# Textile Recovery and Recycling

Did you know that residents and businesses dispose of approximately 230,000 tons of textiles annually?

 More than 5% of the waste delivered to combustion facilities is made of clothing, curtains, towels, and other fabrics.  
About 85% of the textiles currently being thrown away could be donated, reused, or recycled instead.    
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​Contrary to popular belief, donations in any condition are welcomed by most for-profit and nonprofit textile collectors alike.  This includes stains, rips, missing buttons or broken zippers.  The only unacceptable donations are wet/moldy items and items contaminated with oil or hazardous substances.  Items that don't sell in thrift stores are baled and sold to brokers or graders who sell to overseas markets.  In developing nations, used clothing and textiles supply local enterprises with materials to repair and resell.  Other textiles can be converted to their original fibers and manufactured into other materials, such as wiping cloths or insulation.   
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​Clothing or other textiles should not be placed in trash bags or the recycling containers.

**The Town of Tolland** is partnering with Big Brother Big Sister Foundation and CMRK to allow residents to easily donate clothing, textile and small household items. CMRK has been in operation for over 35 years.

The average person gets rid of 85 pounds of clothing a year. 95% of that clothing is able to be reused or recycled. Our new diversion program allows us to give clothing a second life in an easy and convenient way.” At the new donation bins, you can drop off all bagged clothing, sneakers and textiles.

Bins will be placed at Transfer Station and Town Hall and are available to residents of Tolland and surrounding Towns!

See below for a list of textile recycling options.

* Planet Aid – yellow clothing drop bin at the Transfer Station
* CMRK – Blue clothing & textile bin at the Tolland Town Hall

These collections divert clothing and house wares out of the landfill. You can schedule your free home pickup by visiting online.  [BBBS Foundation | Big Brother Big Sister Foundation](https://www.bbbsfoundation.org/).

 Out with the old, in with the new- donate your gently used items - [Homepage - DNCE (donatene.org)](https://donatene.org/)

For additional locations to recycle your unwanted textiles, search the MassDEP [Beyond the Bin Recycling Directory](https://recyclesmartma.org/beyond-the-bin-search/) found on the Town website under the *Transfer Station and Recycling* tab.