Correctional Facilities

You can use this fill-in threshold estimation guide to identify if your facility may be subject to the Commercial Food Waste Disposal Ban. If you have any questions, please contact RecyclingWorks in Massachusetts by email (info@recyclingworksma.com) or by calling 1-888-254-5525.

	Average Measurement		Material
Inmates	1	lbs/inmate/day	Food waste
Disposed Waste	30	% of total generated waste by weight	Food waste

	# of Inmates	Average Food Waste Measurement	Average Food Waste Disposed Daily (lbs)	1 Week Multiplier	TOTAL Estimated Food Waste Disposed Weekly (lbs)
Inmates		× 1 lbs/inmate/day		× 7	

	Amount of Disposed Waste Weekly (yd^3)	Average Weight of 1 yd^3 Disposed Waste (1 yd^3 = ~450 lbs)	Average Amount of Disposed Waste Weekly (lbs)	% Food Waste Disposed Weekly	TOTAL Estimated Food Waste Disposed Weekly (lbs)
Disposed Waste		× 450 lbs		× 30% of total generated waste by weight	

If the "TOTAL Estimated Food Waste Disposed Weekly" in the final column is greater than 2,000 lbs, then your facility may be subject to the Commercial Food Waste Disposal Ban. If you do not have a food waste diversion program in place, contact RecyclingWorks in Massachusetts by email or by calling (888) 254-5525, or visit the RecyclingWorks website to learn how to begin a program today!

If you house **286 inmates**, then:

    1 lbs/inmate/day * 286 inmates = 286 lbs/day
    286 lbs/day * 7 days/week = 2,002 lbs/week = 1 ton of food waste per week

If you fill **2 trash dumpsters at 4 cubic yards twice per week**, then:

450 lbs * (2 trash dumpsters * 4 yd^3 * 2 pickups/week) = 7,200 lbs of total disposed waste/week

7,200 lbs * 30% of total waste = 2,160 lbs/week = 1 ton of food waste in one week

***Note**: The equation based on weight of disposed waste (above) assumes a weight of 450 lbs/yd^3 for mixed commercial waste materials. It was derived using the median value of EPA's standard conversion factor: 1yd^3 of commercial-industrial waste = 300 to 600 lbs. You may choose to change this number to best represent your operations.*