

RecyclingWorksMA Information Sheet

Massachusetts Commercial Organics Waste Disposal Ban

Since 1990, Massachusetts has established waste disposal bans on certain hazardous, recyclable, and compostable materials at solid waste facilities.

Materials banned from disposal include items such as recyclable paper and cardboard, bottles and cans, cathode ray tubes, certain construction materials, and leaves and yard waste. Waste bans restrict disposal, contracting for disposal, or transferring for disposal of banned materials. Learn more about the Massachusetts waste bans on MassDEP's website on <http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/recycle/solid/massachusetts-waste-disposal-bans.html>.

Effective **October 1, 2014**, commercial organic material was added to the list of banned materials. Banned commercial organic material is defined as food and vegetative material from businesses and institutions that dispose of one ton or more of that material per week. MassDEP estimates 1,700 entities may be subject to the ban.

There are many cost effective ways you can stay ahead of the new commercial organics ban. Delivering food waste to an off-site composting or anaerobic digestion facility through a hauler is a common strategy, but you can also reduce waste through purchasing controls and production changes, donating surplus food, or installing on-site technologies.

RecyclingWorks is here to help you!

See a list of resources on the next page.



Contact RecyclingWorks to learn more about reducing food waste

- 888-254-5525
- info@recyclingworksma.com
- www.recyclingworksma.com

RecyclingWorks in Massachusetts is here to help!

RecyclingWorks in Massachusetts is funded by MassDEP and designed to help businesses and institutions create successful food waste diversion programs and maximize recycling opportunities. RecyclingWorks provides all services at **no cost** to Massachusetts businesses and institutions and is focused on helping you prepare for the ban by getting into compliance early. Recycling experts are available to help you to get the information you need to develop a successful, cost-effective food waste diversion program. RecyclingWorks assistance includes:

Expert advice



If you have any recycling or food waste questions or concerns, contact the RecyclingWorks Hotline at (888) 254-5525 or email info@recyclingworksma.com to reach our recycling experts at any time.

Resources and guidance



The website at www.recyclingworksma.com features the “Find a Recycler” database, guidance on options for complying with the organics ban, case studies of successful programs, and updated information on waste bans.

Technical assistance tailored to your business needs



RecyclingWorks can evaluate your current system, help design a food waste diversion program that fits your needs, provide a cost analysis of available options, work with your current hauler, provide employee training and signage, and be available for follow-up as needed. Call the hotline to find out if you qualify for the on-site assistance package.

Note: RecyclingWorks is not a waste hauler, but will help you work with your current hauler or recommend available organics hauling services in your area.



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