



Waste Bans/Business Recycling Workgroup

Meeting Notes for Meeting #2 on March 10, 2009 and Draft Workgroup Report to MassDEP

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Meeting Overview

23 people attended the second meeting of the Business Recycling/Waste Bans Workgroup on March 10, 2009 in Worcester. The following is an overview of the major concepts discussed in our meeting.

Overarching Goal

Improve business recycling and compliance with Waste Bans by providing an integrated, multi-faceted system of incentives (grants, loans, technical assistance) and disincentives (penalties) to unblock barriers.

Goal #1:

Improve business recycling at large generator sites in the Commonwealth including major malls, strip malls, central business districts, office parks, industrial parks, colleges, schools, office buildings, apartment & condo complexes, and major sports facilities.

List of strategies discussed:

- Create competition and rewards programs to recognize businesses that increase recycling and decrease waste disposal – research other programs like Natick Collection Mall, Race to Recycle, Waste Wise, RecycleMania, etc. to build a competition, tracking, and recognition program for each sector. Advertise these programs in trade journals, Chambers of Commerce, etc. Also recognize the champions that help lead these programs.
- Establish regional recycling collection centers for business recyclables

Short-term Strategies (0-2 years):

Long-term Strategies (3-10 years):

Goal #2:

Improve hauler/generator partnerships.

List of strategies discussed:

- Provide technical assistance to businesses so they know the right questions to ask when designing and implementing business recycling programs, and they know who to ask (their hauler), etc.
- Haulers and others entities should provide technical assistance to businesses including plans on how to increase recycling rates, decrease waste disposal costs, and fund capital costs over the long term
- Educate haulers about how to work with businesses in improving business recycling programs
- Require haulers to report businesses recycling and solid waste tonnages to encourage recycling
- Create a level playing field by developing uniform, statewide hauler licensing/certification programs to remove inconsistencies from community to community
- Establish annual dumpster permits with yearly renewals which are only approved upon proof of recycling services being provided to the businesses
- Provide access to cost effective business recycling services, including using large business recycling programs to build capacity and provide access to recycling services for small and medium size businesses.



- Establish regional recycling collection centers for business and residential recyclables

Short-term Strategies (0-2 years):

Long-term Strategies (3-10 years):

Goal#3:

Increase recycling & solid waste technical assistance to businesses.

List of strategies discussed:

- Create a new Business Assistance Coordinator (BAC) program, similar to the MAC program, to provide sorely needed recycling and solid waste technical assistance to businesses
- Use Chambers of Commerce to reach out and educate businesses in recycling and solid waste disposal strategies- not a traditional role for COC's. Develop ways to make this a higher priority for COC's – use "Greening Your Business" programs as an opportunity to help businesses differentiate themselves, save \$\$, and increase revenues. Invite haulers to these meetings to develop partnerships.
- Establish technical assistance programs for apartment and condo complexes
- Establish education programs for custodial staffs
- Establish technical assistance programs for businesses to help them develop recycling and solid waste disposal contracts that promote recycling and reduce waste generation (Resource Management)
- Develop programs that enable municipalities to provide recycling services to businesses through existing municipal recycling programs

Short-term Strategies (0-2 years):

Long-term Strategies (3-10 years):

Goal #4:

Develop sustainable, long term funding systems for business recycling & Waste Ban education, technical assistance, and enforcement programs.

List of strategies:

- Establish disposal surcharges –some municipalities oppose these fees because they have already complied with the waste bans
- Use revenue from the new Waste-to-Energy Credits (WEC's)
- Use revenues from the new Expanded Bottle Bill
- Create a fund that cannot be raided
- Create uniform, local waste ban enforcement programs and levy local fines (similar to parking fines)
- Create local dumpster fees & fines and use officials (BOH, etc.) to inspect
- Develop funding programs that enable municipalities to provide recycling services to businesses through existing municipal recycling programs
- Create public and private short-term grant and loan programs for the capital required to purchase recycling containers, equipment, and educational materials begin business recycling programs

Short-term Strategies (0-2 years):

Long-term Strategies (3-10 years):

Goal #5:

Improve recycling through compliance with Waste Bans.

List of strategies:

- Enforce waste bans at the facility, hauler, and generator levels
- Investigate the legal options for/barriers to creating solid waste and recycling franchises in Massachusetts
- Implement an organics waste ban with associated market capacity
- Wood waste ban – develop in state markets
- Develop and implement business Pay-As-You-Throw programs
- Establish new statewide building codes that require recycling areas in new and renovated buildings

Short-term Strategies (0-2 years):

Long-term Strategies (3-10 years):

Target materials:

- Opportunities exist to recycle or compost more of the following materials:
 1. Cardboard
 2. All paper
 3. Food waste and other organics including waxed cardboard
 4. Bottles and cans
 5. Metal
 6. Plastics – especially shrink wrap (also Styrofoam)
 7. Construction & demolition debris including asphalt, brick, concrete, wood waste (trees, clean and dirty construction wood, wood pallets, etc.), asphalt shingles, drywall, carpet, vinyl siding, Tyvek
 8. E-waste
 9. Clothing/textiles

Homework for our next meeting:

1. Review the Draft Report and ensure we haven't left out any key points
2. Review the list of strategies in each goal and think about which ones are short-term and which ones are long-term
3. Identify what would be required to implement specific strategies (e.g., which strategies would require legislation)
4. Identify who should implement proposed strategies

Thanks for all your help!

Marc & Janine

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If you have not yet done so, please RSVP for our last meeting to be held March 24, 2009, 9:00 am – noon in the Boston MassDEP office on One Winter Street: janine.delaney@state.ma.us.