

RecyclingWorks July Newsletter

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RecyclingWorks Newsletter, July 2019

How the State's Commercial Food Waste Ban is Working

The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection's (MassDEP) [commercial food waste disposal ban](#) has already had a significant impact on the state's diversion of food materials, as well as growth in the food waste marketplace. The ban, which applies to an estimated 1700 entities, requires businesses and institutions generating one ton or more of food waste per week to divert the material from disposal. Supported by statewide [technical assistance](#) efforts, the ban has successfully encouraged businesses and institutions to implement new food rescue strategies, from donation to source separation for composting and anaerobic digestion. Since the ban was implemented, annual food waste diversion has increased by 180,000 tons, food donation has increased by 22%, and the number of entities that receive separate food waste collection has increased by 70%. Read more about the success of the [MassDEP commercial food waste disposal ban](#).



Upcoming Events

October 4

MassDEP

[RBDG Application Deadline](#)

October 30

MassDEP

[C&D Subcommittee Meeting](#)

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Waste Ban Compliance Tips for Food Manufacturers and Distributors

RecyclingWorks in Massachusetts (RecyclingWorks) recently published [waste ban compliance tips for food manufacturers and distributors](#). Food manufacturers and distributors are subject to waste bans on materials such as food waste, cardboard, clean wood, paper, glass, aluminum, metal, and plastic containers. There are many opportunities for businesses in this sector to donate edible, surplus food and separate inedible food scraps for composting or anaerobic digestion. Food manufacturers and distributors should also connect with their haulers to inquire about the diversion of additional materials, including cardboard, pallets, and other recyclables. View the [waste ban compliance tips for food manufacturers and distributors](#), and use the RecyclingWorks [Find-A-Recycler tool](#) to locate processors, recyclers, and other service providers that can help your business divert materials from disposal.



RecyclingWorks Spotlight: Islamic Society of Boston Cultural Center

The [Islamic Society of Boston Cultural Center](#) (ISBCC), a mosque and community center located in Roxbury, collaborated with RecyclingWorks to implement a successful food scraps diversion program during the month of Ramadan. ISBCC separated food scraps and compostable paper products at sorting stations during their nightly dinners, and collected plastic bags used for shoes during prayer to be recycled with Trex®. Through their month-long efforts, the mosque diverted 1,100 pounds of food waste to anaerobic digestion and collected 1.8 tons of single stream materials for recycling.

[RecyclingWorks](#) assists businesses and institutions with reuse, [recycling](#), and [food waste prevention](#), providing free [technical assistance](#) to help businesses maximize waste diversion opportunities. To speak to a recycling and food waste expert, call our hotline: **(888) 254-5525**, or email us at info@recyclingworksma.com.

Featured Articles

- [Harvard Law Today](#) recently reported that Harvard Law School successfully diverted 92% of waste from its Commencement Day event to recycling and an anaerobic digestion facility. During the event, volunteers helped separate waste into food scraps, recycling, and trash at sorting stations. In addition, extra meals were later donated to Food for Free, a local nonprofit, for redistribution to families in need.
- [WBUR](#) recently reported on several food waste prevention technologies, including mobile apps that help businesses sell surplus food to consumers at discounted

prices and online platforms that recover food further up the supply chain.



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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