

Organics Subcommittee Meeting Slides



John Fischer
April 17, 2019

Meeting Outline

- Review progress to date
- Strategies for small/residential generators
 - continued from March meeting
- Lowering ban threshold – identify and discuss barriers, issues and needs
- Frame updated approach and strategy
- Identify questions and information needs

Food Waste Reduction Progress

- 2020 goal 450K tons/year (350K tons increase from 100K ton baseline)
- 2017: 280,000 tons diverted (180K tons increase)
 - Compost – 150,000 tons
 - AD – 88,000 tons
 - Donation – 26,000 tons
 - Other – 13,000 tons – processed into wastewater
 - Animal feed – 1,700 tons (we know this figure is incomplete)

Food Waste Reduction Progress

- Food Donation and Rescue
 - 26,000 tons in 2017
 - >50% growth since 2014
- Food Waste Collection
 - 70% increase from 1,350 customers in 2014 to 2,300 in 2018
- Compost and AD
 - 150k TPY compost capacity
 - >600,00 TPY AD capacity (operational or under development)
 - 7 de-packaging operations, 2 more under development
 - Also growing infrastructure in neighboring states

Organics Action Plan Review

- First plan published in 2012
- Most recent update in 2017
- Five categories
 - Data Analysis
 - Reducing Waste and Donating Food
 - Collection Infrastructure
 - Processing Capacity/Market Development
 - Regulatory Reform/Waste Ban

What has changed?

- Disposal ban in place in 2014 (> 1 ton per week)
- Established collection, processing infrastructure & markets
 - At least for large generators
- Growing food rescue infrastructure
- Extensive guidance, assistance, and lessons learned
- Growing interest among municipalities, residents

Looking Ahead

- Food waste 26% of our municipal solid waste (household and business trash)
- Largest material category by far
- Next highest is cardboard at 9%
- Areas of focus
 - Large generators (subject to current ban)
 - Medium generators (potentially subject to ban going forward)
 - Small generators (small businesses and residents)

Strategies for Residents & Small Businesses

- Municipalities with food waste drop-off sites: **30**
- Municipalities with curbside collection: **10**
 - **37** communities provide residents with a self-pay option for a hauler
- Municipalities with compost bin distribution programs: **150+**

Strategies for Residents & Small Businesses

- Considering multi-pronged approach
 - Reduce waste
 - On-site/at-home composting
 - Community compost sites
 - Drop-off composting at municipal facilities
 - Curbside collection/co-collection

Lowering Ban Threshold

- Received extensive support at March meeting
- Suggested level – 1,000 pounds (1/2 ton) per week
- Next steps - identify:
 - Issues and barriers
 - What is needed for effective implementation
- Frame strategy and approach to support lower ban threshold
- Identify questions and information needs

Estimates By Sector

Facility Type	Measurements	1/2 Ton
Assisted Living Facilities	Beds	80
	Employees	110
Colleges and Universities	Students on campus	367
	Students off campus	1,376
Corporate Cafeterias	Meals served	1,600
Correctional Facilities	Inmates	143
Elementary and Secondary Schools	Elementary school students	885
	Middle school students	1,370
	High school students	2,858
Hospitals	Beds	42
	Employees	180
Lodging and Hotels	Guest rooms	151
Restaurants (full-service)	Meals served	1,000
	Employees	18
Restaurants (limited-service)	Meals served	2,000
	Employees	24
Supermarkets and Grocery Stores	Employees	18
Venues and Events	Visitors	2,225

