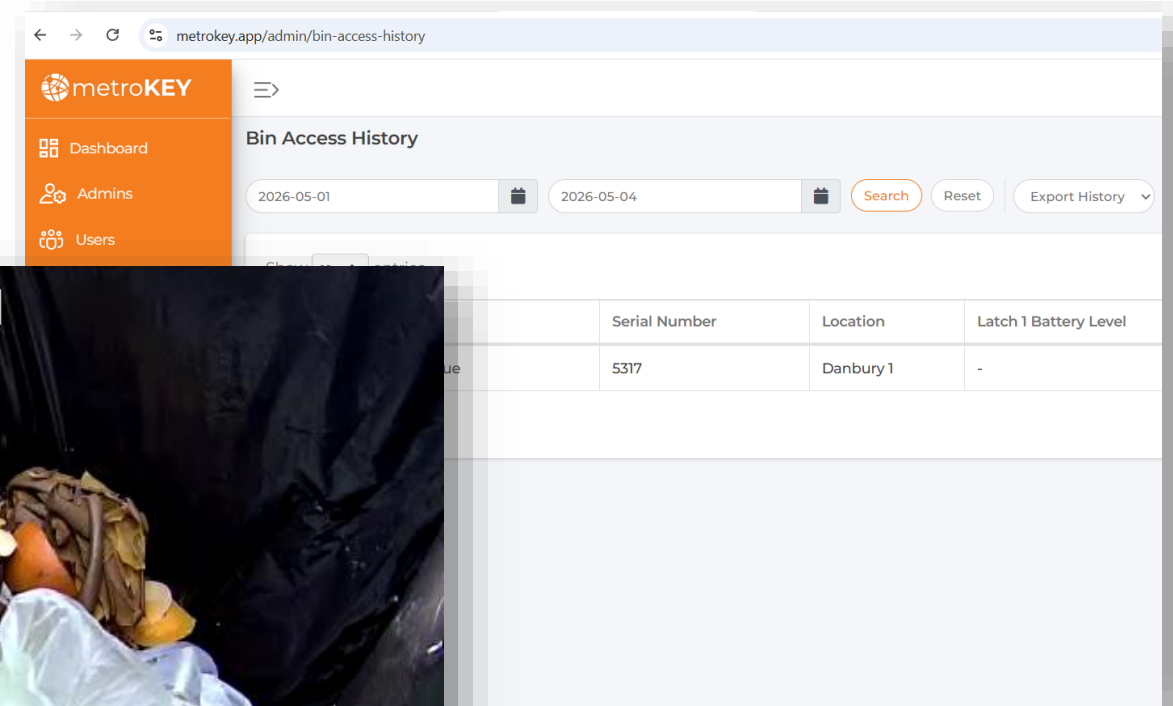


Step 9. Approval is required.

Please allow two business days to access app.

