

# Waste Ban Updates

MassDEP-MHOA Seminars

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# What is the Solid Waste Master Plan?

- Big picture plan for how we will manage our trash
- Prioritizes meeting waste disposal need by reducing disposal
- Current plan published in October 2021
- This plan runs through 2030

# Where does our trash go?

- In state disposal – about 3.9 million tons
  - 5 Municipal waste combustors - 3 million tons
  - 5 Landfills – 900,000 tons
- Out of state disposal (net) – about 1.6 million tons
  - More than 200 waste transfer stations
  - Increase in rail-based transfer
  - Receiving states include
    - Ohio
    - New Hampshire
    - New York
    - South Carolina

# What are our waste reduction goals?

- Ensure adequate capacity to manage our waste
  - Preferred option to reduce the amount of waste disposed
  - Capacity limitations will affect disposal cost
- Reduce disposal by 30% by 2030
- Reduce disposal by 90% by 2050
- Enhance engagement with Environmental Justice communities throughout our programs

# Solid Waste Master Plan

## Capacity Issues

- Primary Focus – reduce disposal through waste reduction and diversion
  - SWMP disposal reduction goals & programs
  - Reduce & Reuse Action Plan
  - Market Development Plan
  - Expanded waste bans
- Waste to energy capacity
  - Up to 350,000 TPY alternative WTE capacity
  - Replacement municipal waste combustor capacity
- Permitting of landfill capacity

# Waste Ban History & Background

- First waste bans promulgated in early 1990s
- Done via regulation under statutory authority
- “No person shall dispose, transfer for disposal, or contract for disposal or transport of the restricted material...”

# Waste Ban Approach

- Develop and implement new waste bans over period of several years
- Combine with technical assistance, education and outreach, and market development initiatives
- Focus on compliance by larger generators – businesses and institutions
- New bans – emphasize compliance assistance initially

# Waste Ban Implementation

- Inspections, Compliance & Enforcement
  - Solid waste facilities required to maintain and implement waste ban compliance plans
  - MassDEP conducts inspections at solid waste facilities
  - Issue enforcement when observe loads with significant amounts of a banned material
  - Typically, only enforcement against business, institutional, or government generators or waste haulers
  - Not residents



# New Waste Disposal Bans

- Effective date of new bans - November 1, 2022
- Mattresses, textiles and reduced food waste threshold (from 1 ton to  $\frac{1}{2}$  ton per week)

# Why are these new waste bans important?

- Need to ensure adequate capacity to manage our waste
  - Preferred option is to reduce the amount of waste disposed
  - Disposal capacity limitations will affect disposal cost
- Solid Waste Master Plan Goals
  - Reduce disposal by 30% by 2030
  - Reduce disposal by 90% by 2050
- Secondary Benefit
  - Support local economic and job growth through increased reuse and recycling

# Solid Waste Facility Requirements

- If done not already, need to update waste ban plan and submit to MassDEP
  - This was due August 1, 2022
  - If transfer station (not C&D) only required to submit certification form
  - <https://www.mass.gov/doc/presentation-waste-ban-webinar-for-municipal-transfer-station-operators-july-2022/download>
- Waste ban web pages updated, includes:
  - Solid waste facility guidance and sample forms
  - Third party inspection forms

# Food Waste Ban

- Food waste largest portion of MSW – about 1/5<sup>th</sup>
- Will add about 2,000 entities – restaurants are the sector with the largest increase
- May affect about 30 largest public schools,  
RecyclingWorks Food Waste Estimator Tool
  - <https://recyclingworksma.com/food-waste-estimation-guide/>
- RecyclingWorks Technical Assistance and Guidance

# Estimated New Businesses Subject by Sector

Sector	Estimated Number of New Businesses Subject
Full-Service Restaurants	809
Limited-Service Restaurants	511
Manufacturers and Processors	123
Supermarkets	115
Hotels	92
Hospitals	81
Distributors and Wholesalers	75
Nursing Homes and Residential Facilities	31
Primary and Secondary Schools	29
Schools, Colleges, and Universities	9
Correctional Facilities	3
Total	1878

# Common Questions

- What if a chain with multiple locations?
- What if multiple businesses together (e.g., shopping mall food court?)
- What if a school system with multiple locations?
- Is packaged food subject?
- How does the ban apply to dormitories or retirement communities?
- <https://www.mass.gov/doc/guidance-for-businesses-institutions-haulers-commercial-organic-materials-waste-ban/download>

