

RecyclingWorks December Newsletter

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RecyclingWorks Newsletter, December 2018

RecyclingWorks 2018 Fall WasteWise Forum Recap

RecyclingWorks in Massachusetts (RecyclingWorks) hosted the [2018 Fall WasteWise Forum](#) at [E.L. Harvey's](#) materials recovery facility (MRF) in Westborough on Thursday, November 8. Thank you to all of the presenters who participated in the conversations around single stream recycling and source separated materials:

- Ben Harvey, [E. L. Harvey](#)
- Brooke Nash, [Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection](#)
- Suzanne Wood, [UMass Medical School](#)
- Karen Franczyk, [Whole Foods Market North Atlantic Region](#)
- John Lively, [Preserve Products](#)
- Roger Beliveau, [Stop & Shop](#)

2018 WASTEWISE FALL FORUM



Upcoming Events

December 5

MassDEP

[Organics Subcommittee Meeting](#)

Boston

December 6

CURC Webinar

[Recycling & Reuse in The UK](#)

March 7

RecyclingWorks

[College & University \(C&U\) Forum](#)

Wellesley

The presenters highlighted their efforts toward improving the quality of single stream recycling and successfully diverting source separated materials. Five key takeaways for businesses and institutions from the forum include:

1. **Keep contaminants out of the recycling bin** – The biggest problems for single stream recycling facilities are contaminants such as plastic bags and shrink wrap, ‘tangles’ such as hoses and wires, food and liquid waste, and textiles.
2. **Work closely with your waste and recycling service providers** – Building relationships and fostering open communication with your recycling service providers can help businesses and institutions address issues early on and identify mutually beneficial solutions to any challenges.
3. **Develop clear communication and signage** – The keys to success for any program are a comprehensive training and education program for all staff that produce or handle recyclables, and clear signage to guide visitors in public-facing areas.
4. **Source separate other recyclable materials** – Rigid plastics and plastic film are common materials that businesses can source separate for recycling.
5. **Continually reevaluate your recycling program** – With an always evolving recycling marketplace, it is important to pay attention to the composition of your waste stream and adjust recycling programs as needed.

2018 WASTEWISE FALL FORUM



Read the recent [RecyclingWorks blog](#) for a full recap of the 2018 Fall WasteWise Forum. Visit the [RecyclingWorks WasteWise event page](#) to view all of the presentations and the [webinar recording](#), and to learn more about the benefits of becoming a WasteWise member.

MassDEP RBDG Awards

The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) recently [awarded more than \\$1 million in grant funding](#) to help six recycling companies in the state improve operations and expand the infrastructure needed to address hard-to-recycle materials. This round of [Recycling Business Development Grants](#) (RBDG) will help recyclers more effectively handle and process glass, wood, plastics, and mixed recyclables.

This year's grant recipients include the following companies:

- **120 Old Boston Road Recycling Co.** in Wilbraham, a construction and demolition material processing facility, will use its grant funding to increase recycling of wood to 4,000 tons annually.
- **Aaron Industries Corp.** in Leominster, a plastics manufacturer, will use its grant funding for new equipment that will increase its recycled tonnage by 320 tons annually.
- **Casella Waste Management of MA** in Auburn, a fully integrated solid waste organization, will use its funding to retrofit a recycling processing facility and expand its current processing capacity by 12,000 tons annually.

- **J. M. Equipment Co.** in East Freetown, a glass processing facility, will use its funding to procure an impact crusher, to process 12,000 tons of glass annually into processed glass aggregate (PGA).
- **Champion City Recovery** in Stoughton, which operates a construction and demolition material processing facility, plans to use its funding for a QC line in its construction and demolition processing facility to separate and recycle 1,200 tons of wood annually.
- **United Material Management of Millbury**, which operates a construction and demolition material processing facility, will use its funding for new optical sorting equipment that will allow the company to separate and recycle an additional 4,500 tons of wood annually.

See the recent [RecyclingWorks blog](#) to learn more about this round of RBDG awards.

RecyclingWorks Spotlight: Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary

Mass Audubon's Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary in Easthampton and Northampton collaborated with RecyclingWorks to implement a successful waste reduction program during their recent day-long Folk Festival. The family-friendly event drew together 1,200 community members to celebrate the sanctuary's 75th year. As a part of the initiative, event volunteers assembled and monitored clearly-labeled stations with recycling, compost, and trash collection bins.

The collaboration successfully diverted an overwhelming majority of the waste from the event. In total, the outdoor event generated 9 bags of organics, 6 bags of recycling, and only 2 bags of trash.

To learn more about the Arcadia Folk Festival's successful waste diversion initiative, read the [RecyclingWorks blog](#).



Featured Articles

- [The Greenfield Recorder](#) reported that the National Waste and Recycling Association recently named Wellesley-based Vanguard Renewables the 2018 Organics Recycler of the Year for their anaerobic digestion operations.
- The [Sustainable Business Network of MA](#) has issued its 2018 Sustainable Business Awards to businesses in Massachusetts that are helping to build local, green, and fair economies. Among this year's award winners was CERO Cooperative, a commercial composting co-op that helps divert 100,000 pounds of food scraps every week.





You are receiving this e-mail because you are interested in recycling, are a processor or hauler, or are an official in Massachusetts.

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