

# Proposed Waste Ban Regulation Changes



Public Hearings  
November 2020



# Meeting Agenda

- Welcome
- Zoom Logistics
- Introductory Presentation
- Formal Public Hearing and Comments
- Adjourn

# Zoom Meeting Logistics

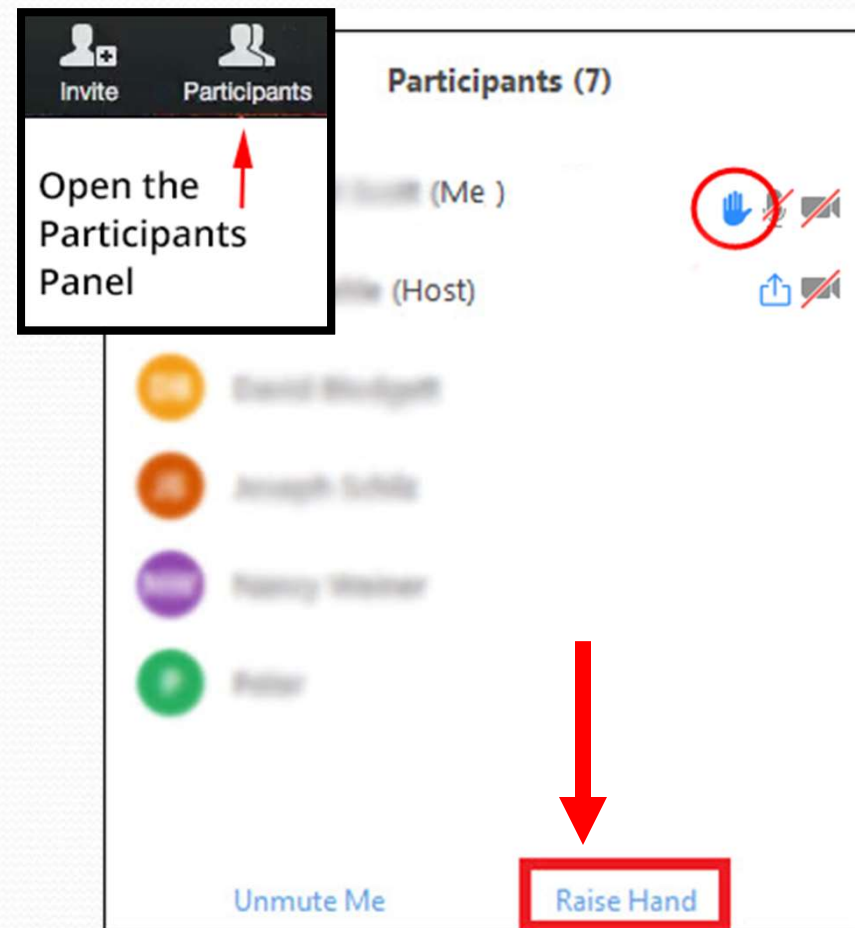
- This meeting is being recorded.
- To minimize background noise, attendees are on mute.
- Please enter your full name in the Participants panel.





# How to Participate via Zoom

- Raise your virtual hand.
- When it's your turn we will:
  - 1) Notify you by chat.
  - 2) Announce your name.
  - 3) Take you off of mute and lower your raised hand.





# Public Comment Period

- Open through December 4, 2020
- Hearing notice, draft regulations, draft guidance and background document available online
  - [www.mass.gov/dep](http://www.mass.gov/dep) - search for waste bans





# Solid Waste Master Plan

- Draft 2030 Plan Proposed Waste Reduction Goals
  - Reduce disposal from 5.7 to 4.0 million tons by 2030
  - Reduce disposal to 570,000 tons by 2050



# Waste Disposal Bans

- MassDEP regulations ban disposal of certain recyclable or compostable materials in trash
- Core strategy to help achieve Solid Waste Master Plan waste reduction goals
- Waste bans began in 1990 – implemented as part of comprehensive strategy
- Goal to drive growth of diversion at same time as foster infrastructure development
- MassDEP monitors compliance through inspections at solid waste facilities





# Proposed Changes

- Addition of mattresses and textiles as banned materials
- Lower threshold for existing commercial food waste ban from 1 ton to ½ ton per week
- Additional changes to solid waste facility waste ban guidance
- Proposed effective date October 2021





# Waste Ban Guidance Changes

- Solid waste facility waste ban compliance plans
  - For facilities > 50 tons per day:
    - Require dedicated waste ban monitor (beyond loader operator)
  - Loads with C&D materials above action levels may not be accepted and disposed
    - Must either separate banned materials or transfer to processor
  - Zero tolerance materials must be separated whenever observed
  - Specifically address how will separate cardboard for recycling



# Food Waste Reduction Progress

- Draft SWMP goal – reduce food waste by 500K tons/year (beyond 2018 baseline of 280 K tons/year)
- Increased from 100K tons to 310K tons in 2019
- # businesses diverting up from 1,350 to 2,900 in 2019
- > 50% growth in food rescue since 2014
- Growth in capacity – especially anaerobic digestion, de-packaging and food rescue





