



Reduce & Reuse (R&R) Workgroup

Virtual Meeting - June 24, 2020

Meeting Topic:
Reuse and repair of
household durable
goods in
Massachusetts

Agenda

- **11 AM - 11:30 AM**

Background on R&R Workgroup

Where are we heading?

Survey results

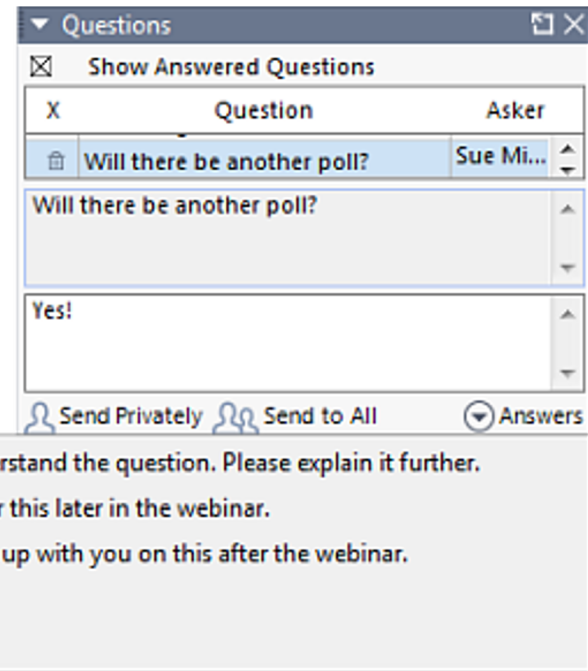
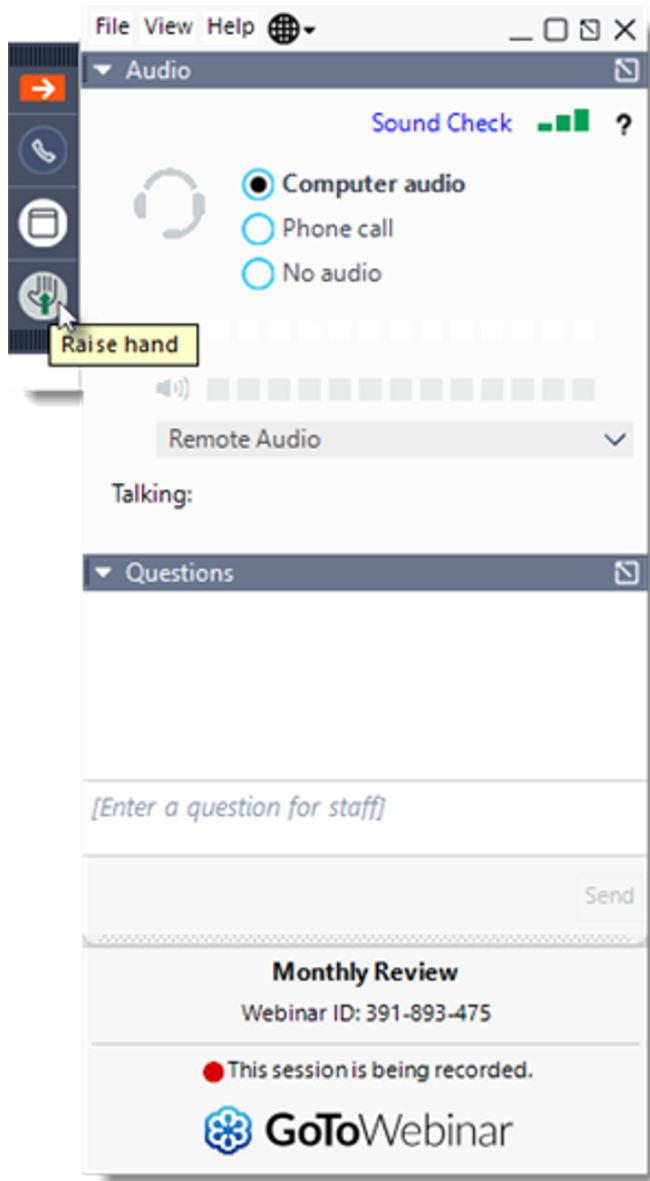
- **11:30 AM - 12:30 PM**

