

# Actions & Impact

## The Sustainable CT Newsletter



Mural by Alissa Siegal

[Find Our Workshops & Coffee Hours on the Sustainable CT YouTube Channel](#)

From [Patronicity](#):

## Patron in the City: Matt Conway

**Qualified for close to \$150,000 in matching grant funds from the Sustainable CT Community Match Fund**

By Maddie Miller

Since November of 2020, Matt Conway, founder and Executive Director of [RiseUp for Arts](#), has run 20+ successful crowdfunding campaigns with Patronicity and qualified for close to \$150,000 in matching grant funds from the [Sustainable CT Community Match Fund](#) to install murals across the state of Connecticut. Most recently, Matt and RiseUp for Arts have embarked on the MLK39: Racial Equity Mural Tour, a series of 39 MLK and racial equity themed murals throughout the state symbolizing each year of Martin Luther King's life. RiseUp for Arts consults with artists, cities, nonprofits, companies, real estate developers, schools, and local community members to make mural and placemaking projects come to life to fulfill their mission "to empower communities to imagine new possibilities through public art and education."



[\[READ the FULL ARTICLE\]](#)



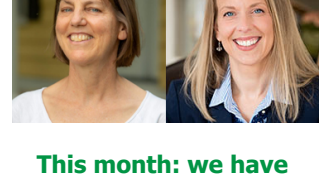
## Plug into the Sun

The [Connecticut Solar & Storage Association](#) is seeking to recruit Connecticut municipalities to participate in a 90-day pilot program to test the benefits of the free-to-use [SolarAPP+](#) software developed by the U.S. Department of Energy.

Background info:

~[NREL's SolarAPP+](#)  
~[Streamlines Solar Permitting](#)  
~[Getting Started with SolarAPP+](#)

Interested towns should contact Mike Trahan, [miket@connssa.org](mailto:miket@connssa.org)



**This month: we have a chat with our own Lynn Stoddard, executive director of Sustainable CT, and Senator Christine Cohen, D, CT-12, Senate Chair of the Environment Committee. This is going to be GREAT!**

The **IMPACT** is available **Sept. 15** at [sustainablect.org](http://sustainablect.org) and wherever you get your podcasts.



CONNECTICUT GREEN BANK<sup>SM</sup>

## Connecticut Green Bank Salutes U.S. Congress and President Biden for Passage of Inflation Reduction Act

The Connecticut Green Bank, the nation's first state-level green bank, applauds the U.S. Congress' passage and President Biden's signage of the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), which includes \$369 billion in investments to advance the country's clean energy transition and fight climate change. The Green Bank is proud to have its successful model emulated and has high hopes for the IRA's impact.

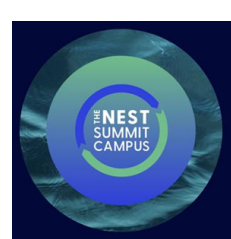
[\[READ the FULL PRESS RELEASE\]](#)



## The Home-Field Advantages of Local Affordable Housing Development

Over the last few years, many municipalities in the Naugatuck Valley Region have faced similar housing-related challenges that are changing the housing conditions of our communities. Join a discussion on The Home-Field Advantages of Local Affordable Housing Development. The panel will feature three expert speakers who will share their knowledge on this key issue. This is an in-person event: **Tuesday, September 13, 2022, at the Palace Theater in Waterbury, CT.** Free and open to the public!

[\[REGISTER HERE\]](#)



## Project Drawdown at Climate Week NYC

Keynote by **Project Drawdown executive director Jonathan Foley**, the free two-day event on **Sept. 21-22 at the Javits Center, NYC**, will include unique, solutions-based programming and networking on clean energy, the built environment, finance, tech and more. Attendees will also enjoy immersive activations, art displays, tours of the Javits Center's green roof, and a sustainable Garden Eatery for breakfast and lunch.

[\[REGISTER HERE\]](#)



## Hixon Center Urban Conference: Cities as Solutions to Climate Change

The conference brings together researchers and practitioners focused on the potential impacts that cities have on climate change around the globe and features two vice-chairs and seven authors from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). Presentations and conversations will lead from research to practice and applied solutions at the intersection of urban ecology, better cities, and climate change. A hybrid event: attend **in person or online Friday, September 23, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET.**

[\[REGISTER HERE\]](#)

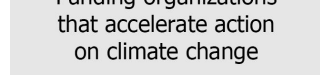


## CT Communities Challenge Grants Available

The **Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development** is undertaking a grant application process to fund multiple projects under the CT Communities Challenge Grant Program in an effort to improve livability, vibrancy, convenience and appeal of communities throughout the state. The application deadline is Friday, October 7, 2022.

