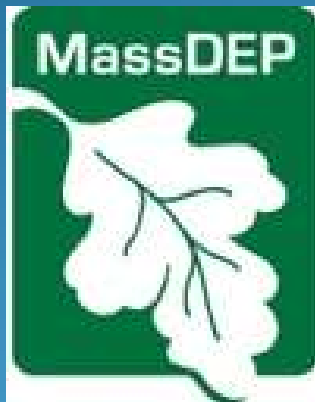


# Massachusetts Solid Waste Master Plan

November 22, 2021



# What is the Solid Waste Master Plan?

- Big picture plan for how we will manage our trash
- Updated on about 10 year planning cycles
- Current plan published in October 2021
- This plan runs through 2030



# What counts as “solid waste”?

- Waste from residents and businesses
- Waste from construction and demolition projects
- Counts all solid waste – whether disposed of in-state or out of state
- We dispose about 5.5 million tons/year
  - Almost 1 ton/person/year
  - (counting both residential & business waste)



# Where does our trash go?

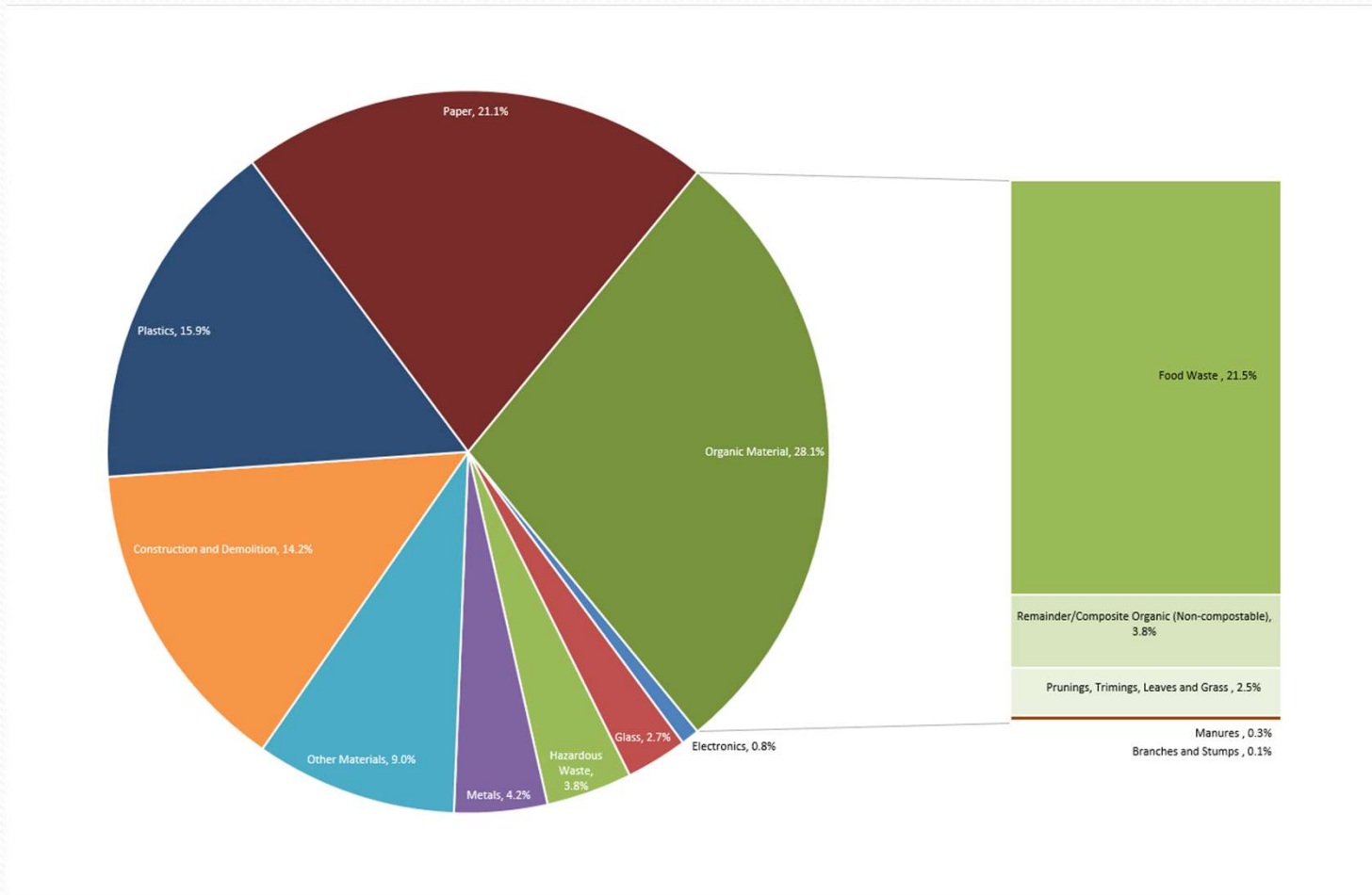
- In state disposal – about 3.9 million tons
  - 7 Municipal waste combustors - 3 million tons
  - 5 Landfills – 900,000 tons
- Out of state disposal (net) – about 1.6 million tons
  - More than 200 waste transfer stations
  - Receiving states include
    - Ohio
    - New Hampshire
    - New York
    - South Carolina