Panel Discussion: Reuse & Repair
of Household Goods & Furniture

- **12:30 PM - 1:00 PM**

-Questions for panelists

-Group roundtable: barriers &
strategies



Participating using GoToWebinar

Solid Waste Master Plan 2030

Public Comment Draft

DRAFT FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Massachusetts 2030 Solid Waste Master Plan

September 2019



- [Draft Solid Waste Master Plan](#)
 - Source Reduction & Reuse section
 - Includes creating Strategic Reduce and Reuse Action Plan
 - Reduce & Reuse (R&R) Working Group will inform this action plan

R&R Action Plan

- Create a strategic reduce & reuse action plan that will:
 - Assess the best opportunities to increase materials reuse and extend product lifespans.
 - Identify barriers and capacity needs among priority industries, including workforce development needs and technical gaps.
 - Provide data on the state of reuse activity, economic benefit, materials diversion, and attitudes/behaviors around reuse.
 - Create a network of source reduction and reuse industry stakeholders and hold an open dialogue to advance reuse, repair and extension of product lifetimes.

Definitions

- **Source Reduction:**
Reduce material use and generation
- **Reuse:** use of a material repeatedly in its same form for the same purpose or for different purposes (includes repair)

Examples

- Promoting the sharing economy
- Repairing items to extend product lifespan
- Opting for reusable vs. disposable items
- Promoting durable/repairable goods
- Repurposing
- Refurbishing/
Remanufacturing
- Eliminating unnecessary packaging/waste



Organics Action Plan

Reducing Waste and Donating Food

Barrier: Missing Opportunities to Reduce Food Waste and Donate Food

As more and more businesses separate wasted food to be diverted for disposal, it becomes clear that there are opportunities to reduce wasted food to begin with through more efficient food service operations. However, businesses need better information to identify these opportunities. In addition, in some cases, businesses divert food to composting, anaerobic digestion, or animal feed, when that food may still be high quality food that is safe to donate and serve to people. Businesses, food donation organizations, and local health officials need transparent guidance to ensure that this food can be donated safely and effectively.

Actions	Original Target Date	Status
Promote industry best management practices to reduce food waste generation <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Develop basic guidance on reducing food waste○ Complete survey of colleges & universities on food waste reduction strategies○ Promote and share best practices from survey to increase their adoption	New	Complete Spring 2017
	New	Ongoing
Promote food waste reduction strategies at schools through the Massachusetts Green Team program	New	Ongoing
Create best management practices around food donation, engaging with stakeholders (Health Agents, food donation groups, etc.) <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Partner with the Harvard Food Law and Policy Clinic to create legal fact sheet on food donation liability	Ongoing	Ongoing
	New	Completed

Source Reduction and Reuse

Goals:

- Develop and implement expanded strategies to reduce waste at the source.
- Develop and implement policies and programs that extend the lifespan of products through reuse, repair and remanufacturing.

Priority materials: Durable goods including appliances, electronics and furniture, single use packaging and food service products, wasted food, building materials, transportation and distribution packaging

Strategies

Create a Strategic Reduce and Reuse Action Plan that will:

- Assess the best opportunities to increase materials reuse and extend product lifespans.
- Identify barriers and capacity needs among priority industries, including workforce development needs and technical gaps.
- Provide data on the state of reuse activity, economic benefit, materials diversion, and attitudes/behaviors around reuse.
- Create a network of source reduction and reuse industry stakeholders and hold an open

Figure 3.1 Libraries of Things at Peabody Institute Library, Danvers



Single Use Packaging

Building Materials

Textiles & Clothing

Electronics

Household Durable Goods

Organics/Food

Furniture

Revised Workgroup Schedule

- Kickoff Meeting - [March 2020](#)
- Creating a Culture of Reuse in MA - [April 2020](#); [May 2020](#)
- Reuse Roundtable: *The Future & Safety of Reuse in MA* - [May 2020](#)
- Household Durable Goods - [May 2020](#); June 2020
- (Repair Panel Discussion)*
- **Single Use Packaging & Food Service Products**
- **Used/Surplus Furniture** (Commercial/Institutional)
- **Electronics**
- **Textiles & Clothing**
- **Building Materials**
- **Transportation & Distribution Packaging**

*proposed additional workgroup topic

Recap: Creating a Culture of Reuse in MA

The following barriers and potential strategies were identified by R&R stakeholders in prior workgroup meetings. We surveyed participants to find out what the [MassDEP Reduce & Reuse workgroup](#) should prioritize as part of our strategic planning process,. These strategies and feedback on priorities will be taken into consideration when developing the MassDEP R&R Action Plan

