Northeastern University: Programs to Address Waste Disposal Bans (Mattresses and Food Waste)

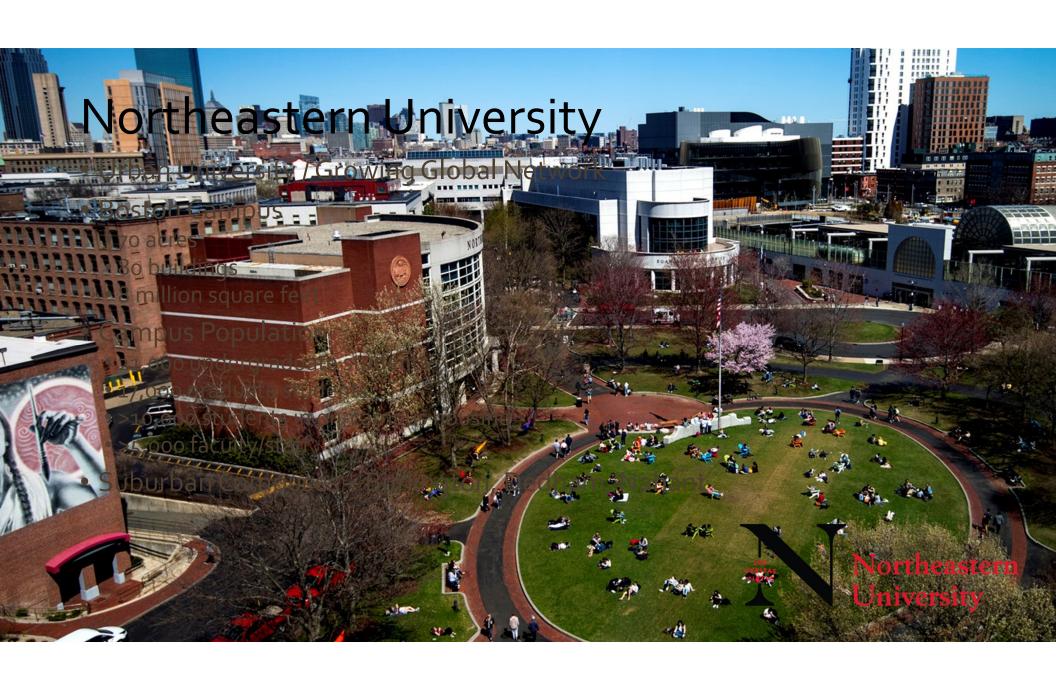


Susan Higgins Northeastern University, Facilities Management Associate Director Materials & Recycling









# Facilities Services: Waste and Recycling Division

- Crew of seven daily collection services (including weekends, holidays)
- Specialty collections electronics, light bulbs, batteries, move-in/move-out
- Supported by outside contractors: trash, recycling, composting, electronics, lightbulbs, batteries, other
- Work collaboratively with building superintendents, grounds crew, transportation department, dining services, cleaning staff, student groups, and others



### Waste and Recycling Infrastructure

- Daily waste & recycling collection routes (box trucks, packer trucks)
- 22 compactors (17-45 yard capacity)
- Open-top containers (2-30 yard capacity)
- Wheeled carts (hampers) and totes
- More than 400 sets of recycling stations in academic buildings
- Approximately 80 solar-powered waste/recycling bins (outdoors)

