

## **Careers in Sustainable Materials Management**

A career in sustainable materials management has many different meanings. Depending on your interests, there are many ways in which you could work in the field. In addition, there are many different degrees you could get depending on your interests – including biological, chemical or physical sciences, engineering, behavioral science, public health, landscaping, business, management, farming, food systems work, policy and public administration or communications.

Who works in the field? And what do they do? Below is a very simple list to get you started thinking about all the opportunities.

- Product or packaging designers that using recycled content;
- Behavioral researcher to investigate why people want to protect environment, recycle;
- Program implementation – start a new initiative related to zero waste, or composting or recycling at government or private organization;
- Engineers - design facilities that process or extract value in resources;
- Truck drivers and operation managers that may oversee facilities;
- Environmental analyst – research data related to impact of waste or recycling on regional pollution rates or climate change;
- Environmental educator or academic professor – to teach others about current waste management trends;
- Policy analyst – to research how different policies will impact a community or state; or perhaps write public policy.

### **EXAMPLES OF REAL JOBS:**

Example of Job at CT DEEP to oversee changes in Bottle Bill  
[Job Opening: Environmental Analyst 2 \(35 Hour\) - Department of Administrative Services \(jobapscloud.com\)](#)

Example of Municipal Job in Massachusetts Focusing on Zero Waste  
[Zero Waste Program Manager position](#)

Example of Job at Mass DEP providing assistance to Municipalities  
[Municipal Assistance Coordinator](#) for the [Southeast District 2](#) area. More information is available at: <https://www.taunton-ma.gov/human-resources-department/pages/job-opportunities>.

Examples of Jobs at a nonprofit organization that focuses on Reuse and Composting in New York City [Customer support - Big Reuse](#)

Example of Jobs at CT Organics Hauler  
[Join Our Team! \(blueearthcompost.com\)](https://blueearthcompost.com)

Example of Jobs at Resource Recovery Authority in Kingston, NY  
[Employment Opportunities - UCRRA](#)

Example of Job in Washington DC linking Circular Economy and SMM  
[Job: EPA Advancing a Circular Economy and Sustainable Materials Management \(Washington, D.C.\) | \(evergreen.edu\)](#)

## **CT Essential**

Resource Recycling magazine: Jobs in Recycling, Sustainability and Waste  
[Jobs in recycling and waste management industry - Resource Recycling \(resource-recycling.com\)](#)

U.S. Composting Council, Career Center [Career Center - Search for Openings - US Composting Council](#)

## **CT Good Resources**

CT DEEP College Internship Program (incl. all divisions within agency, water, wildlife, forestry, SMM etc.) [College Internship Program \(ct.gov\)](#)

CT DEEP Job Opportunities [Job Opportunities \(ct.gov\)](#)

CT EPA Career Opportunities [Careers | US EPA](#)

## **CT Resources if you want to know more/dig deeper**

Zero Waste Creates Jobs  
[Jobs & Economic Impact | Eco-Cycle Solutions Hub \(ecocyclesolutionshub.org\)](#)

RecycleCT, Recycling Economic Information Study, December 2020  
[RecycleCT Infographic](#)  
[RecycleCT Full Study](#)

More Jobs, Less Pollution: Growing the Recycling Economy in the U.S., 2011  
[More Jobs, Less Pollution: Growing the Recycling Economy in the U.S. : Publications :: Tellus Institute](#)

[BioCycle | The Organics Recycling Authority](#)