The following reflects the survey completed by 48 stakeholders in May-June 2020

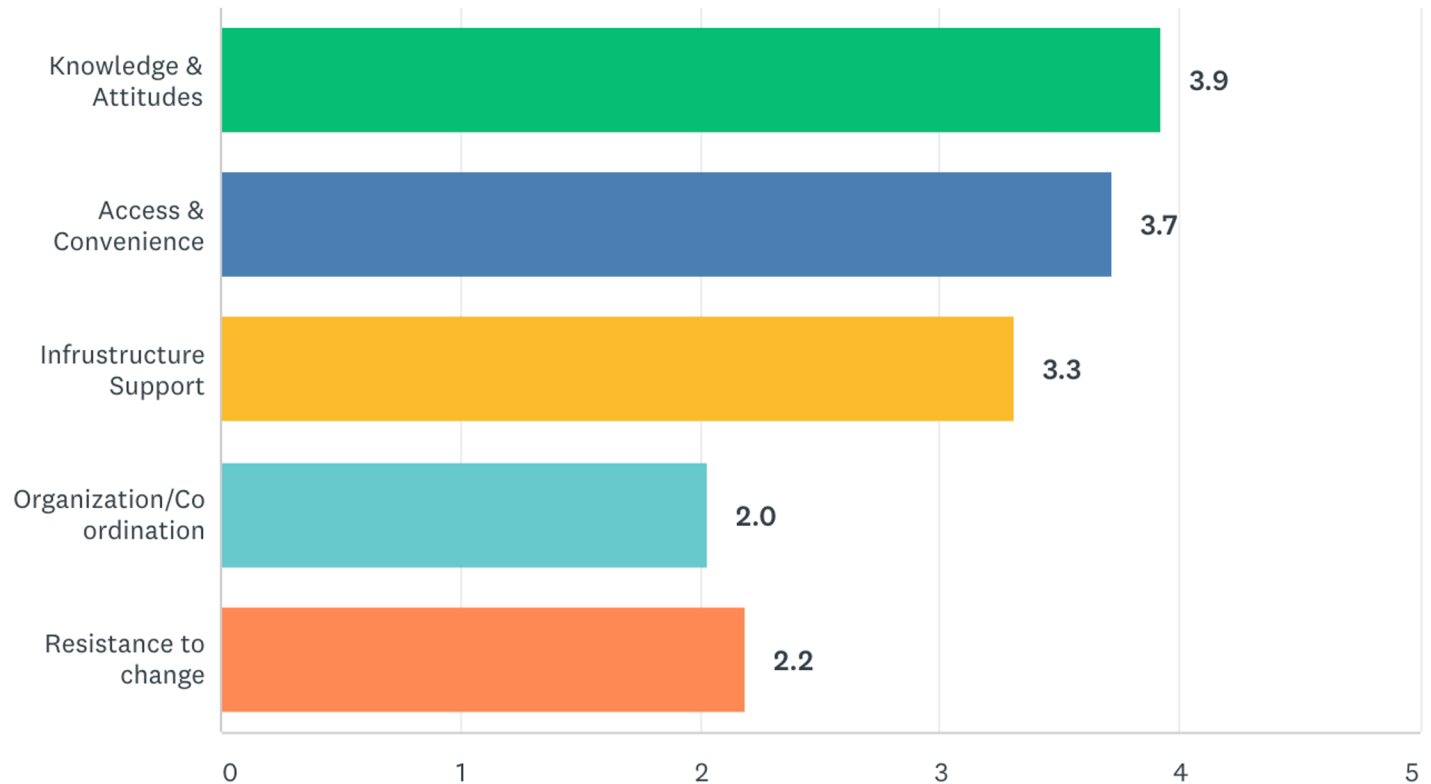
To see all barriers and strategies identified throughout the process to date, see the archive of past meetings at: <https://www.mass.gov/lists/reduce-reuse-rr-working-group-archive>

Summary of Barriers:

- Consumers lack the knowledge, attitudes or behaviors that would support a greater cultural adoption of source reduction and reuse in Massachusetts
- Insufficient access to and convenience of reuse and repair options in Massachusetts
- Need for greater infrastructure support for reuse and repair organizations
- Lack of organization and coordination amongst reuse organizations in Massachusetts
- Resistance to change: status quo interests oppose/resist initiatives to reducing, reusing and repairing consumer goods

Which of these barriers should we prioritize addressing?

