# An Opportunity to MAKETHE BOTTLE BILL BETTER!

Connecticut's Solid Waste Management Plan is 15 years old and needs updating. The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has proposed an amendment that, when adopted, will serve as the basis for solid waste management planning and decision-making in Connecticut for a twenty year-planning horizon.



**Our 28- year old bottle bill needs updating too!** The proposed Plan would update the bottle bill to include plastic water bottles, increase the deposit to ten cents, and use unclaimed deposits to support waste management programs.



Nearly 3 out of 4 deposit bottles and cans are returned, meaning less litter in our streets, parks and beaches, more containers recycled, and less waste going to landfills. With the proposed changes, the Bottle Bill will <u>work even harder</u> for Connecticut.



Three public hearings are scheduled in August. If you value Connecticut's bottle bill, please consider preparing a statement in support of the updates to our successful and popular bottle bill. Come to one of the public hearings and/or mail your statement to the CT DEP.

Make sure the changes to the bottle bill remain in the plan!

## Proposed Changes to the Bottle Bill

- Expand the bottle bill to include plastic water bottles
- Increase the deposit value to ten cents
- Collect unclaimed deposits to support waste management programs

### What You Can Do

Attend a hearing and make a comment in support of the changes. Hearings will be held:

- **Tuesday, August 22** (6:30-8:30 pm) Bridgeport City Hall, Council Chambers 45 Lyon Terrace, Bridgeport CT
- Wednesday, August 23 (6:30-8:30 pm) CT DEP, Phoenix Auditorium, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor 79 Elm Street, Hartford CT
- **Tuesday, August 29** (6:30-8:30 pm) Norwich City Hall, Council Chambers 100 Broadway, Norwich CT

#### Write a letter to the DEP expressing your support.

Letters may be dropped off at one of the hearings, or mailed. They must be received by 4:30 on Sept. 8, 2006. Mail to:

> Mr. Michael Harder DEP Office of Planning and Program Development 4th Floor, 79 Elm St. Hartford, CT 06106

### For More Information...

Explanation of the proposed amendment, the document's full text, and information about the hearings can be found at

http://www.dep.state.ct.us/wst/solidw/swplan/ If you have any questions, please contact Tessa Gutowski at 860-424-3096 or email her at tessa.gutowski@po.state.ct.us