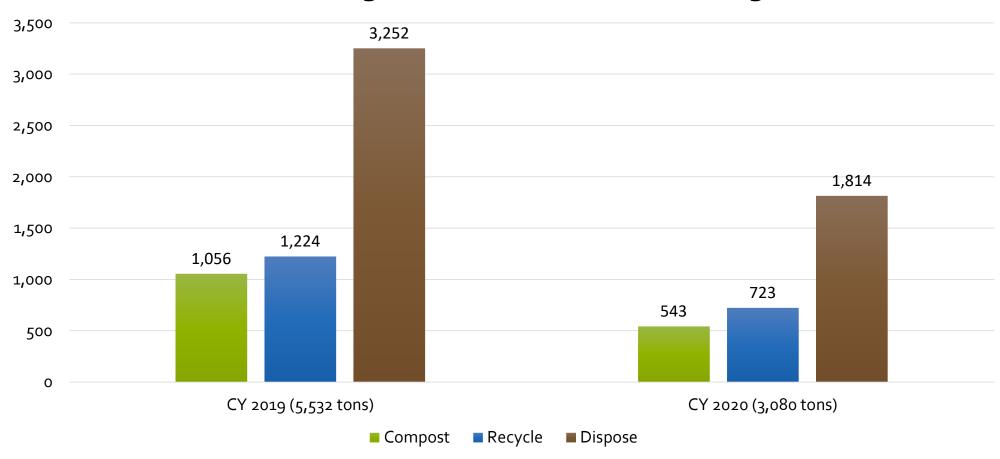




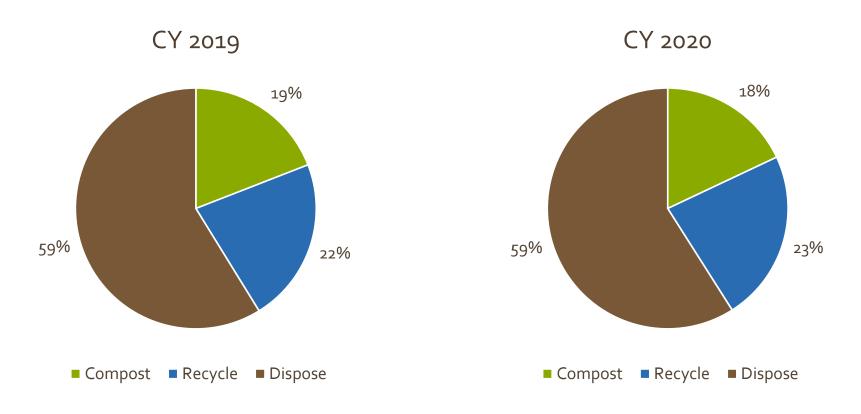




### **Waste Management Practices (tons managed)**

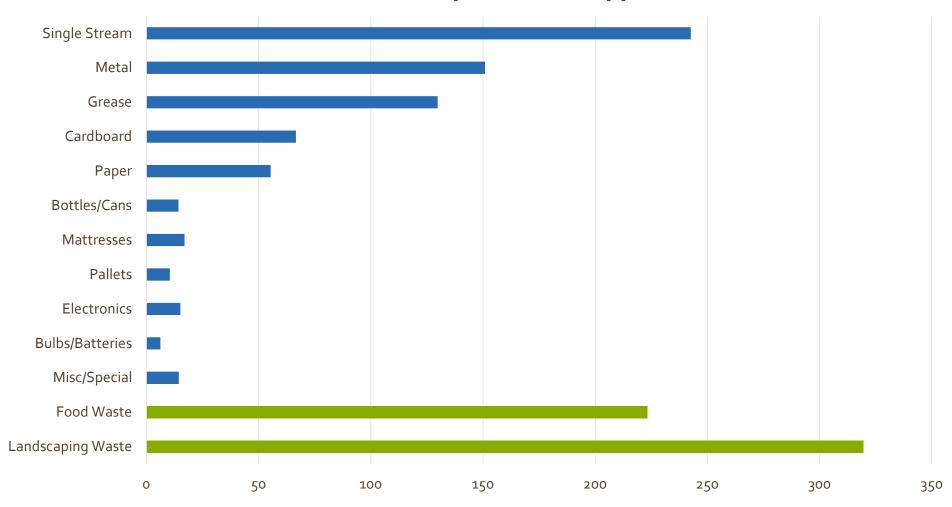


### Waste Management Practices (%)

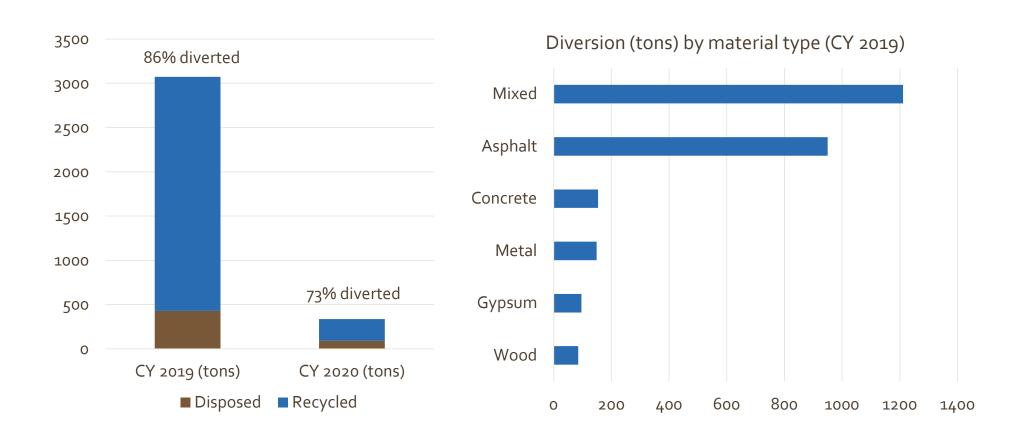


41% of waste diverted from disposal to composting or recycling

### Diversion (tons) by Material Type (2020)



### Construction and Demolition Waste



### Mattress Recycling

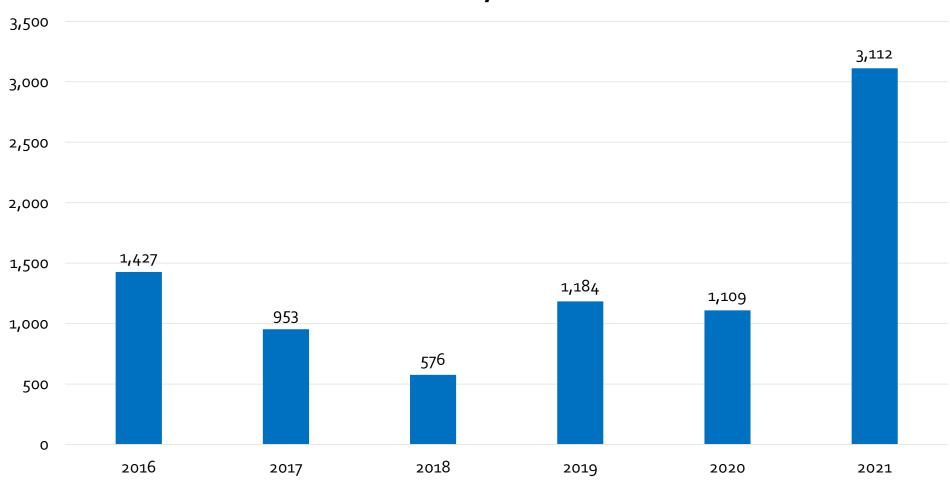
- All dorm mattresses recycled since 2016 (more than 8,300 mattresses)
- Mattress life / replacement schedule
- Collection logistics
  - Timing
  - Storage constraints
  - Vehicle access restrictions
  - Staff resources
  - Vendor resources





All mattresses removed from the dorms are diverted to recycling

### Mattresses Recycled (number)



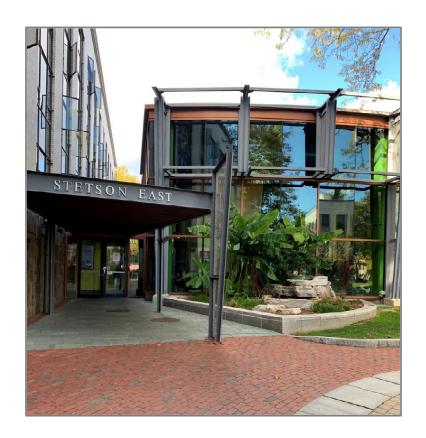
### Mattress Recycling – Issues to Address



