

Massachusetts Commercial Organics Waste Ban

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Organics Policy and Goals

- Solid Waste Master Plan
 - Overall goal – reduce disposal by 2 million tons (30 %) annually by 2020
 - Food waste and other organics >25% of disposal in Mass. > 1 million tons per year
- Primary Goal – Divert additional 350,000 tons per year of organic materials from disposal by 2020
- Clean Energy Results Program
 - Support the development of renewable energy in Mass.
 - Goal to have 50 MW of anaerobic digestion in place by 2020



Benefits

- Opportunity to digest for energy and/or compost to produce soil amendments/fertilizers
- Enhance management solutions for dairy manure & wastewater residuals
- Opportunity to generate energy at farms, waste water plants, other locations
- Cost effective materials management for businesses/institutions
- Reduced reliance on disposal capacity



Organics Action Plan Overview

- Comprehensive, integrated set of strategies
- Developed working with stakeholders
- Focused on 2020 goal – 350 K tons additional diversion annually
 - Data Analysis
 - Collection Infrastructure
 - Processing Capacity/Market Development
 - Regulatory Reform/Waste Ban



Improved Data

- Food waste density mapping study – updated 2011
- Waste characterization study data
- Completed survey of food waste management at state facilities
- Will be reviewing facility reports to update diversion data



Building Collection Infrastructure

- Guidance on food waste reduction/donation
- Best management practices guidance
 - By business sector
 - For local health departments/haulers
- Recycling Loan Fund – haulers eligible
- Recyclingworks in Massachusetts
 - Website
 - Service provider database
 - Site specific TA
 - Guidance/case studies/food waste calculator

Growing Processing Capacity/ Markets

- Solid waste regulations siting changes
 - Promulgated November 2012
 - Clarify requirements, reduce siting barriers
 - Facilities taking source separated materials do not require solid waste facility site assignment
- Financial assistance matrix available online
 - MassDEP Recycling Loan Fund
 - MassDEP Municipal Grants
 - Mass Clean Energy Center Organics to Energy program



Commercial Organics Waste Ban

- Took effect October 1, 2014
- Food waste and vegetative material
- Does not apply to management in wastewater
- Commercial/institutional organics – dispose > 1 ton/week
- Estimate – 1,700 businesses/institutions subject to the ban
- Focus now on outreach and compliance assistance