

*“The whole is greater than the sum of its parts.”*

Newsflash! Groton joins new state-wide



## CT Coalition for Sustainable Materials Management

Typically, when we think of garbage, we think of the old adage: Reduce, Reuse and Recycle. This truism remains but has always faced challenges which can only be resolved by more emphasis on reduction. In other words, we still create just too much trash! The goal of the **CCSMM** is to reduce CT’s levels of waste generation through innovative programming.

Manufacturers enacted changes like making plastic bottles lighter & thinner, restaurants switched to compostable take-out containers; now, municipalities must also adapt. So towns are looking at how they can reduce waste plus help residents create less trash. The aim is to send fewer— and lighter— truckloads to waste-to-energy plants and out-of-state landfills. **By summer’s end, Groton could add services to ones already offered at the Flanders Transfer Station to help.** Among ideas being explored are textile recycling, book recycling, and a Paint Care site (funded by a product stewardship program).

*Look for updates in Public Works monthly reports.*



PWD and SCRRRA bring you

## Backyard Compost Bins

Composting diverts material from the waste stream and creates a soil amendment to help plant growth.

Now Public Works offers discounted bins for **\$45 each**.

These sturdy charcoal colored units are 28”w x 28”d x 32”h (but come disassembled for easy transport), are made of 75% post-consumer recycled polyethylene and hold 85 gallons. They also have two sliding doors at bottom, a lock-top. Sales are by check only, made out to SCRRRA & mailed to Public Works (134 Groton Long Point Rd., Groton, 06340) or dropped at the Annex where bins are also picked up.

## RECYCLING... A PLAYGROUND!

Relocation of the Pleasant Valley School playscape to **The new Groton Community Center**



In 2018, after 45 years in use, the latest Pleasant Valley School building was closed for good. But because the playscape was in excellent condition and still a town asset, Public Works Roads & Streets crew disassembled it for re-use. Meanwhile, a volunteer crew of **Navy Chief Selectees** kindly assisted by prepping the new site, the **Groton Community Center** at the former Fitch Middle School (61 Fort Hill Rd).

In May, Public Works finished installation and **invites families with school-age children to visit**. The site is not visible from the street but shares a parking lot with Town Hall. Features are *a combined basketball/pickle ball court, new benches and trees, and the playscape*. The area is accessed directly via the doors by the vertical “Community Center” flag, or by a walk around back. A limited number of more nearby parking spots are available via the driveway to the left, which families may use as a drop-off. **Enjoy!**