Monitoring

Education & Contamination

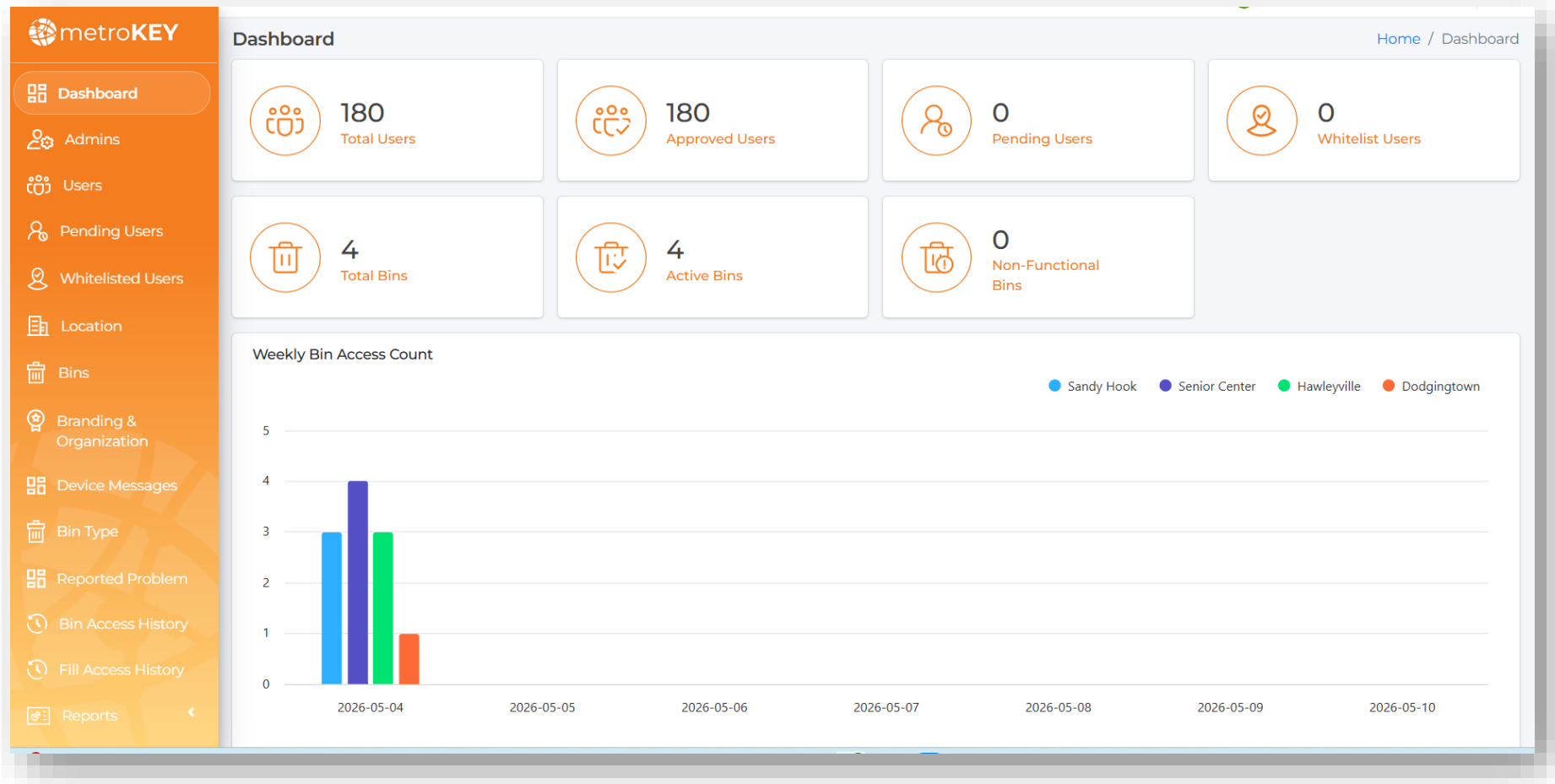


Serial Number	Location	Latch 1 Battery Level
5317	Danbury 1	-



Data Analysis

Building Success



Incentives

Residents receive
compost for participating.



