As the Town of Greenwich continues to grow and develop, an increasing burden is placed upon its natural resources. Established in late 2019, the Greenwich Sustainability Committee (GSC) encourages the adoption of sustainable practices through the promotion of the goals established in the 2019 Greenwich Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD) and the actions outlined for Sustainable CT certification.

The GSC consists of committed citizens working closely with town staff and government officials to advocate for and implement a community-wide strategy to safeguard a healthy, high-functioning ecosystem for the benefit of all current and future residents. It prioritizes the promotion and elevation of equity, diversity and inclusion for a more engaged, just and sustainable community fostering collaboration, communication and supportive alliances.

The Greenwich Sustainability Committee (GSC) is organized into the following six sectors: Community Culture, Food Systems, Land & Water, Legislative & Advocacy, Transportation & Air Quality and Waste Reduction. In addition, a liaison from the Energy Committee reports to the GSC at its monthly meetings, which are open to the public.

This structure allows members to stay abreast of successes and understand potential barriers. Sector chairs identify initiatives, both past and present, implemented by town departments, local non-profit organizations and community volunteer groups, and seeks ways to bolster these efforts. The GSC acts through collaboration, endorsement and community education to raise public awareness about these initiatives and other identified priorities.

This State of Sustainability report provides a snapshot of each sector’s purpose, community benefits, short and long-term goals, and resources for further discovery. In the recent community progress section town wide initiatives are highlighted along with supportive actions taken by the committee. The report identifies community partners who have achieved much success and continue working for the protection and restoration of our natural resources.

While the report focuses primarily on initiatives within Greenwich, it does consider those at the state level that have local impact. It will be updated bi-annually and available to the public via the GSC website.