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RecyclingWorks Newsletter, December 2015

MassDEP Receives EPA Food Recovery Challenge Endorser Award

The [Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection](#) (MassDEP) won the [EPA's 2015 National Food Recovery Challenge Endorser Award](#) for leading food recovery outreach and technical assistance efforts in the Commonwealth, and for its direction of the [RecyclingWorks in MA](#) program administered by the [Center for EcoTechnology](#).

In the past 12 months, during which the State of Massachusetts launched its [Commercial Organics Waste Ban](#), RecyclingWorks has helped businesses improve food waste diversion programs, including food donation, animal feed, anaerobic digestion and composting. These programs have helped divert more than 4,570 tons of food waste from the trash on an annual basis.



Upcoming Events

December 8-9
[US Product Stewardship Forum](#)
Boston, MA

December 10
[College and University Fall Forum: Food Donation & Mattress Recycling](#)
Worcester, MA

December 10
CURC Webinar:
[Quantifying Your Waste](#)

In addition, RecyclingWorks has assisted a number of businesses and institutions that received 2015 U.S. EPA Regional Food Recovery Achievement Certificates for their work reducing food waste, including: University of Massachusetts in Lowell; Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Cambridge; Big Y headquartered in Springfield; Genzyme, a Sanofi Company, with various locations in Massachusetts; and Fairview Hospital of Berkshire Hospital Systems in Great Barrington.



MassDEP and RecyclingWorks staff receive EPA Award.

**College & University Fall Forum:
Food Donation & Mattress Recycling,
Worcester Polytechnic Institute, December 10**

College and university facility managers, dining service operators, recycling and sustainability coordinators, and other members of campus communities interested in recycling are encouraged to attend the upcoming [Fall Forum on Food Donation and Mattress Recycling](#).

Register now to receive a parking pass.

Email info@recyclingworksma.com or call (888) 254-5525 to register or for more information.

[Reduction Efforts](#)

December 15

NRC Webinar:

[Wood Recycling](#)

December 17

EPA Webinar:

[Managing "Recycling"
Contamination: What Works
and What is Waste](#)

RecyclingWorks Spotlight: Bumper 2 Bumper Magazine, Montague, MA

[Bumper 2 Bumper Magazine](#) is a free biweekly listing of used cars and other vehicles that is distributed to over 500 locations throughout Western New England. This summer, *Bumper 2 Bumper* called the RecyclingWorks hotline when the company that had been recycling its surplus magazines into cellulose insulation moved. RecyclingWorks staff connected *Bumper 2 Bumper* with another recycling processor so the company could continue to recycle one pallet of magazines each month.

If your company needs assistance finding a hauler or processor of recyclable materials, search the [RecyclingWorks Find a Recycler database](#) or contact a recycling expert at (888) 254-5525 or info@recyclingworksma.com.

RecyclingWorks Website Feature: WasteWise Fall Forum Presentations

Thirty-five people attended the WasteWise Fall Forum on Food Donation and Depackaging on November 19. The powerpoint presentations and videos from the event are now [available on the RecyclingWorks website](#). These include:

- **EPA WasteWise Award and Updates** - Christine Beling, Project Engineer at U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 1
- **USDA and EPA Food Waste Video** - Tom Vilsack, USDA Secretary of Agriculture and Gina McCarthy, EPA Administrator
- **BMPs for Food Donation** - Josh Cook, Green Business Specialist for RecyclingWorks in MA

- **Hannaford Supermarkets Food Waste Diversion** - Marcy Watson, Associate Sustainability Program Specialist for Hannaford Supermarkets
- **Depackaging** - Dan Bell, General Manager for Exeter Agri-Energy

Featured Articles

- RecyclingWorks was recently featured in both an article in the [Barnstable Patriot](#) and a story on [WCAI Local NPR for the Cape, the Coast, and the Islands](#).
- The Food Waste Reduction Alliance created a [Best Practices & Emerging Solutions Guide](#) to help companies reduce food waste, increase donation of surplus, and recycle unavoidable food waste.
- Boston University's food waste diversion program was featured in a recent article on [Composting Food Scraps at Colleges and Universities](#).

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