Collection Cost

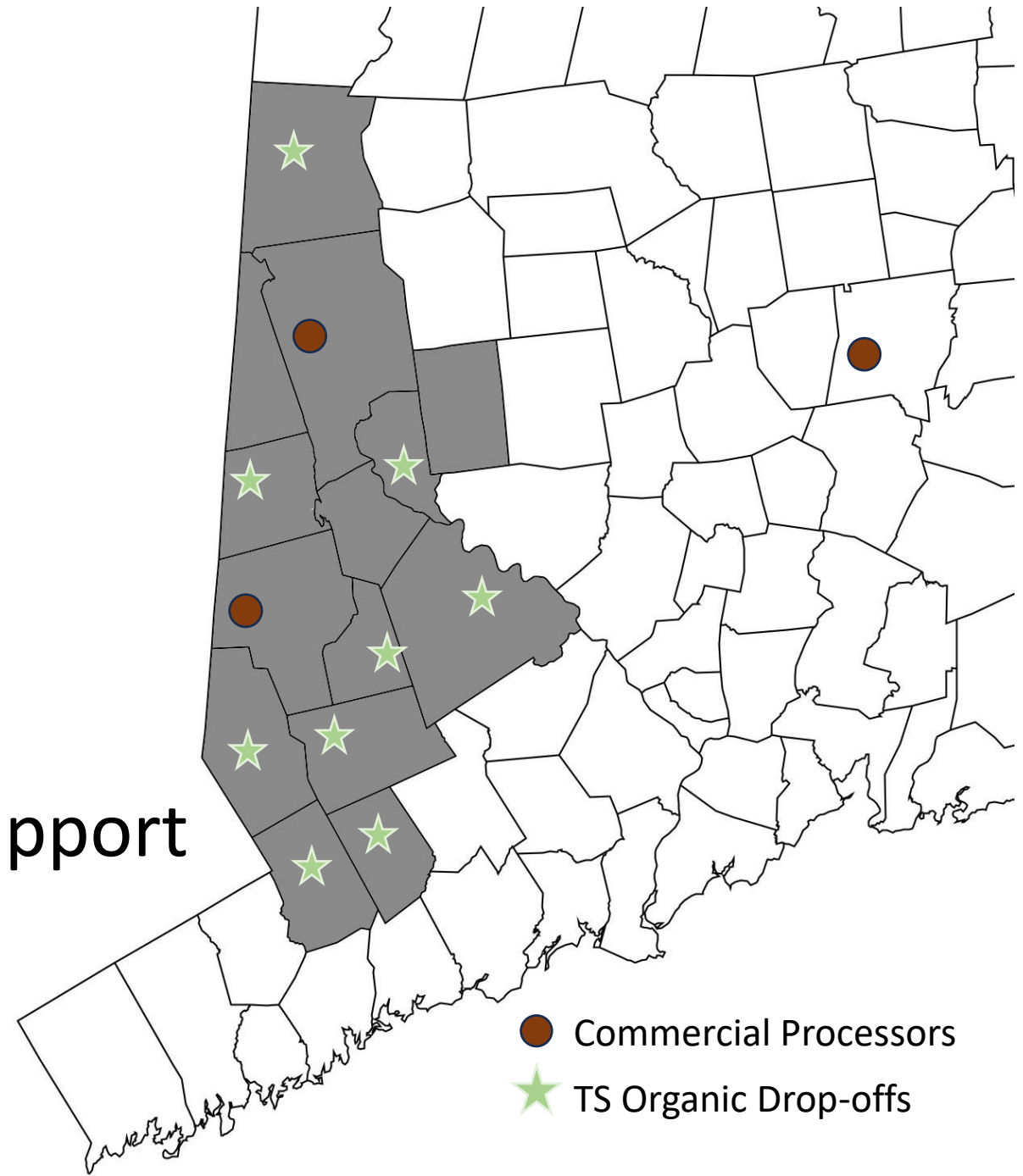
- Collection Kits
- Transportation & Disposal
- Buying back compost
- Bin System (e.g., MetroSTOR)



Cost Challenges

Financial Sustainability

- **Transportation Cost:**
Distance to processor
- **Disposal Cost:**
Tip fees
- **Buying Compost:**
Maintaining community support



