Massachusetts Commercial Organics Waste Ban

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Food Recovery Summit
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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**

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<th>On-Site Options</th>
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<td>Anaerobic Digesters</td>
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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

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