- Handling abandoned mattresses (illegally dumped)
- Maintaining an efficient and cost-effective program
- Obtaining strong data and metrics
- Ensuring maximum recycling at processing facility

### Food Waste Prevention and Management

- Dining halls, eateries, dorms, offices, events
- Menus of Change
  - Sustainable/local sourcing of food
  - "Root to tip" and batch cooking
  - Tracking of waste
- Sustainable dining practices
  - Elimination of trays
  - Reusable and compostable service ware
  - No straws, plastic bags
- Community donations, FeedShare app
- Used vegetable oil to renewable heating oil (LifeCycle Renewables)
- Composting
  - Serving dining halls and major eateries since 2006
  - Expanded to all eateries in 2020

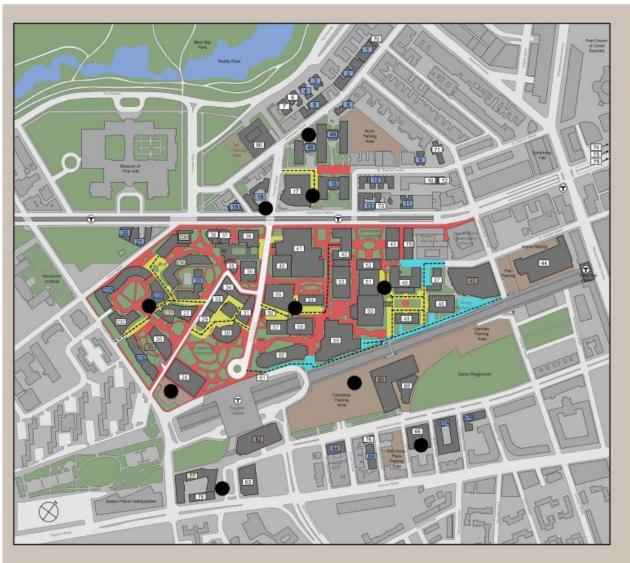


### **Food Waste Composting**

- Ten collection locations
- Kitchen prep waste; limited collection of post-consumer food waste (plate scrape)
- Delivered to land-based composting (Hidden Acres Farm, Medway MA)
- Working to control contamination, including limiting non-food compostable materials
- Focusing on data and metrics
- Exploring options for program expansion









### Northeastern

#### Academic and Service Building

- 66 Alumni Center at Columbus Place (CP)
- 61 Architecture Studio (RG)
- 70 Asian-American Center (AC)
- 68 Badger-Rosen Squash Busters Center (SB)
- 40 Barletta Natatorium (BN) 26 Behrak's Health Sciences Center (BK)
- 74 101 Belvidere (BV)
- 51 Blackman Auditorium (AUDL)
- 41 Cabot Physical Education Center (CB)
- 7 Cahners Hall (CA) 36 Cargill Hall (CG)
- 72 Catholic Center (CC)
- 54 Churchill Hall (CH)
- 66 Columbus Place and Alumni Center (CP)
- 47 Cultinane Hall (CN)
- 50 Curry Student Center (CSC)
- 6 Cusing Hall (CU)
- 57 Dana Research Center (DA) 39 Dockser Hall (DK)
- 43 Dodge Hall (DG)
- 60 Egan Center (EC) 52 El Hall (EL)
- 50 140 The Fenway (140)
- 71 Ferrway Center (FC)
- 55 Forsyth Building (FR)
- 53 Hayden Hall (HA)
- 10 Hiller-Frager (HF)
- 33 Holmes Hall (HO)
- 46 Hurtig Hall (HG)
- 79 177 Huntington Avenue (177) 35 Kariotis Hall (KA)
- 38 Knowles Center (KN)
- 34 Lake Hall (LA)
- 56 Latino/ a Student Cultural Center (LC)
- 17 Marino Recreation Center (MC)
- 44 Matthews Arena (MA)
- 29 Meserve Hall (ME)
- 48 Mugar Life Sciences Building (MU)
- 31 Nightingale Hall (NI) 27 O'Bryant African-American Institute (AF)
- 78 International Village Administration (INV)
- 77 International Village (INV)
- 63 Renaissance Park (RN)
- 42 Richards Hall (RI)
- 49 Robinson Hall (RB) 73 ROTC Office (RO)
- 24 Ryder Hall (RY)
- 30 Shillman Hall (SH)
- 58 Snell Engineering Center (SN)
- 59 Snell Library (SL)
- 37 Steams Center (ST)
- 23 West Village F. G. H (WV) 78 Boston YMCA (BY)