Strategic Pivot

Building Processing Capacity to be Self-Sustainable

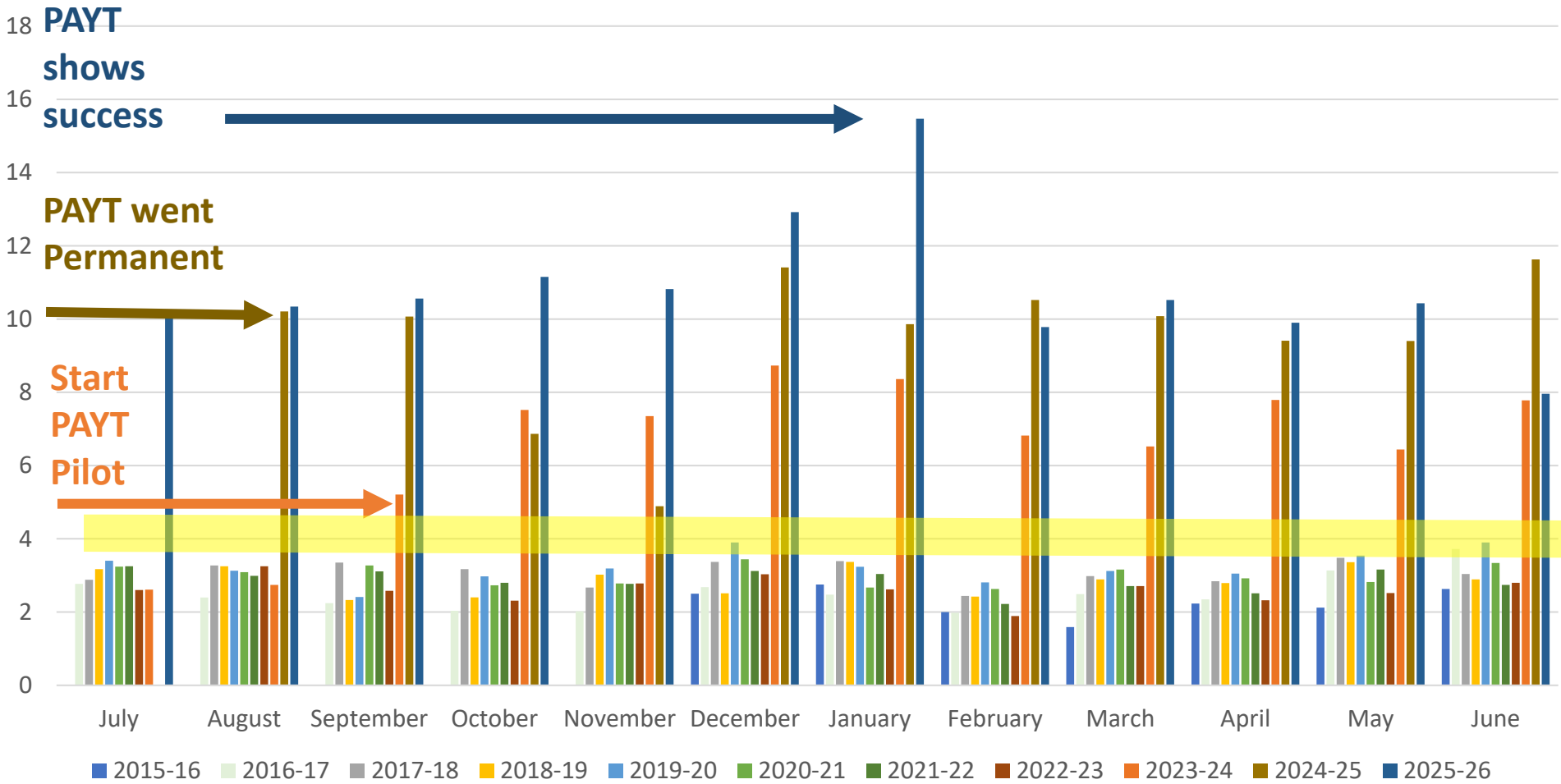


Municipal Solar-powered ASP Composting System

Newtown, CT. Organics Collection

Transfer Station Organics (food-scrap) Drop-off / 10 years

Year	Food Scraps
2015-16	21.86 tons
2016-17	30.29 tons
2017-18	36.88 tons
2018-19	34.40 tons
2019-20	38.66 tons
2020-21	36.09 tons
2021-22	34.42 tons
2022-23	31.41 tons
2023-24	77.87 tons
2024-25	114.43 tons
2025-26 to date	129.88 tons



