

Mass DEP Updates

March 2019

Recycling Works in Massachusetts
College & University Forum
John Fischer



Solid Waste Master Plan

- Current plan ends in 2020
- Developing new plan for 2020- 2030
- Draft plan – Fall 2019
- Final plan – end of 2020
- Dep.swmp@mass.gov

Changes in Recycling Markets

- Focus on improved recycling quality driven by Chinese government policy
- But all recycling markets are demanding better quality recyclables
- Tight materials specs and high levels of contamination
- Mass. lost local glass outlet in March 2018
- Recyclables are moving, however prices are down
- Recycling markets go up and down, but need for improved quality is here to stay

College & University Recycling

- Colleges and universities face particular challenges with recycling quality
- Wide range of facilities and recycling streams
- Many public facing recycling collection programs
- Today's focus on curbside recycling mix
- But quality and proper separation important for all materials – recycling, organics, and trash

Longer Term Outlook

- Recycling will cost money
- Still long term global demand and markets will bounce back to offset costs
- Chinese investments in US mills
- Growing demand for recycled content
- Companies looking to invest in glass recycling in Mass.
- Disposal capacity also tight and shrinking – disposal costs will likely rise
- We need recycling and food waste diversion!

Food Waste Updates

- Diversion increased from 100K tons to 280K tons in 2017
- Food waste collection customers increased from 1,350 in 2014 to 2,300 in 2018 – 70% increase
- Growing AD capacity – more than 600K tons per year operational/under development
- De-packaging facilities
 - 7 and 2 more under development
- Enforcement – about 40 NONs and 3 penalties

What Can We Do?

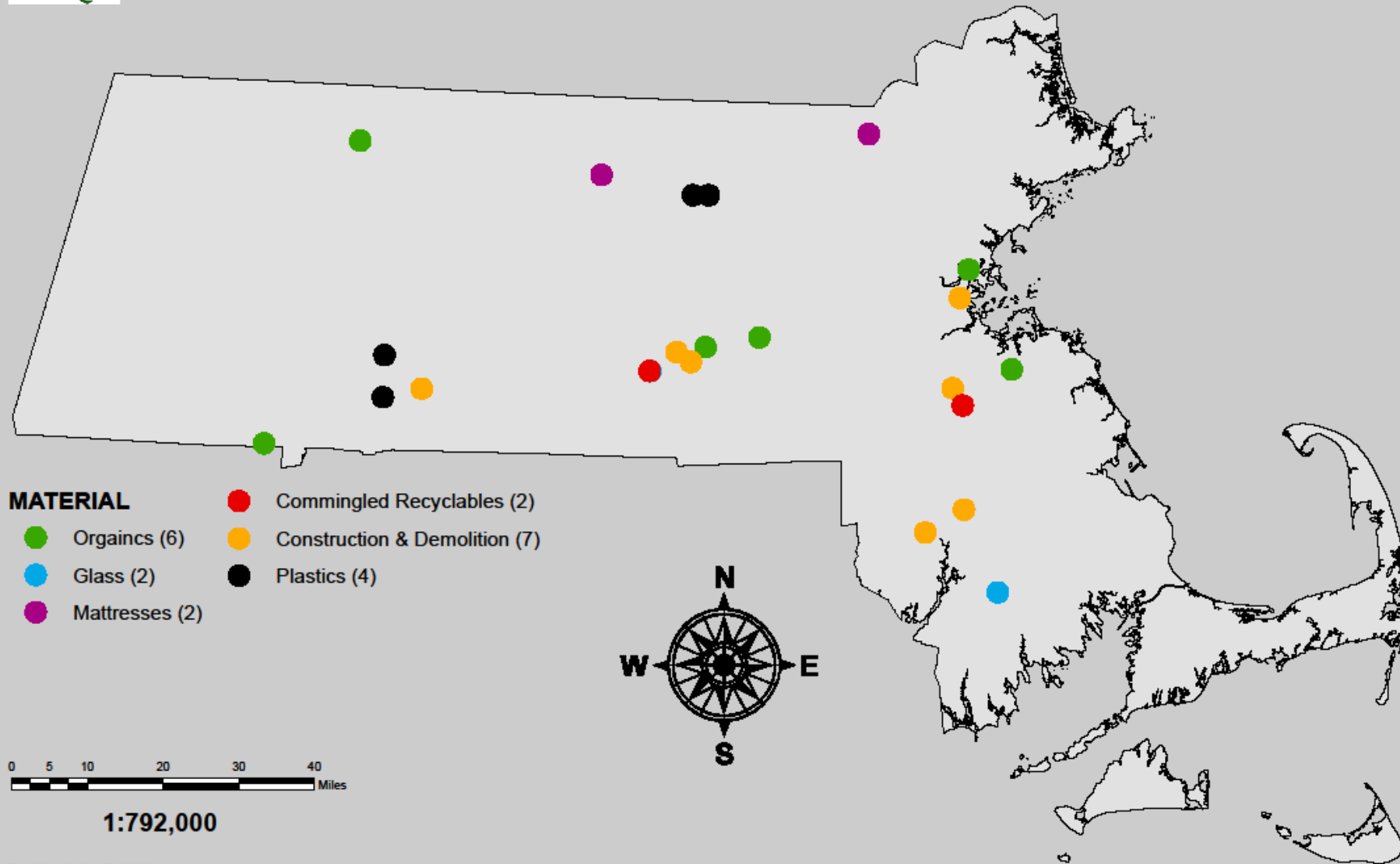
- Pay attention to material quality and contamination
 - For recycling, organics, and trash
- Work together – communicate and be transparent
 - Work closely with haulers and facilities
- Foster more in-state capacity investments
 - Recycling Business Development Grants
 - Recycling Loan Fund