# Other Important Facilities

- 30 sorting & transfer facilities for construction and demolition materials
- 9 materials recovery facilities for mixed recyclables
- About 200 compost operations
- 50 locations that manage food scraps
- Wide network of reuse and donation programs for food rescue and household goods

# What is in our trash?



# Top 5 Target Materials

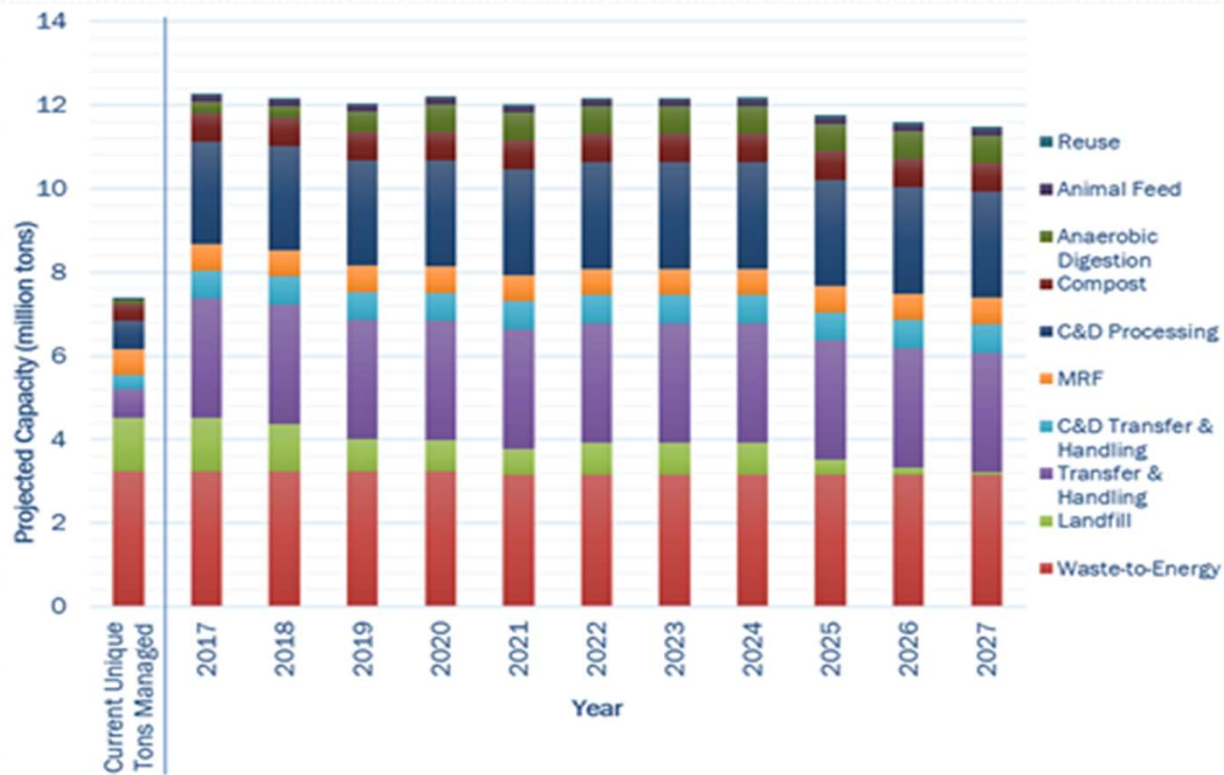
Material	Current Disposal	Additional Diversion (tons per year)
Food material	1,140,000	570,000
Cardboard	420,000	210,000
Untreated wood	270,000	135,000
Textiles	260,000	130,000
Bulky materials	390,000	130,000