[\[READ ALL ABOUT IT\]](#)

Sustainable CT and Actions & Impact are made possible in part by



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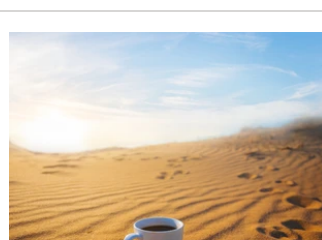
## Kosciuszko Park Pollinator Garden Project in Stamford

On **Saturday, September 10, at 10 a.m.**, high school students from Future 5 and volunteers from the local community will help with this ongoing project to plant and water hundreds of native plants, under the direction of Pollinator Pathway Stamford (PPS) and UCONN Master Gardener Interns. **Stamford Mayor Caroline Simmons** will be on hand to thank everyone involved in this Community Match Fund project.

[\[FIND OUT MORE\]](#)

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[Learn more about the Sustainable CT Community Match Fund](#)



## The Next Sustainable CT Coffee Hour: September 16, 10 a.m.

### How Are Local Municipalities Responding to On-going Drought Conditions?

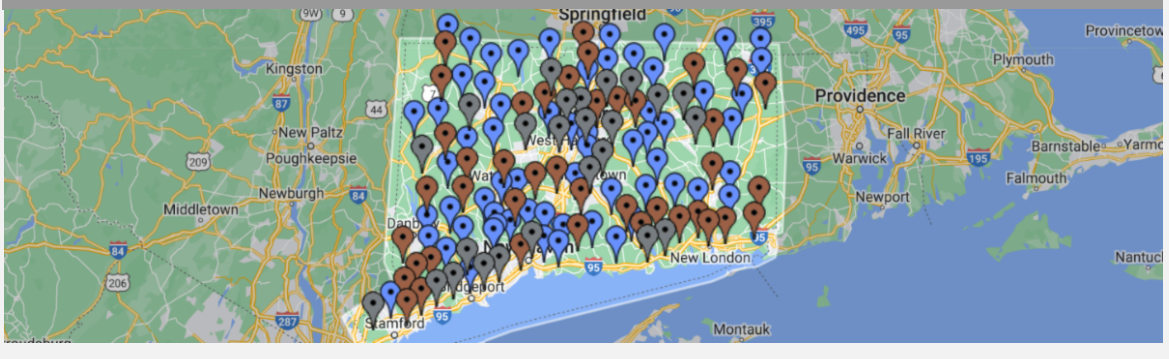
According to the *Hartford Courant*, the U.S. Department of Agriculture has declared New London and Windham counties natural disaster areas because of the region's persistent drought. Fairfield, Hartford, Litchfield, Middlesex, New Haven and Tolland Counties are experiencing Stage 2 level drought. Darien, East Granby, Fairfield, Granby, Greenwich, Groton, Mystic, New Canaan, Newtown, Simsbury, Stamford, Stonington, and Westport are all subject to mandatory water conservation schedules. How is your town coping? Come share your stories and strategies with us and with each other at the next Sustainable CT Coffee Hour.

Join Sustainable CT for (virtual) informal discussions **most third Fridays of each month at 10 a.m.** We share program updates and resources, explore your questions, and strengthen the network of Sustainable CT champions. These sessions are free and open to all.

[\[REGISTER for SEPTEMBER 16\]](#)

**For more fun and informative September events, check out the Sustainable CT Trainings & Events Calendar**

## Fall certification: congratulations and thank you!



Connecticut towns are the **BEST!** We've had another blockbuster round of certification applications, so congratulations are due to all the hard-working sustainability teams throughout the state for meeting the August 23rd application deadline. And our heartfelt thanks go out to all those who continue to value our program and, more importantly, continue to believe that together we can create thriving, resilient communities while respecting the finite capacity of the natural environment. Certification awards will be announced - with joy! - in November. Bravo, Connecticut!



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