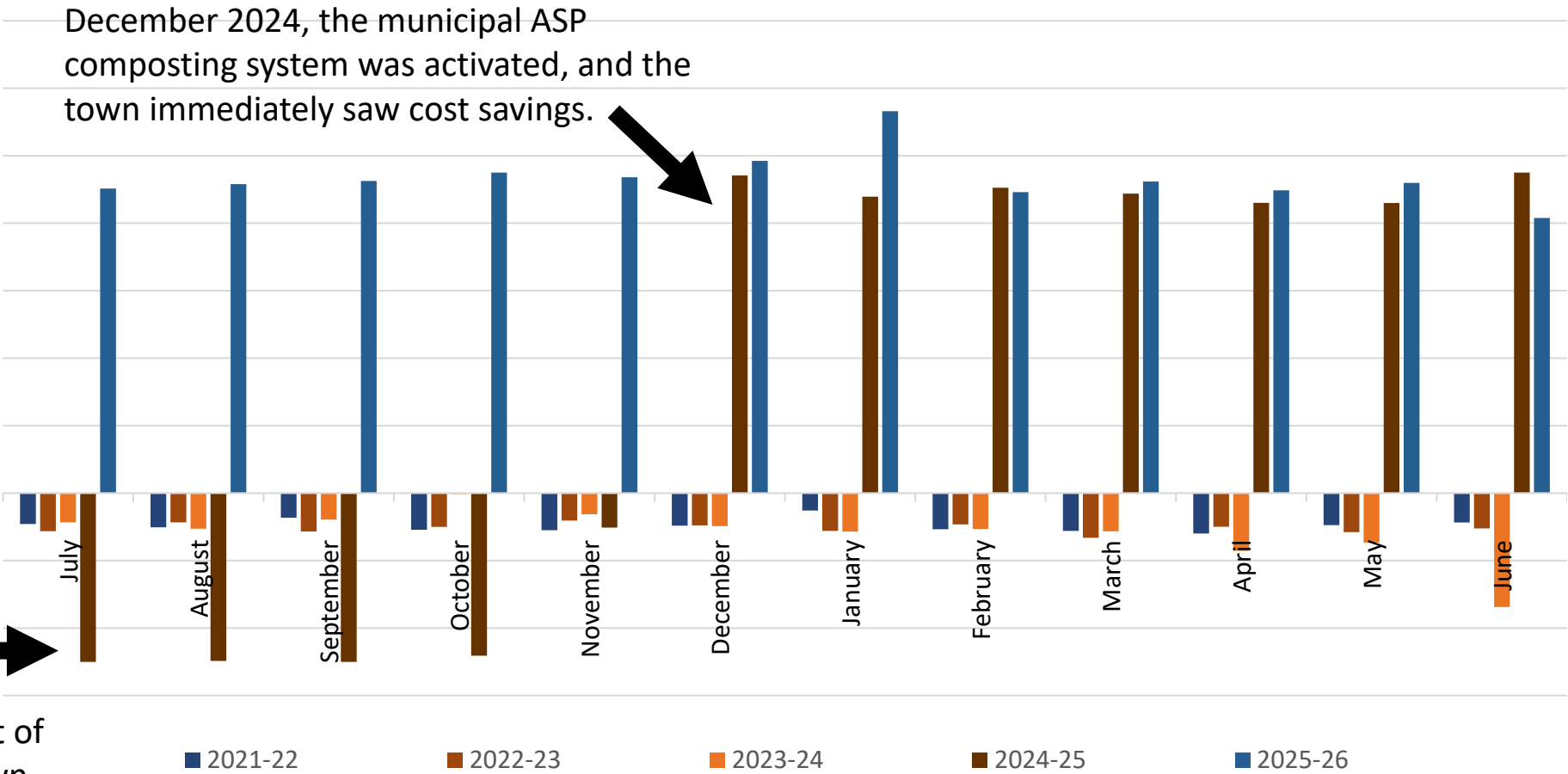
The impact of PAYT increased organics collection.

Collection Cost to Savings

Municipal on-site composting proved the solution to more collection with real cost savings.

Newtown, CT

Year	Gain/Loss
2020-21	\$(2,944)
2021-22	\$(2,882)
2022-23	\$(3,118)
2023-24	\$(3,555)
2024-25	\$ 2,103
2025-26	\$ 28,085



Pay-As-You-Throw was implemented, resulting in an increase in the amount of organics collected, which cost the town more to dispose of.

Funding & Development

USDA Grant
RecycleCT Grant
CT DEEP SMM Grant
CT DEEP MMI Grant
Funding to build more
collection access and
municipal processing.



U.S. Senator Richard Blumenthal, USDA grant announcement 2021

Regional Collection Cost

Towns spend more individually to manage their programs combined.

With a new regional approach, the region will save as a whole.



