



Reduce & Reuse (R&R) Working Group

- ▶ Virtual Meeting - Jan 26, 2023
- ▶ 1:00 - 3:00 pm
- ▶ This meeting is being recorded

AGENDA

- ▶ Welcome & Housekeeping
- ▶ Guest Speaker: Emily Barker, Reuse Minnesota
- ▶ MassDEP Updates
 - ▶ Tour of Beyond the Bin
 - ▶ Best Practices: Reusables and Public Health
 - ▶ Deconstruction Workgroup
 - ▶ Schools and Reusable Dishware
 - ▶ Funding for R&R Action Plan Implementation
- ▶ Open Discussion and Announcements



▶ Guest Speaker:
Emily Barker
Reuse Minnesota



► MassDEP Updates



The Beyond the Bin search tool is next level recycle searching. Use it to find out how and where to donate or recycle items that can't go in your home recycling bin and are too good to trash. Choose from the material categories listed or enter a keyword and your location, then choose an option for drop-off, pick-up, mail-in and hit search!

Select a material category ▼

OR

🔍

Drop-off, Mail-in, or Pic... ▼

📍

Search

Eliminating Single Use Plastics:

Moving the Needle Toward Reusable
Foodservice Ware for Takeout from
Food Establishments

Address local, state, and federal policies that inhibit reuse and repair

ACTION:

Initiate conversations with the Department of Public Health (DPH) to understand food code requirements around reusable containers at food establishments.

NOTES:

MassDEP will consult with DPH's Food Protection Program to understand requirements and rationale of relevant Food Code requirements, discuss Federal role in rulemaking, and determine whether there any opportunities to expand reusable container use while protecting public health.

Project with RecyclingWorks and MA Dept of Public Health



Photo credit: ReThink Disposable

- ▶ Partner with RecyclingWorks on process, timeline, goals
- ▶ Connect with MA DPH to establish plan
- ▶ Identify key stakeholders & recruit interested health officials to get better understanding of current practices and issues
- ▶ Conduct stakeholder meetings/listening sessions over 3-6 months with health officials across the state
- ▶ Create Best Practices guidance in collaboration w/MA DPH to enable more reuse

There is also action on the federal level...

- ▶ Federal Food Code: FDA Model used by most states
- ▶ MA follows Federal Code
- ▶ Updated every 4 years
- ▶ National Conference this April to consider changes
- ▶ UPSTREAM leading national discussion
- ▶ Opportunity to make change to enable more reusables
- ▶ Top two issues to address:
 - ▶ Consumer BYO containers
 - ▶ Acknowledge third party warewashing - *Regulatory agencies seeking clarity*

MassDEP

**Deconstruction
Workgroup**



What is deconstruction?

- ▶ The process of dismantling a structure to maximize the recovery of reusable material.
- ▶ Sometimes called “construction in reverse” or “unbuilding,” deconstruction removes a building by selective disassembly of structural and non-structural building components.
- ▶ This stands in contrast to conventional demolition, which uses mechanical equipment like bulldozers and wrecking balls, resulting in limited reusability.

Definition courtesy of [Build Reuse](#)

Goals for the Deconstruction Workgroup

- ❑ Increase awareness about our Waste Disposal Crisis
- ❑ Grow the Reuse Industry in MA for valuable building materials
- ❑ Align with MassDEP's R&R Action Plan
- ❑ Connect our work with Climate Impacts
- ❑ Job Training and Workforce Development
- ❑ Support Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion



Who Attends These Meetings?



general contractors

architects & engineers

deconstruction contractors

demolition contractors

historic preservationists

businesses, institutions and schools

reuse organizations

solid waste and recycling industry

federal, state, and local officials

consultants and ngos



September 2022 kick-off meeting: **Demystifying Deconstruction**

A Few Highlights

- **30% of ALL discarded materials in MA are from C&D activities.** We dispose of ~1.6M tons of C&D annually- goal is to reduce by 260K tons by 2030.
- **Embodied Carbon** in the built environment comes from emissions from extraction, manufacturing, transportation, installation, maintenance, and disposal of materials.
- As buildings become more energy efficient, an **estimated 49% of GHG emissions from buildings built between 2020-2050 will be from embodied carbon** as operational emissions fall.
- **Mandatory deconstruction ordinances**, executive orders, incentives, plans, and advisory groups are popping up all over the US and Canada.
- **What is needed to enable more reuse in this sector:** understanding benefits, technologies, training opportunities, partnerships and assistance.