#### Residence Buildings

- 21 Burstein Hall (BU)
- 67 Deverport Commons A, 8 (DC)
- Kennedy Hall (KDY)
- 4 Kerr Hall (KH)
- 12 Levine Hall and
- St. Stephen Street Complex (LV)(SSS) B Light Half (LH)
- 5 Loftman Hall and
- 153 Hemerway Street (LF)
- Melvin Hall (MH)
- 20 Rubenstein Hall (464)
- Smith Hall (SM)
- 16 Speare Hall (SP) 34 Statson East (SE)
- 15 Stetson West (SW)
- 23 West Village Residence Complex
- A. B. C. E (WV)
- 23 West Village Residence Complex F. G. H (WV)
- White Hall (WH)
- 28 Willis Hall (WI)
- 59 10 Coventry Street (CV)
- 8 142-148 Hemenway Street (142-148)
- 11 319 Huntington Avenue (319) 337 Huntington Avenue (337)
- 19 407 Huntington Avenue (407)
- 76 768 Columbus Avenue (768)
- 54 760 Columbus Avenue (780)
- 77 International Village (INV)

#### Parking Garages

- 65 Columbus Parking Garage (CPG)
- 75 Belvidere Parking Garage (BVG) 45 Gainsborough Parking Garage (GG)
- 62 Renaissance Parking Garage (RPG)
- 25 West Village Parking Garage (WPG)

#### Color Key

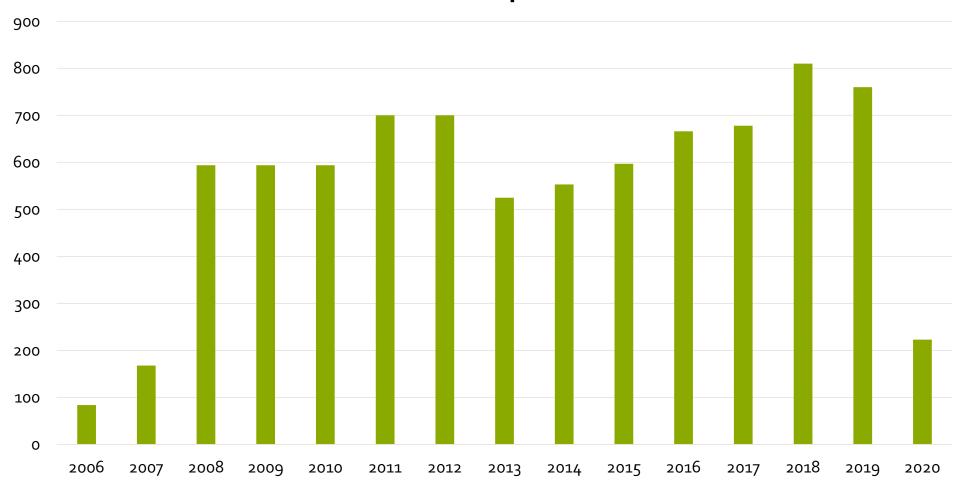
--- UNRESTRICTED





PROHIBITED 8AM-5PM

### Food Waste Composted (tons)



# **Composting Challenges**





Packaging / Contaminants



Recyclable vs. Compostable



Squirrels!

## Representative Signage









### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

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