

RecyclingWorks August Newsletter

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## RecyclingWorks Newsletter, August 2019

### RecyclingWorks Single Stream Recycling Resource

RecyclingWorks in Massachusetts (RecyclingWorks) recently published a webpage focused on [single stream recycling](#) programs for businesses & institutions. This new resource describes what materials should be collected for single stream recycling, including tips for success and common pitfalls to avoid. Key takeaways include:

- Confirm with your hauler what materials should be collected in your single stream recycling program. For general guidelines on materials that can be processed by single stream material recovery facilities in Massachusetts, refer to the [Recycle Smart MA Smart Recycling Guide](#).
- **Do not** collect the following materials with single stream recyclables: plastic bags, rigid plastics, Styrofoam, textiles, waxed cardboard, and shredded paper.
- Pair recycling bins with trash disposal bins across your facility, use color-coded bins for each waste stream, and provide clear signage for common materials on all



### Upcoming Events

**October 4**  
MassDEP  
[RBDG Application Deadline](#)

**October 21**  
RecyclingWorks  
[Compost Site Operators Practical Workshop](#)

**October 30**  
MassDEP  
[C&D Subcommittee Meeting](#)

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collection bins. See below for example of RecyclingWorks single stream signage.

- If lining recycling collection bins, use clear plastic bags instead of black bags so that recyclables are not mistaken for trash. Make sure to empty single stream materials from plastic bags before collection and either dispose of the bags or recycle them with other clean film plastics.
- Provide ongoing education to staff to ensure employees are informed on current collection practices.



*RecyclingWorks Single Stream Recycling Signage Example*

Visit the RecyclingWorks website to learn more about [single stream recycling](#) and contact our hotline at **(888) 254-5525** or [info@recyclingworksma.com](mailto:info@recyclingworksma.com) for help establishing or improving a recycling program at your organization.

**UMass Dartmouth recognized by EPA as a 2018 WasteWise Partner of the Year**

The U.S. EPA has recognized the University of Massachusetts at Dartmouth (UMass Dartmouth) as the 2018 [University WasteWise Partner of the Year](#). Every year the EPA recognizes WasteWise partners who demonstrate the greatest improvement in waste prevention and recycling outcomes. UMass Dartmouth's programs apply strategies from across the EPA's Food Recovery Hierarchy to reduce and divert wasted food from disposal. For example, the university has developed a robust food donation program in which they donate unsold, prepared food to local nonprofit organizations that serve the homeless. Student volunteers also collect leftover food from the dining hall and work with the chef to package and deliver meals to the on-campus food pantry.

Collectively, the ten organizations receiving 2018 WasteWise awards prevented and diverted over 365,000 tons of waste from entering landfills. Visit the [RecyclingWorks website](#) to learn more about the EPA WasteWise Program and how to register your organization.

### **RecyclingWorks Spotlight: Northampton Chamber of Commerce Centennial Gala**

The [Northampton Chamber of Commerce](#) recently hosted an outdoor Centennial Gala event, which provided entertainment and catered food service to more than 350 attendees. To minimize waste going to landfill, Smith College's catering services provided vendors with compostable serviceware for the event. USA Hauling, the "Sustainability Sponsor" for the event, provided the Chamber with four 96-gallon bins for single stream recycling, four 64-gallon bins for compost items, and one 96-gallon bin for trash. Throughout the event, volunteers assisted guests with sorting waste into collection bins for organic materials and recycling. Through the collaboration, the Chamber diverted 800 pounds of

food scraps for composting, collected 100 pounds of single stream materials to be recycled, and produced less than one bag of trash.



*RecyclingWorks staff at the Northampton Chamber of Commerce Centennial Gala*

[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](mailto:info@recyclingworksma.com).

#### **Featured Articles**

- [Milford Daily News](#) recently reported that Milford restaurants, including Panera and Starbucks, are donating surplus food to fight hunger in the Milford community. Panera donates between 50 and 80 wrapped items to local nonprofits and senior centers

through its Day-End Dough-Nation program, while Starbucks donates extra pastries and sandwiches to local food pantries, schools, and churches through its Food Share Program.

- [Recycling Today](#) recently reported that Boston has announced the city's first zero-waste plan. The plan incorporates 30 short-term and long-term strategies, including the expansion of commercial composting capacity, education on recyclable materials, increased access to recycling collection containers, and increased emphasis on innovative solutions and technologies. Boston aims to increase the city's recycling rate from 25% to 80% by 2025.



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

**Our mailing address is:**

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