December 2022 meeting: Inspiration and Practice: Taking Buildings Apart

A Few Takeaways

- **Demolition of one American home** that is 2400 sq. ft is **equivalent to a lifetime's worth of trash** for one individual (~120,000 lbs.)
- **25 categories of materials that can be captured for reuse**, such as: doors, windows, hardware, lumber, HVAC, flooring, roofing, cabinets, appliances & landscaping
- Experience with deconstruction demonstrates what is possible:
 - ▶ **>60% of a house can go to reuse**
 - ▶ 34% to recycling and
 - ▶ 5% for disposal as trash
- Deconstruction supports **green collar jobs**: some Oregon jurisdictions employ inner city youth, homeless veterans, and previously incarcerated.
- The future includes **Design for Disassembly**: Photo shown-> 99% saved for reuse!
- A trained workforce can deconstruct a house on a **cost-competitive** basis, **reduce toxins**, reduce waste, and **help low-income and cost-conscious renovators**.

Next Deconstruction Workgroup Meeting

March 15, 2023, from 1:30-3:00 p.m. (virtual)

TOPIC: Reuse Markets for Building Materials

[Register at this link](#)

Reduce and Reuse Working Group

<https://www.mass.gov/service-details/massdep-reduce-reuse-rr-working-group>

Reducing Single Use Plastic in K12 Schools

- ▶ Ad Hoc Group - meets virtually 4 times/year
- ▶ Replace polystyrene and compostable trays (PFAS) with reusable trays
- ▶ Replace dishware, cutlery with durable alternatives
- ▶ Install dishwashers/refurbish unused machines
- ▶ Bulk milk dispensers
- ▶ To participate, contact Gail Garron Sowerder - gbernard@beverlyma.gov

Funding News!

- ▶ \$250,000 per year for up to 3 years
- ▶ Expand existing funding avenues:
 - ▶ Reduce/Reuse/Repair/Share Micro-Grants
 - ▶ Recycling and Reuse Business Development Grants
 - ▶ K12 School Green Team Program
 - ▶ Recycling Works MA

Preliminary Funding Priorities

▶ **Reduce Single Use Plastics in Schools**

- ▶ Convert to durables and in-house dishwashers
- ▶ Convert to bulk milk dispensers
- ▶ Expand third party dishware providers

▶ **Furniture, mattresses, household goods**

- ▶ Needs assessment, service gaps and opportunities
- ▶ Expand furniture banks infrastructure
- ▶ Increase repair/refurbish capacity

Preliminary Funding Priorities

- ▶ **Deconstruction/building materials**
 - ▶ Training for contractors
 - ▶ Storage space for materials
 - ▶ Needs assessment: data, planning tools, cost/benefit analyses
 - ▶ Model municipal ordinance or permit requirement
 - ▶ State building - pilot project
 - ▶ Grants - residential & commercial

Preliminary Funding Priorities

- ▶ **Public awareness/behavior change**
 - ▶ Promote benefits of R/R/R/S
 - ▶ Normalize buying second-hand, repair, borrow
 - ▶ Expand access to R/R/R/S outlets
- ▶ **Network/support reuse organizations**
 - ▶ Needs assessment
 - ▶ Training
 - ▶ Statewide reuse conference



► Announcements

Fixit Clinics

- ▶ Acton Fixit Clinic, Feb 11
<https://www.facebook.com/events/856245245606856/>
- ▶ Harvard U Fixit Clinic Feb 28 or Mar 1 @ Cabot Science Library
- ▶ Learn all About Fixit Clinics w/Ashland Library: Zoom, Mar 28
<https://www.ashlandmass.com/Calendar.aspx?EID=10609>
- ▶ Jamaica Plain Library (Boston) Fixit Clinic, April 15
- ▶ Mystic Makerspace & Medford Public Library Fixit Clinic, May 6
- ▶ Presentation on Fixit Clinics at Mass Library Assn Meeting, Falmouth May 8-9

Boston RFI for Reusables

- ▶ Request for Information (coming in Feb)
 - ▶ *To inform the City of Boston's understanding regarding zero-waste dining.*
 - ▶ *Create opportunity for reusable and refillable food service take-out containers in Boston.*
- ▶ Third party food ware vendors and restaurants
- ▶ Susan Cascino: susan.cascino@boston.gov

UpCycle: Materials Available

- ▶ Deconstruction of 10,000 square foot, 13 room home
- ▶ Cabinets, countertops, appliances, lighting, fireplace inserts,
- ▶ Windows, doors, bathroom fixtures
- ▶ Mechanical systems (HVAC, boilers, central vac system)
- ▶ Shrubs and plant material
- ▶ <https://upcycle.smugmug.com/Colonial-Renovation-D143/>



Share your News and Updates

Next Meeting?

Contact info:

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MassDEP Reduce & Reuse Working Group