Answered: 37 Skipped: 3



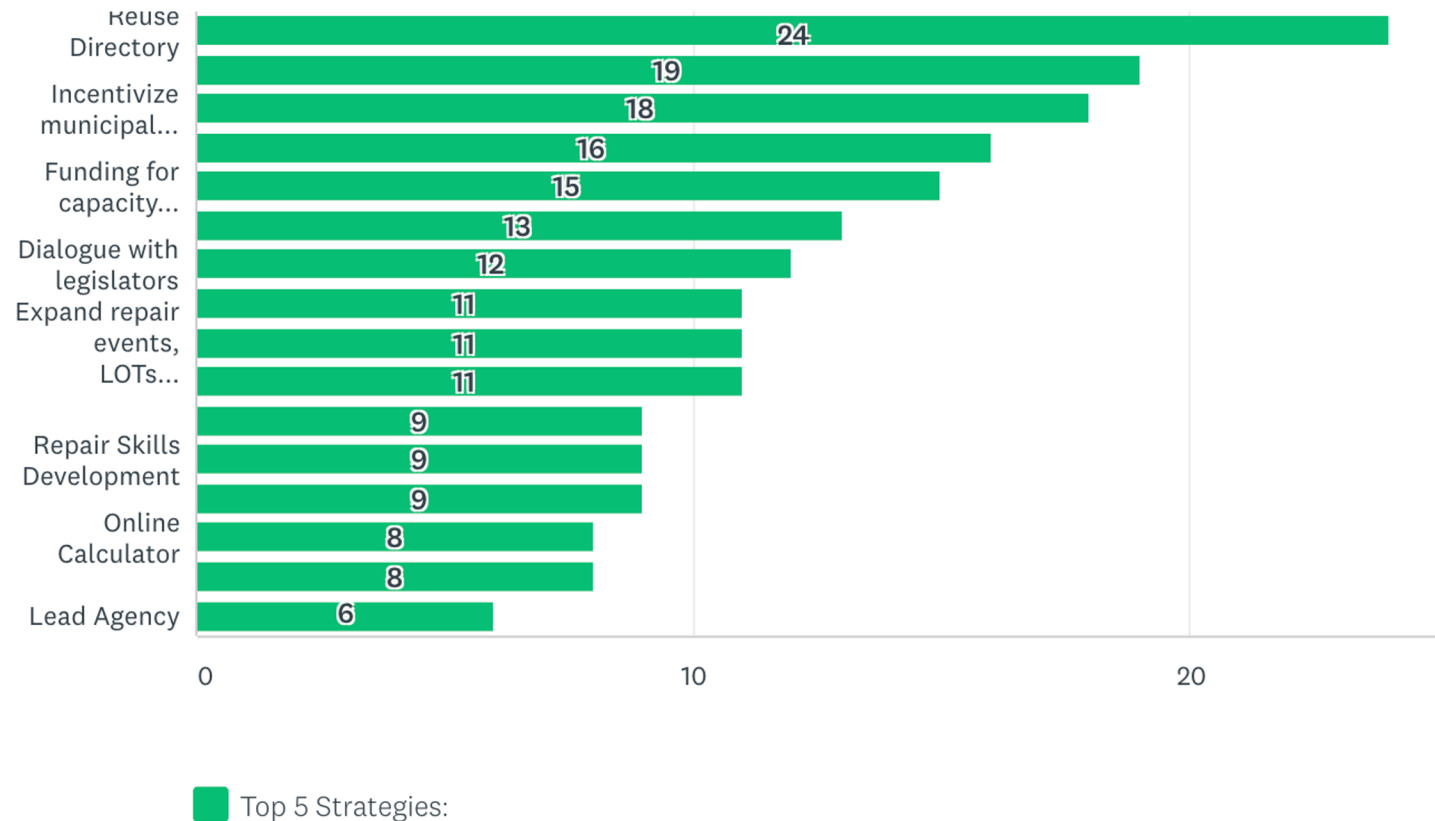
Creating a Culture of Reuse in MA

🔍 (0)

Survey Results: Barriers to Creating a Culture of Reuse in MA

What do you see as the top 5 strategies we should prioritize in order to p...

