



Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection Sustainable Materials Recovery Program Wheeled Organics Carts

Overview

This grant will assist municipalities with the purchase of wheeled carts for municipally financed curbside collection of organics (food waste). New cart programs may be implemented town-wide or as a pilot of 400-1000 households; expansions must consist of 400 households or more. Applicants must select one category.

New town-wide program means introducing cart collection to the households and/or businesses served by the municipal contract. For example, a municipality may currently collect trash from some businesses, and may want to make curbside organics available to those same businesses.

New pilot program means cart collection is being introduced to a limited number of residents or businesses in order to test the feasibility and/or cost, and to determine if full-scale implementation is feasible. For example, offering organics collection carts to one or two collection routes with the intention of expanding to all service recipients if the pilot program is successful.

Expansion (enhancement) of an existing program means the municipality already provides cart collection to some households and will be expanding the service area. For example, the municipality piloted organics collection and plans to expand to serve all eligible households.

Use of Grant Funds:

- Grant funds may be used to offset the cost of carts purchased either by the municipality or by its contracted organics hauler.
- If the hauler purchases the carts, the municipality's contract with the hauler must specify that the municipality takes ownership of the carts at the end of the contract.

Evaluation Criteria:

In addition to the minimum eligibility criteria, the following factors will be viewed favorably in the evaluation process:

- Readiness to implement the project
- Demonstrated understanding of the steps remaining to implement the proposed program

Additional Information

- Equipment purchased under this grant must either:
 1. be purchased off State Contract FAC113 (Massachusetts State Contract for Recycling Containers, Compost Bins and Rain Barrels). FAC113 Price Sheet can be found at <https://bit.ly/36ALTNB>.

OR

 2. adhere to the following minimums for recycled content: Curbside compost collection containers – 30%
- Collection containers for source separated food waste must be a minimum of 10-gals
- All equipment purchased must have a minimum warranty of 5 years
- Purchasing a combination of cart sizes is allowable

Wheeled carts for curbside food waste collection program

This grant will provide funds for the purchase of carts to be used by residents for a municipally financed curbside collection of source-separated food waste. Carts may also be distributed to businesses participating in the food waste collection program. Food waste is the primary focus of this grant item. If, however, a grantee would like to purchase a cart or other container large enough to accommodate leaf and yard waste **in addition to food waste**, that would be permissible provided that their compost facility is permitted to accept both yard waste and food waste. The collection of separated food waste must continue year-round. If the municipality also collects leaf and yard waste for a portion of the year, carts may be sized and used for this combined purpose.

Eligible Applicants:

- This grant item is available to municipal applicants only.
- No trash limit required.

Grant Award Amount:

	Amount per Households Served	In-molded label, sticker	Maximum Award Amount
Organics Carts	\$20	\$1/cart	\$105,000
Municipally Financed Pilot Implementation Start-up funds (up to 1,000 households)	\$10		\$10,000

- Only one cart per household served will be awarded.
- MassDEP will provide an additional \$1 per cart for the first 5,000 food waste carts to defray the cost of stickers, or in-molded labels providing detailed instructions on how and what to compost. An in-molded label is laminated to the cart lid by heat treatment during the manufacturing process. Sample artwork for labels is available.
- In addition, for municipally financed organics pilot programs only, an additional \$10 per household (up to 1,000 households) will be awarded. These Implementation Start-Up funds are to offset start-up costs, including increased collection costs, if any, and incremental costs to tip organics at a composting facility if it exceeds solid waste tip fee, if any.
- Actual reimbursement amount will be based on the number of carts or containers purchased. Awards are contingent on submission of an Implementation Plan.

For more information on Curbside Organics Collection Carts, please contact:

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