



# TOWN OF VERNON

## OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

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**Daniel A. Champagne**  
*Mayor*

**Michael J. Purcaro**  
*Town Administrator*

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*Assistant Town Administrator*

## SUSTAINABLE VERNON COMMUNITY PROGRAM GETS BOOST FROM LOCAL NON-PROFIT GROUPS

*Public-Private Partnership to Benefit Vernon Residents*

**VERNON, CT** – Mayor Daniel A. Champagne announced that two local non-profit groups have received funding to assist the Town in developing a food waste prevention program and to install an electric vehicle charging station. The initiatives are part of Sustainable CT, which is a voluntary certification program to recognize thriving and resilient Connecticut municipalities.

A \$1,500.00 grant was awarded to the Vernon Foundation and another \$1,500.00 grant was awarded to the Friends of Valley Falls as part of the Eversource utility company's charitable giving program. This program supports organizations that focus on the health and well-being of youth and the advancement and promotion of clean energy and related technologies.

"Incorporating sustainable activities like food waste prevention and the reduction of carbon emissions from vehicles is most successful when the community is engaged and involved," said Mayor Champagne. "Through the generosity of Eversource and partnerships with the Vernon Foundation and the Friends of Valley Falls it is now possible for the Town to provide free or reduced cost food composting barrels to income-eligible residents, as well as to install an electric-vehicle charging station at our new Senior Center."

"We're pleased to take part in the Sustainable CT program with the Town. Even if just one household learns the value of converting every day kitchen waste into a valuable fertilizer for their backyard garden, we've made an impact," said Joe King, President of the Friends of Valley Falls, Inc.

"The Vernon Foundation is pleased to partner with the Town of Vernon and Eversource to work toward a future of clean, affordable, and reliable energy, particularly in terms of motor vehicles. Less fossil fuel use means a brighter, healthier future for everyone", said Lisa Moody, Chairman of the Vernon Foundation.

“We are thrilled to partner with the Town in announcing plans for Vernon’s first electric vehicle charging station, located at the new Vernon Senior Center on Bolton Road,” said Jeff Boulrice, Chairman of Vernon’s Energy Improvement District Board and an active member of Vernon’s Sustainability Team.

“Our Sustainability Team is working diligently to ensure we continually demonstrate our community’s commitment to sustainability,” said Michael Purcaro, Town Administrator. “We are already seeing the benefit of participating in a locally-driven network of stakeholders, dedicated to inclusive decision-making and improved access to service-sharing that benefits our residents.”

For more information on obtaining a composting barrel, including income and residency requirements, please contact Vernon Social Services at (860) 870-3661. Barrels are provided on a first come, first serve basis. Households will be limited to one barrel. More information on Sustainable CT can be found by visiting <https://sustainablect.org>.

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