# What are our waste reduction goals?

- Ensure adequate capacity to manage our waste
  - Our preferred option is to reduce the amount of waste disposed
- Reduce disposal by 30% by 2030
- Reduce disposal by 90% by 2050



# In-State Solid Waste Capacity



# Why is reducing disposal important?

- Environmental benefits
  - Reducing greenhouse gas emissions
    - Achieving 2030 goal would reduce 1.7 million metric tons CO<sub>2</sub>
    - Equivalent to 370,000 vehicles
  - Conserving resources and energy
  - Reducing need for disposal facilities
    - Limited disposal capacity in Mass and Northeast US

# Why is reducing disposal important?

- Economic benefits
  - Business development
  - Job creation
    - In 2016 – food waste reduction alone supported about 1,000 jobs
    - The reuse economy is a \$7.3 billion industry in Massachusetts with more than 6,000 businesses



# What does MassDEP do?

- Regulations and policies
- Permitting
- Inspections, compliance and enforcement
- Grants and assistance
- Education and outreach



# What does MassDEP not do?

- Develop, plan, or operate specific facilities or collection programs
  - Facilities and programs are run by the private sector or local governments
- Develop specific legislation
  - Our focus is to implement the state's laws under our authority



# Plan Sections

- Source Reduction & Reuse
- Food Waste Reduction
- Residential Waste Reduction
- Commercial Waste Reduction
- Construction Materials Waste Reduction
- Market Development
- Solid Waste Facility Oversight



# What's new in the 2030 Plan?

- More detailed and flexible Action Plans coupled with midway program review
- Subcommittees & Workgroups
  - Organics (food waste)
  - Construction & Demolition
  - Recycling Market Development
  - Reduce & Reuse

# What's new in the 2030 Plan?

- Increased emphasis on reduce & reuse
  - Reduce & Reuse Action Plan – coming soon
  - Reuse durable materials - like furniture
  - Repair durable products - like appliances
  - Share materials locally – like power tools
  - Reduce material use – single use packaging







# What's new in the 2030 Plan?

- More engagement with and support of Environmental Justice communities
- Communities with either
  - Lower income,
  - Higher minority populations, or
  - Higher non-English speaking households



# What's new in the 2030 Plan?

- Support of Environmental Justice Communities
  - Prioritize for grant awards
  - Assistance for composting at community gardens
  - Leverage MassDEP's Illegal Disposal Surveillance Program
  - Promote use of hybrid/electric trash & recycling collection trucks
  - Improved notice for facility permits

# What's new in the 2030 Plan?

- Build local markets for our recyclables
  - Recycling Market Development Workgroup and Action Plan
  - State Agency Recycling Market Development Council
  - New \$1 million Innovations Grant Program





# What's new in the 2030 Plan?

- Existing waste disposal bans for many recyclable & compostable materials
  - MassDEP inspects at solid waste facilities
- New waste disposal bans
  - Mattresses and textiles
  - Increasing scope of food materials ban
    - Lowering threshold from 1 ton to ½ ton per week
- Minimum Performance Standard for Construction & Demolition Waste Facilities
  - Ensure level playing field

# How can you make a difference and get involved?

- Visit <https://recyclesmartma.org/> to learn how to be a better recycler
- [Compost at home](#)
- Participate in MassDEP [Advisory Committees](#)
- Participate in your [local solid waste or recycling program](#)
- Obtain free business assistance through [www.recyclingworksma.com](http://www.recyclingworksma.com)



# To Learn More

- [Solid Waste Master Plan](#)
- [Recycle Smart MA](#)
- [Business Assistance](#)
- [Grant and Loan Programs](#)
- Email us at [dep.swmp@mass.gov](mailto:dep.swmp@mass.gov)