# How can my Business Comply?

- Compliance standard is to dispose of <math><1/2</math> ton per week of food waste
- Can comply through any combination of:
  - waste reduction/prevention
  - Food rescue and donation
  - On-site systems
  - Sending food waste to animal feed, compost, or anaerobic digestion
- If comply with the 1 ton per week ban, may need to take further reduction/diversion steps now

# Textiles

- Clothing, linens, towels, bags, other fabric
- Dispose about 260K tons/year – about 5% of trash
- All types of textiles – must be clean and dry
- [https://www.smartasn.org/SMARTASN/assets/File/resources/List\\_of\\_recyclable\\_textiles.pdf](https://www.smartasn.org/SMARTASN/assets/File/resources/List_of_recyclable_textiles.pdf)
- If wet, moldy, or oil, not subject to waste bans and should be disposed of in the trash



# Textile Recovery Options in MA

- Many active charity and private collection programs in Mass.
- Curbside and drop-off program models
- Textile recovery organizations
  - <https://www.mass.gov/doc/textile-collection-organizations-operating-in-massachusetts-august-2022/download>
- Textile recovery options for residents
  - <https://recyclesmartma.org/beyond-the-bin-search/>

# Mattresses

- About 600K mattresses/year – about 200K residential
- All size mattresses and box springs
- Includes foam mattresses
- Only 1-2% of mattresses not recyclable
- In-state capacity – 460K/year and growing
- Difficult to manage in solid waste - most solid waste facilities charge mattress fees at or above recycling cost
- State mattress recycling contract – FAC 90
- Additional mattress recyclers –  
[www.recyclingworksma.com](http://www.recyclingworksma.com)

# Mattress Recycling Guidance

- <https://www.mass.gov/guides/mattress-recycling#-municipal-mattress-collection-&-recycling->
  - Includes state recycling contract information
- <https://www.mass.gov/guides/mattress-recycling#-waste-ban-compliance-assistance-for-municipalities->
  - Includes summary and detailed guidance on collection/recycling program options, example bill of lading, FAQ document

# Contaminated Mattress Management

- If wet, moldy, or infested with bed bugs, document the number of mattresses, condition of each, and how stored and managed to prevent contamination.
- Not acceptable to store mattresses uncovered outside and then send for disposal because they are wet. Intentional contamination of waste ban materials is considered a waste ban violation.

# Documentation Needed to Send for Disposal

- As long as materials stored & managed properly & documentation is maintained and provided to MassDEP upon request, unrecyclable mattresses can be sent for disposal without requiring a MassDEP waste ban waiver.
- MassDEP Contaminated Mattress Certification Form
  - Provides documentation to solid waste hauler or facility that OK to accept a mattress for disposal
  - [https://massgov.formstack.com/forms/contaminated\\_mattress](https://massgov.formstack.com/forms/contaminated_mattress)

# Public Outreach Materials

- Social media toolkit on new waste bans for municipal officials
  - <https://mdep.box.com/s/8zrcc5tp2n1y3915ox46vrhp0zow41og>
- RecycleSmart waste bans newsletter
  - <https://recyclesmartma.org/2022/08/waste-bans-101-less-trash-for-a-cleaner-mass-achusetts-newsletter/>
- New “Beyond the Bin” listing system via RecycleSmart
  - <https://recyclesmartma.org/>
- RecyclingWorks in Massachusetts – business assistance & engagement

# Business and Institution Assistance

- RecyclingWorks in Massachusetts
  - 888-254-5525
  - [info@recyclingworksma.com](mailto:info@recyclingworksma.com)
  - [www.recyclingworksma.com](http://www.recyclingworksma.com)
- Business Development Grants & Loans
  - Recycling & Reuse Business Development Grants
  - Recycling Loan Fund

# Waste Ban Waivers

- MassDEP can approve waivers to allow the one-time or temporary disposal of waste ban materials
- Either issue as one-time approvals or short term (up to 1 year) if no alternatives to disposal
  - May be contaminated or otherwise non-recoverable/recyclable material
- Can request and issue via email
- Contact: [robert.tocchio@mass.gov](mailto:robert.tocchio@mass.gov)



# For More Information

- <https://www.mass.gov/guides/solid-waste-master-plan>
- <https://www.mass.gov/guides/massdep-waste-disposal-bans>
- <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/mattress-recycling>
- <https://www.mass.gov/guides/massdep-textile-recovery>
- <https://www.mass.gov/lists/massdep-waste-recycling-grants-assistance>
- <https://www.recyclingworksma.com>
- For more information
  - John Fischer, [john.fischer@mass.gov](mailto:john.fischer@mass.gov)