



Venues and Events

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
Seats	0.6	lbs/seat/day	Food Waste
Meals Served	1	lbs/meal	Food Waste
Visitors	0.45	lbs/visitor	Food Waste
Disposed Waste¹	25	% of disposed waste by weight	Food Waste

	# of Seats	Daily Average Food Waste Measurement	Average Daily Food Waste Disposed (lbs)	1 Week Multiplier	TOTAL Estimated Food Waste Disposed Weekly (lbs)
Seats		x 0.6 lbs/seat/day		x 7	

	# of Meals Served Weekly	Average Food Waste Measurement	TOTAL Estimated Food Waste Disposed Weekly (lbs)
Meals Served		x 1 lb/meal	

	# of Visitors Weekly	Average Food Waste Measurement	TOTAL Estimated Food Waste Disposed Weekly (lbs)
Visitors		x 0.45 lbs/visitor	

	Amount of Disposed Waste Weekly (yd ³)	Average Weight of 1 yd ³ Disposed Waste (1 yd ³ = ~250 lbs)	Average Amount of Disposed Waste Weekly (lbs)	% of Food Waste Disposed Weekly	TOTAL Estimated Food Waste Disposed Weekly (lbs)
Disposed Waste¹		x 250 lbs		x 25% of disposed 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!

For resorts and conference properties:

If you have **476 seats**, then:

$$0.6 \text{ lbs/seat/day} * 476 \text{ seats} = 286 \text{ lbs/day}$$

$$286 \text{ lbs/day} * 7 \text{ days/week} = 2,002 \text{ lbs/week} = 1 \text{ ton food waste per week}$$

If you serve **2,000 meals** in one week, then:

$$1 \text{ lb/meal} * 2,000 \text{ meals served/week} = 2,000 \text{ lbs/week} = 1 \text{ ton of food waste in one week}$$

For large venues and events²

If you have **4,450 visitors in one week**, then:

$$0.45 \text{ lb/visitor} * 4,450 \text{ visitors} = 2,002 \text{ lbs} = 1 \text{ ton of food waste in one week}$$

If you fill **2 trash dumpsters at 8 cubic yards twice per week**, then:

$$250^1 \text{ lbs/yd}^3 * (2 \text{ trash dumpsters} * 8 \text{ yd}^3/\text{trash dumpster} * 2 \text{ pickups/week}) = 8,000 \text{ lbs of total disposed waste/week}$$

$$8,000 \text{ lbs/week} * 25\% \text{ of total waste} = 2,000 \text{ lbs/week} = 1 \text{ ton of food waste in one week}$$

¹ The equation based on weight of disposed waste assumes a weight of 250 lbs/yd³ waste. It is the lower range of the EPA's standard conversion factor for uncompacted mixed MSW (residential, institutional, commercial): 1 yd³ mixed MSW = 250 to 300 lbs. You may choose to change this number to best represent your operations.

² Large venues and events include convention centers, stadiums, theme parks, performing art centers, movie theaters, fairgrounds, special event sites (e.g. parades, sporting events, festivals), and miscellaneous venues (e.g. museums, zoos).