

The background features abstract, overlapping green geometric shapes in various shades, including light lime green, medium green, and dark forest green, creating a modern and dynamic feel.

Massachusetts  
Solid Waste Advisory Committee  
October 26, 2023  
MassDEP Updates

# Solar Panel Recycling

- ▶ Increased used of solar
  - ▶ 40 percent of new U.S. electricity generation in 2020
- ▶ Emerging Waste Stream
  - ▶ Up to 6,500 tons of panels offline annually by 2030
  - ▶ Up to 40,000 tons of panels offline annually by 2050
- ▶ 2050 Solid Waste Goal - 570,000 tons
- ▶ Worked with RecyclingWorks in MA, MA Clean Energy Center and MA Department of Energy Resources on discussion document
- ▶ Recycling Market Development Workgroup
- ▶ Discussion document available at: [MassDEP Recycling Market Development Workgroup | Mass.gov](#)

# Discussion Document

- ▶ Surveyed other programs:
  - ▶ Washington state, Niagara County, NY
  - ▶ PV Cycle in Europe, Recycle PV in America
- ▶ Recycling locations: Ohio, Wisconsin, California, Arizona, Texas and Nevada
- ▶ Some manufacturers have cradle-to-grave programs
- ▶ Costs approximately \$30 to process a single module, and revenue is roughly \$3 per module - Arizona State University

# Discussion Document (continued)

- ▶ Local approaches:
  - ▶ Disposal of panels in trash
  - ▶ Use manufacturer take-back program
  - ▶ Reselling or giving away panels for reuse
  - ▶ Sending panels to a local scrapyard
  - ▶ Sending panels to C&D processing sites with roofing materials when a homeowner replaces roof
  - ▶ Destruction
- ▶ Most currently warehousing panels
- ▶ Reuse market
- ▶ Wrentham project

# Next steps

- ▶ Research and Information Gathering
- ▶ Work w/ Public Facilities
- ▶ Market Development
- ▶ Policy/Legislation
- ▶ Potential Regulatory Approaches

# Sustainable Materials Recovery Program (SMRP) Update

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# SMRP Background

- ▶ SMRP is an annual grant program for municipalities and regional solid waste management districts in Massachusetts.
- ▶ The Recycling Dividends Program (RDP) is one of the grant offerings. It is available to all 351 municipalities.
- ▶ RDP is designed to incentivize municipalities to implement best practices for waste reduction, reuse, and recycling.
- ▶ Municipalities must reinvest this funding into their solid waste and recycling programs.

# 2023 Grant Awards

- ▶ In September 2023, MassDEP announced \$5.2 M in grants awarded under SMRP.
- ▶ \$3.65 M in RDP grant funds awarded to 278 municipalities.
- ▶ Other grant highlights include:
  - ▶ PAYT Funding: \$1M
  - ▶ Household Hazardous Waste Facility: \$250K
  - ▶ Food Waste Collection Carts: \$130K
  - ▶ Mattress Containers: \$110K
  - ▶ Universal Waste Sheds: \$40K
  - ▶ Regional Small-Scale Initiatives: \$8K



# 2024 Grant Applications

- ▶ The next round of SMRP grants is expected to be released April 2024 and will be open until mid-June.
- ▶ Minor changes to RDP are expected in 2024.
  - ▶ Best practices framework (continuous improvement)
  - ▶ MassDEP priorities
  - ▶ Equity and fairness
- ▶ Municipalities will be notified by MassDEP in November 2023.
  - ▶ Announcement
  - ▶ MassDEP Webinar
  - ▶ Municipal Assistance Coordinators (MACs)

# Recycling & Reuse Business Development Grants: CY 2023

- ▶ Posting application requests for both Collection and Processing Grants soon/late Fall 2023
- ▶ Collection: \$25,000-\$100,000 (50% match)
- ▶ Processing: \$50,000-\$400,000 (25% match)
- ▶ Tentatively due February 2024

# RBDG Eligible Materials

- ▶ Tentative
  - ▶ Collection:
    - ▶ **Mattresses, textiles and food waste** from businesses that generate more than ½ ton per week
  - ▶ Processing:
    - ▶ **Container Glass from MRFs**
    - ▶ **Materials Reuse:** furniture, building materials, bulky items OR reusable food service ware
    - ▶ **Construction & Demolition Materials:** wood, gypsum wallboard or asphalt shingles
    - ▶ **Textiles:** clothing, footwear, bedding, towels, curtains, and fabric
    - ▶ **Food Materials:** food rescue and donation operations OR composting, anaerobic digestion, animal feed production, or processing operations for source separated food scraps
    - ▶ **Mattresses**

# Fall-2023 Webinar Series on C&D Materials Market Development (Wood, Shingles, Gypsum)

- ▶ MassDEP is pleased to announce a series of three monthly meetings of the C&D Subcommittee Stakeholder Group that will focus on C&D Materials Market Development – Wood, Asphalt Shingles, and Gypsum Wallboard.
- ▶ Each meeting will explore optimization of existing markets and development of potential future markets.
- ▶ **October 31 re: Wood Markets:** [Register in advance for this meeting](#)
- ▶ **November 16 re: Asphalt Shingle Markets:** [Register in advance for this meeting](#)
- ▶ **December 14 re: Gypsum Wallboard Markets:** [Register in advance for this meeting](#)