# Food Waste Ban Effects

- Roughly double # businesses subject –about 2,000 additional
- 100K additional tons subject
- Plus improved compliance from businesses subject now
- Restaurants are sector most affected – about 1,300 – though likely reduced given COVID effects
- About 30 public schools potentially subject
- RecyclingWorks in MA technical assistance

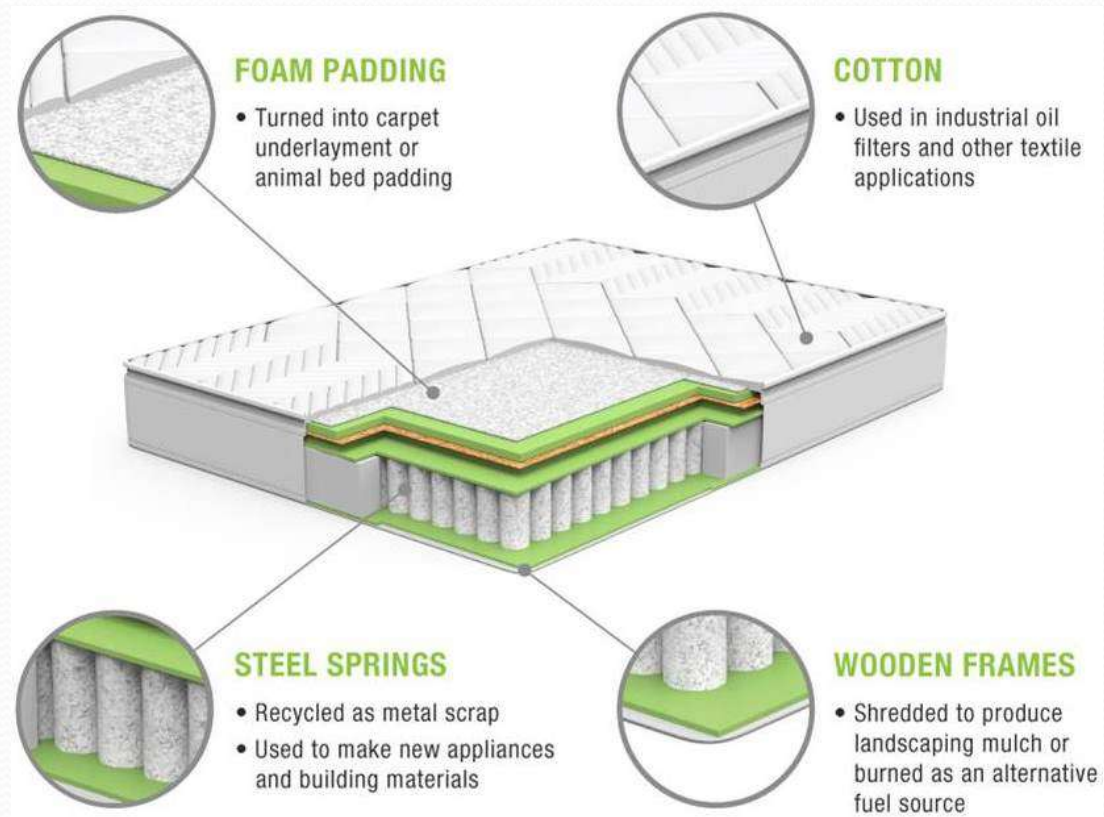


# Mattress Recycling Progress

- 600K mattresses/year total generated (about 200K residential)
- About 16K tons
- Current recycling > 50K units/year (not including commercial)
- About 90 cities & towns currently recycling via state contract



# Mattress Components



# Mattress Recycling

## Infrastructure

- MassDEP municipal recycling grants, state contract and recycling business grants
- 4 vendors on state contract
- Current capacity about 300K pieces/year – likely growing
- Processing costs - \$10-16/piece
  - Typical disposal surcharges at this amount or higher
- Haul costs - \$150-500/container
- Difficult to manage at disposal facilities



# Textile Reuse and Recycling Infrastructure

- About 230K tons disposed/year
- About 95% can be reused or recycled
- >25 reuse or recycling operations in Mass.
- Many more involved in resale
- >1/2 of munis. have collection programs – many through schools



# Value of Textiles

- Reduced disposal costs
- But also have value
- 45% sold as second hand apparel;
- 30% turned into industrial wiping cloths;
- 20% to fiber products (insulation, carpet padding, sound-proofing);
- Local businesses “upcycle” textiles into new products, (e.g., quilts, blankets, and bags)





# For more information

- Please visit [www.mass.gov/dep](http://www.mass.gov/dep) - search for waste bans
- Comments should be submitted to:
  - [dep.swmp@mass.gov](mailto:dep.swmp@mass.gov) or
  - John Fischer, MassDEP, One Winter Street, Boston, MA 02108