Answered: 40 Skipped: 0



Creating a Culture of Reuse in MA

🔍 (0)

Survey Results: Top Strategies for Creating a Culture of Reuse in MA

*Continuing the
conversation*

Creating a Culture
of Reuse in MA

Wednesday, July 22, 2020

6 - 8 PM, EST

Register here:

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/649782092992960012>

Discussion:

household durable
goods

Meeting Objective:

to come away with a list of
action items to consider
for inclusion in our

At the May 27th meeting we:

- defined household durable goods
- discussed the creation of a MA Reuse Directory

Today we will:

- hold a panel discussion with representatives from several reuse organizations to:
 - discuss barriers to recovering more unwanted items for reuse
 - identify opportunities to overcome these barriers
- Q&A with the panelists
- Roundtable discussion on barriers & potential opportunities

How do we define “durable goods”?

The [Bureau of Economic Analysis](#) (U.S. Department of Commerce) defines **durable goods** as:

“Tangible products that can be stored or inventoried and that have an average life of at least three years.”

and **consumer durable goods** as:

“Commodities, such as motor vehicles, that are purchased by consumers and are used repeatedly or continuously over a prolonged period.”





Examples of consumer or household durable goods:

- automobiles
- appliances
- furniture
- tableware
- tools and equipment
- sports equipment, luggage
- telephones and electronics
- musical instruments
- books
- jewelry



Carlos Zabala
**Morgan Memorial
Goodwill**



Christine Quinn
**Cancer Connection
Thrift Shop**



Katrina Martin,
Professional Organizer



Kevin Maguire
**Habitat for Humanity
ReStore**



Sharon Martens
Household Goods

What questions do you
have for our reuse
panelists?

Are there additional barriers
your organization has
experienced that the panelists
didn't address?

Are there additional actions
we should consider in order
to expand the reuse of
household goods &
furniture?

We need YOUR help: Crowdsourcing the MA Reuse Directory

Tell us about the reuse/repair/share retailers in your city, town or neighborhood: <https://airtable.com/shritqRieYZI54YQ5>

MA Reuse Directory

To add a retailer to the MA Reuse Directory, please fill out the following:

Organization Name

Address

Phone

Services:

- ☐ Customers can buy
- ☐ Customers can sell
- ☐ Customers can donate
- ☐ Customers can repair
- ☐ Customers can rent
- ☐ Customers can share

Accepted Items:

Which items are accepted for donation or repair?

Next Meeting

**The R&R workgroup typically meets the 4th Wednesday of each month at 11AM.*

In July we will offer an evening meeting to ensure this planning process is accessible for those unable to join for a daytime meeting

Date: Wednesday, July 29

Time: 6-8PM *

Location: Virtual.

[Register Here](#)

Meeting topic:

Continuing our discussion of creating a culture of reuse in MA

MassDEP Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC) Meeting

Thursday, June 25, 2020
1:00 p.m. (via webinar)

Register:

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/7201955500931172110>

Agenda

- 1:00 - General Updates & 2030 Solid Waste Master Plan Next Steps
- 1:30 - Tips for Managing Trash & Recycling as You Reopen Your Business
- 1:45 - Sustainable Materials Recovery Program Update & Takeaways from "New Normal" Webinar
- 2:00 - Reduce & Reuse (R&R) Working Group Update
- 2:20 - C&D Subcommittee Update
- 2:45 - Adjourn

Virtual Repair Events



Virtual Fixit Clinic

Sat June 27 @ 2PM (EST)

Lawrence Berkeley National Lab
(LBNL)

[https://www.facebook.com/events/
623089704965437/](https://www.facebook.com/events/623089704965437/)

Reduce & Reuse Micro-Grants

*Now accepting
applications for 2020*

This grant program provides small amounts of funding (up to \$5,000) for eligible for-profit and non-profit organizations for innovative, short term waste reduction initiatives. Initiatives must focus on promoting source reduction, reuse, or repair in Massachusetts.

[Micro-Grant Online Application](#)

[Grant Guidelines](#)

Still have questions? Contact Erin Victor at erin.victor@mass.gov

Updated R&R Workgroup Contact Directory

R&R Workgroup Contacts

To join the R&R workgroup or update your information using this [form](#) or by emailing erin.victor@mass.gov