Recycling Business Grants (2016-2018)

Material	Number of Grants	Grant Award Amounts	Tons Per Year
Mattresses	2	\$302,000.00	815.38
Plastics	4	\$345,000.00	3,809.00
Glass	2	\$400,000.00	20,490.00
Comingled recyclables	2	\$600,000.00	30,200.00
C&D Wood	7	\$850,000.00	47,350.00
Food Material	6	\$996,000.00	94,000.00
Totals	23	\$3,493,000.00	196,664.38



Recycling Business Development Grant Recipients



DATA SOURCES:
- RBDG Grantees: MassDEP BAW, January, 2019

Map Updated January, 2019

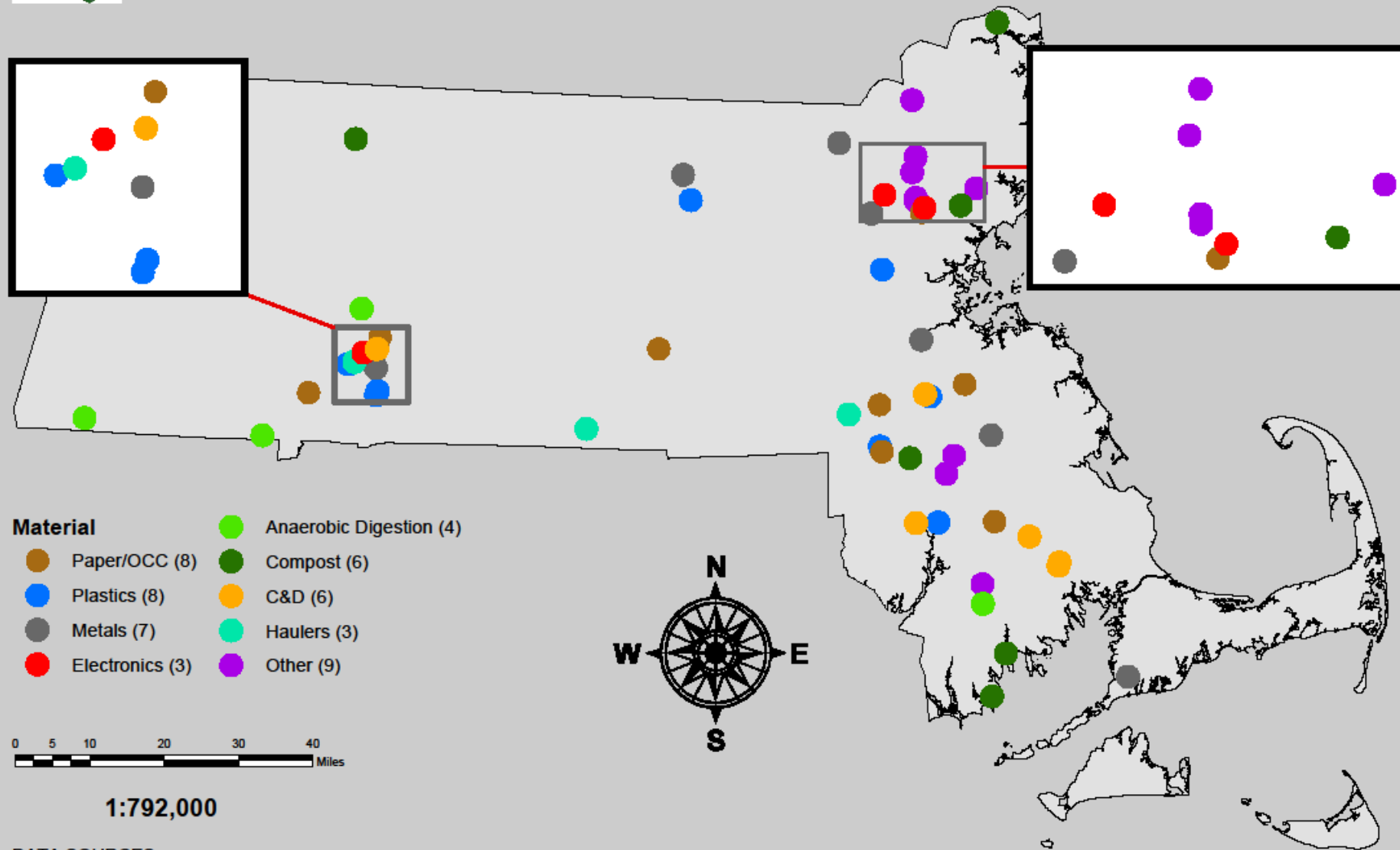
Recycling Loan Fund

- 54 different companies have received loans
 - Anaerobic digestion (4)
 - Composting (6)
 - Construction and demolition materials (6)
 - Electronics (3)
 - Hauling (3)
 - Metals (7)
 - Paper (8)
 - Plastics (8)

Other: glass (1), office furniture (1), polystyrene (1) processing (1), textiles (2), tires (2), wood (1)




Recycling Loan Fund Loan Recipients




DATA SOURCES:
- RBDG Grantees: MassDEP BAW, January, 2019

Map Updated January, 2019

Recycle Smart MA.org

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SMART RECYCLING GUIDE

Here's what can and can't go in your recycling bin.


[LEARN MORE](#)



WATCH THE VIDEO

Click here to see where your recycling goes.

[LEARN MORE](#)



RECYCLING FAQ

What you need to know to Do Your Part, Recycle Smart.

[LEARN MORE](#)



Recycle Smart- Smart Recycling Guide



Food and Beverage Cans
empty and rinse



Bottles, Jars, Jugs and Tubs
empty and replace cap



Bottles and Jars
empty and rinse



Mixed Paper, Newspaper, Magazines, Boxes
empty and flatten

NO!



**Do Not Bag Recyclables
No Garbage**



**No Plastic Bags
or Plastic Wrap**
(return to retail)



No Food or Liquid
(empty all containers)



No Clothing or Linens
(use donation programs)



No Tanglers
(no hoses, wires,
chains or electronics)



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CAN I RECYCLE THIS?

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Recyclopedia

Need help?

[< Back](#) **Plastic bag**

Plastic Film Recycling

Many supermarkets and other retailers accept plastic bags and wraps for recycling at no cost. Visit the [Wrap Recycling Action Council](#) to find a nearby drop-off location.

Do not put plastic bags and wraps in your recycling bin. At recycling plants, they can get tangled in processing equipment, causing damage and worker injuries.

If no stores near you accept plastic bags and wraps for recycling, throw these items in the trash.

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