Generator Issues

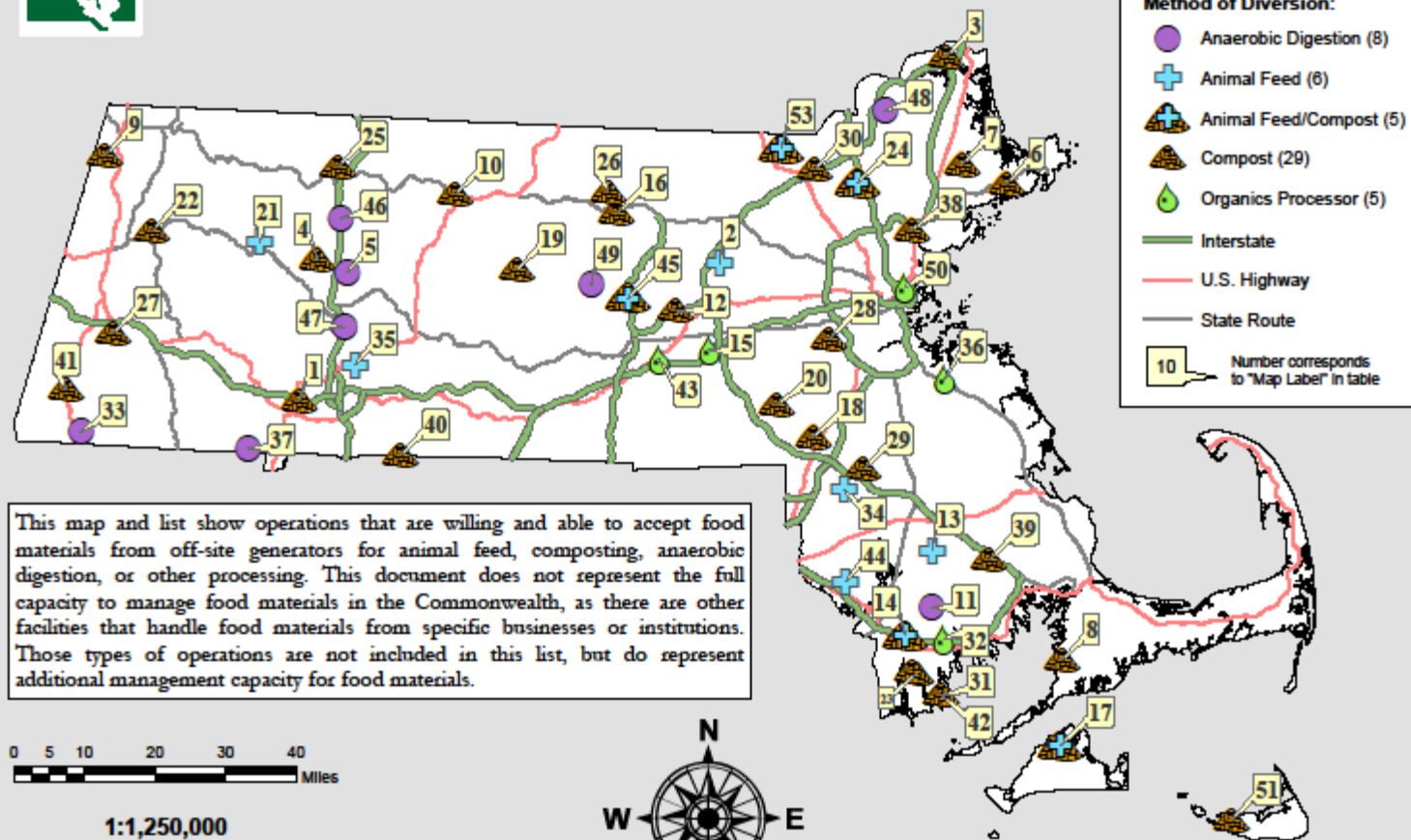
- Multiple paths to compliance
 - Reduction
 - Donation
 - On-site management
 - Off-site management
- Cost-effectiveness
 - Collection and hauling costs
 - Question of overall capacity & distribution
- Increased technical assistance
- Voluntary certification program?

Capacity Issues

- Need for more distributed capacity
- Able to handle some contamination
- Need for more equipment/capital investment?
- Potential compost facility grant program?
- Recycling Loan Fund – many types of entities subject



Sites Accepting Diverted Food Material



DATA SOURCES:

- Major Roads: MassDOT OTP, MassGIS, June 2014
- Food Material Diverters: MassDEP BAW, November 2018

Map Updated November 2018
MassDEP, BAW. J Cook

Define Next Steps

- Next meeting agenda
- Identify follow up information needs
- Ensure interested and affected parties are engaged

Contact Information

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<https://www.mass.gov/guides/commercial-food-material-disposal-ban>

<https://recyclingworksma.com/how-to/materials-guidance/food-waste-2/>