

TOWN OF ASHFORD

Office of the Selectmen

Michael J. Zambo
First Selectman

TOWN OF ASHFORD HONORED WITH SUSTAINABLE CT CERTIFICATION

Ashford is among the Connecticut municipalities to be recognized on October 30th at the New Britain Museum of American Art for achieving certification as a Sustainable CT community. The town met high standards in a broad range of sustainability accomplishments to qualify for the prestigious BRONZE certification.

Sustainable CT, a statewide initiative that inspires and supports communities in becoming more efficient, resilient, and inclusive, announced its 2019 certified communities this week.

First Selectman Michael Zambo, applauded the efforts put forward by Ashford's Conservation Commission and Clean Energy Task Force resulting in a Sustainable CT Bronze certification. "The hard work of Ashford's volunteers committed to promoting energy efficiency has additionally resulted in two Bright Ideas grant awards and I am confident that these efforts will continue."

In its application for Sustainable CT certification, Ashford demonstrated significant achievements in actions in nine sustainable impact areas ranging from inclusive community building, thriving local economies, and vibrant arts and culture to clean transportation and diverse housing. Ashford successfully completed actions including installation of a rain garden at the Ashford School, completion of a housing data assessment and hosting a community meeting on housing needs, completing a needs assessment for Ashford's 32-unit senior housing complex, participation in the Community Resiliency Workshop, and organizing several "sustainable" events focusing on the arts, on conservation and waste reduction/recycling.

Loretta Wrobel, Ashford's sustainability team leader said that achieving Bronze Certification from Sustainable CT represents a large amount of hard work and our committee worked extra hard to complete the necessary actions. We were assisted by two competent and knowledgeable interns, Colleen Dollard and Alexis Meehan. I thank my awesome Sustainable Committee that was dedicated to this project and eagerly completed every task. I also want to thank the town staff, especially Christine Abikoff and Cheryl Baker, who went the extra mile for us. I am thrilled to bring this award to Ashford as is everyone on the Sustainable Committee. Through our committee's work I got to know what a fabulous town I live in and delight in the beauty, friendliness and cooperation that personifies Ashford.

Certification lasts three years, with the state's first cohort of municipalities certified in 2018. Collectively, forty-seven municipalities, over 27% of the state's communities, have earned Sustainable CT certification. Certified communities span every county and include some of Connecticut's largest cities and smallest towns.

“Congratulations to our 2019 certified Sustainable CT communities,” said Lynn Stoddard, Executive Director of the Institute for Sustainable Energy at Eastern Connecticut State University, which administers the program. “We are inspired by your leadership and eager to share your accomplishments in building efficient, thriving, and resilient communities.”

Sustainable CT is philanthropically funded with strong support from its three founding funders: the Emily Hall Tremaine Foundation, the Common Sense Fund, and the Smart Seed Fund.

Ashford and other certified communities will also be recognized on December 3 at the Annual Convention of the Connecticut Conference of Municipalities.