The Future

More collection access:

29 to 45 drop-off option

More processing capacity:

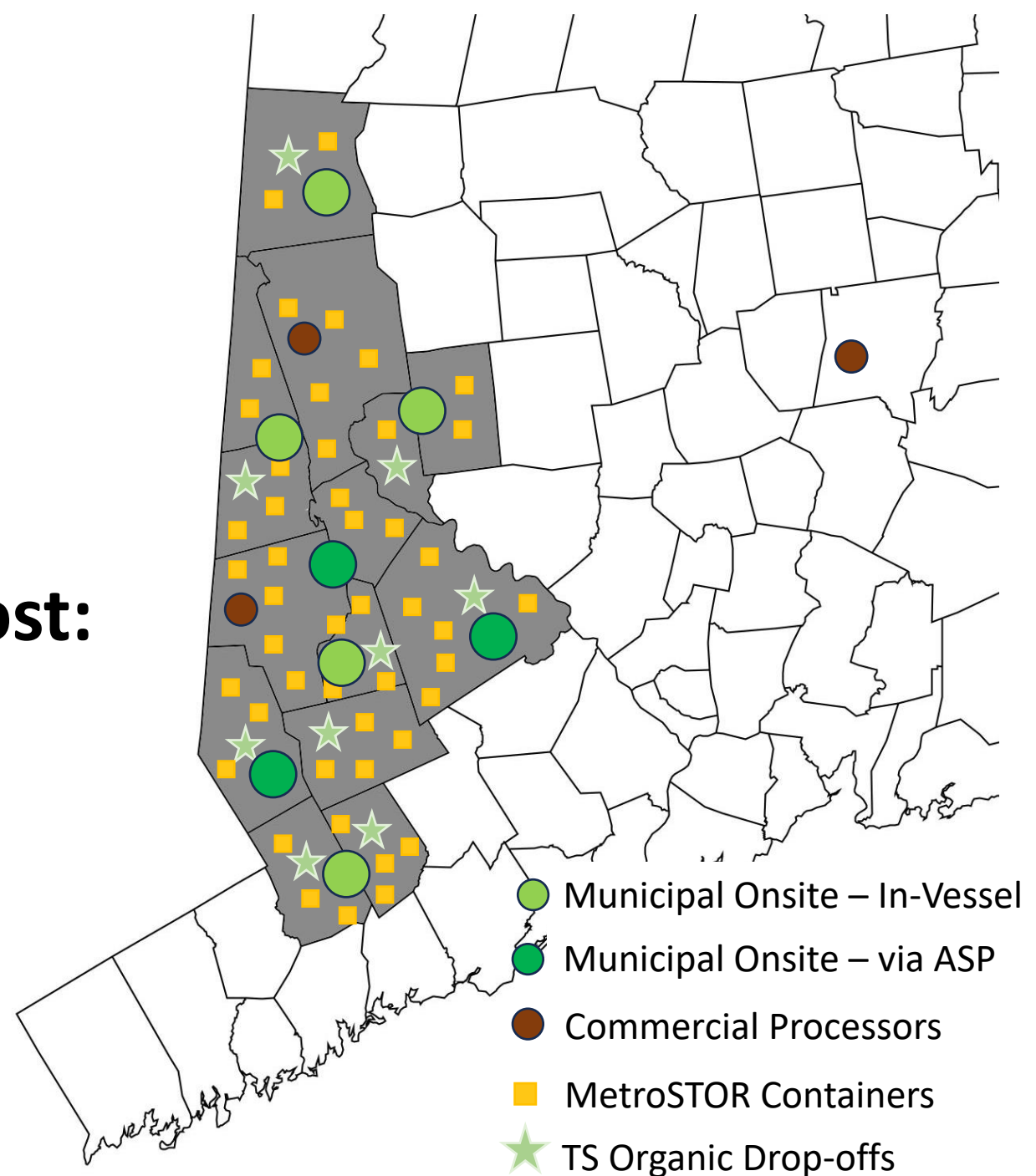
4 to 8 sites

Less Carbon Footprint / Less Cost:

-Less Waste

-More Compost

-Makes "Cents"



Thank you

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