



**Environment Committee Public Hearing
March 11, 2015**

HB 6957 – An Act Establishing a Household Battery Stewardship Program

HazWaste Central is a partnership of the South Central Connecticut Regional Council of Governments, (SCCROG) and the South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority, (SCCRWA). HazWaste Central was created in 1989 as the first permanent household hazardous waste facility in the state and was developed to protect the region's environment and public water supplies. This regional permanent household hazardous waste collection program represents sixteen municipalities: Bethany, Branford, Cheshire, East Haven, Fairfield, Guilford, Hamden, Madison, Milford, New Haven, North Branford, North Haven, Orange, Wallingford, West Haven and Woodbridge.

HazWaste Central supports the concept of **HB 6957 – An Act Establishing a Household Battery Stewardship Program**. The bill should allow for existing infrastructure such as household hazardous waste collection centers and similar regional programs to be utilized as collection points. The proposed bill calls for the creation of a stewardship organization, to implement and provide a funding mechanism for the battery stewardship program. Disposal costs for the household hazardous wastes now brought to HazWaste Central are charged back to each member municipality. A household battery stewardship program would reduce the waste disposal expenses for these municipalities.

HazWaste Central encourages members of the Committee to support stewardship programs to help Connecticut's residents properly dispose of their waste and assist the participating municipalities in reducing expenses.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lori Vitagliano, Government and Public Relations Specialist
Regional Water Authority
90 Sargent Drive
New Haven, CT 06511
203-401-2720
203-889-1981 (cell)