

Massachusetts Commercial Organics Waste Ban



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Waste Bans Background

Purpose:

- Part of a comprehensive approach
- Ensure materials available for recycling & composting facilities
- Drive infrastructure investment and market development
- Limit need for disposal capacity

Waste Ban Background

Who do they apply to?

310 CMR 19.017(3)(a): “No person shall dispose, transfer for disposal, or contract for disposal of the restricted material...”

- **Solid Waste Facilities**
- **Haulers**
- **Generators**

Banned Materials

- Recyclable Paper/Cardboard
- Glass, Metal, Plastic Containers
- Leaves and Yard Waste
- Asphalt Pavement, Brick, Concrete, Metal, Wood and Clean Gypsum Wallboard
- Lead Acid Vehicle Batteries and Tires
- Cathode Ray Tubes
- White Goods (large appliances)
- Commercial organic materials
- * *Tires and Wood can be accepted at municipal waste combustors*
- **Overall, waste ban materials = about 40% of trash disposed**

MassDEP Waste Ban Compliance Strategy

- Using facility and third party data
 - Outreach and targeting inspections
- Increased inspections and enforcement
 - Inspections at solid waste facilities
 - Looking for large amounts of banned materials
 - More than 300 enforcement actions since January 2013
- RecyclingWorks resources and assistance

Organics Policy and Goals

- Solid Waste Master Plan
 - Overall goal – reduce disposal by 2 million tons (30 %) annually by 2020
 - Reduce disposal by 80% by 2050
- Primary Goal – Divert additional 350,000 tons per year of organic materials from disposal by 2020
- Clean Energy Results Program
 - Support the development of renewable energy in Mass.
 - Goal to have 50 MW of anaerobic digestion in place by 2020

Organics Action Plan Overview

- Comprehensive, integrated set of strategies
- Developed working with stakeholders
- Focused on 2020 goal – 350 K tons additional diversion annually
 - Data Analysis
 - Collection Infrastructure
 - Processing Capacity/Market Development
 - Regulatory Reform/Waste Ban

Organics Subcommittee

- Very diverse set of stakeholders – reached out to broaden
- Email list of nearly 500 people, organizations
- Has met as needed for over a decade
- Primary forum for Organics Action Plan and organics waste ban framework in 2012-2013
- Successful in getting diverse engagement and support

Other Outreach

- Mass Food Association partnership
- More than 60 meetings and webinars in 2012-2013
- Targeted sector and association outreach
- RecyclingWorks outreach and assistance
- Newspaper articles
- Built credibility through collaboration and on the ground work

Commercial Organics Waste Ban

- Took effect October 1, 2014
- Food and vegetative material
- Does not apply to management in wastewater
- Commercial/institutional organics – dispose > 1 ton/week (*disposed, not generated*)
- Estimate – 1,700 businesses/institutions subject to the ban
- Focus now on outreach and compliance assistance

RecyclingWorks in Massachusetts

- State-funded assistance
- Helps businesses and institutions maximize waste diversion opportunities
- Services include:
 - Online resources
 - RecyclingWorks hotline
 - Direct technical assistance

Online Resources

- Searchable service provider database
- Sector based food generation estimates
- Guidance on options for how to comply
- Food materials collection BMPs
- Food donation BMPs and food banks/rescue organizations
- Case studies
- Restaurant guidebook
- Listings of on-site systems, de-packaging systems

Food Waste Diversion Options

Reduce

Reduce the total volume of food waste generated



Donate

Donate unused food to people through food banks, soup kitchens, and shelters



Process

On-Site Options

Off-Site Options

Anaerobic
Digesters

Animal
Feed

Compost

Industrial
Uses

Initial Draft Results

- Food waste reduction
 - One example: 13 institutions working with Lean Path achieved reduction of 286 tons annually
- More than 25,000 tons of food donated annually
- More than 1,600 businesses diverting
- >130,000 tons diverted annually to composting, animal feed or AD
- Estimate more than 70,000 tons managed through on-site systems

Next Steps

- Continued outreach & assistance
- Monitor compliance/enforcement
- Foster management options for packaged food materials
- Outreach/promotion of improved donation programs

Contact Information

<http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/recycle/reduce/food-waste-ban.html>

www.recyclingworksma.com

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