

Recycling Dividends Program Worksheet - Spring 2026

Please refer to the [Spring 2026 Recycling Dividends Program \(RDP\) Grant Guidelines](#) for more details on specific categories and eligibility.

| RDP Category Options - Select One | Possible Points | Your Projected Points |
|--|-----------------|-----------------------|
| Section 1: Bulky Items | | |
| Bulky items, minimum fee \$5, collection of 3 or more of the following items: upholstered or wood furniture, toilets, sinks, carpet. | 1 | |
| None of the above. | 0 | |
| Section 2: Center for Hard to Recycle Materials (CHaRM) | | |
| Collect Charm items at least 9-12 times per year. Consult guidelines for full details. Required: Mercury products, textiles. Optional: Automotive wastes, books/media, bulky rigid plastics, electronics, fire extinguishers + 20 lb. propane tanks, all types of household batteries (including Li-ion), appliances, mattresses, paint, plastic bags/film, shredded paper, solar panels, source separated gypsum wallboard, string lights, wood, yard waste. | | |
| Collect 12 Charm items at least 12 times per year | 3 | |
| Collect 8 Charm items at least 12 times per year | 2 | |
| Collect 8 Charm items at least 9 times per year | 1 | |
| None of the above. | 0 | |
| Section 3: Curbside Recycling Regulations | | |
| Subsection 3a. Comprehensive Private Hauler Regulations (PHR) | | |
| Actively enforced PHR that apply to both residents and businesses, with ongoing communication to all permitted haulers via notices and/or letters on municipal letterhead alerting them of violations and actions required. | 3 | |
| Actively enforced comprehensive hauler regulations that apply to residents only, with ongoing communication to all permitted haulers via notices and/or letters on municipal letterhead alerting them of violations and actions required. | 2 | |
| Adopted a bylaw/ordinance and/or regulation or combination thereof that requires permitted haulers to provide recycling to all generators, residential and commercial, as bundled service, and requires mandatory recycling by all generators. | 1 | |
| Subsection 3b. Mandatory & Quality Recycling Requirements | | |
| Actively enforced recycling rules AND measured the results through an annual recycling audit to assess contamination (conducted by the MRF). | 3 | |
| Actively enforced recycling rules through enforcement protocols or procedures. | 2 | |
| The hauler enforced recycling rules through their contract or part of their standard operating procedures. | 1 | |
| None of the above. | 0 | |
| Section 4: Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in Recycling Programs | | |
| Complete a minimum of 3 activities from the lists below. Consult guidelines for full details. Required: Multilingual trash and recycling guides on website and/or sent as a mailer. Optional: Reduced or subsidized PAYT bag or sticker fees for low-income or other hardships; Send multilingual materials to property managers for multifamily homes/apt/condos; Multilingual recycling & trash reminders/signage at drop-off location; Multilingual guides for handling HHW properly available on website and/or sent as mailer; Multilingual handouts/guides available at schools for students to take home; Reduced Transfer Station/Recycling Center access fee for low-income residents; Reduced costs for HHW collection/bulky waste/zero waste collection events for low-income residents, or other hardships; Host multilingual webinar or social media live stream/video or Cable TV program 1x/year for recycling education/outreach or creates video guides; Recycling services were provided by the municipality at large apartment buildings, mobile home parks, condos and/or public housing; Municipal regulations required all new construction, with the exception of single-family housing, to included recycling provisions.; The municipal curbside contract included a provision requiring haulers ensure alternative recycling collection for residents with disabilities; Presented information about local and state trash and recycling policies to adult and/or continuing education classes for non-governmental marginalized groups. | 1 | |
| None of the above. | 0 | |

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| Section 5: Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) | | |
| Subsection 5a. Offered Six or More Times Per Year | | |
| Hosted a comprehensive permanent HHW collection center or held 6 events a year. | 2 | |
| Participated in a comprehensive regional HHW collection center at a public facility. | 2 | |
| Municipality has an agreement with a regional center and pays a membership fee. | 2 | |
| Participated in comprehensive regional HHW collection center at private facility. Municipality signs a contract and pre-pays funds. | 2 | |
| Participated in comprehensive reciprocal arrangement. Municipality has a group agreement that allows for access to events hosted by municipalities of the group. | 2 | |
| Subsection 5b. Offered Two or More Times Per Year | | |
| Hosted 2 comprehensive events per year; both events are located in your municipality. | 1 | |
| Funded 2 comprehensive HHW collection events each year through a reciprocal arrangement. | 1 | |
| None of the above. | 0 | |
| Section 6: Organics / Food Waste | | |
| Subsection 6a. Curbside Collection | | |
| Food waste is collected curbside weekly from all households served by the municipal trash program. | 3 | |
| Food waste is collected weekly from households participating in a municipally funded or subsidized program. Points vary based on performance measures. Consult guidelines for full details. | 1 or 2 | |
| Municipality selected a preferred vendor(s) through a public procurement process and contracted a per-household rate for residents that opt-in to a fee-based curbside collection of food waste. | 1 | |
| Food waste is collected weekly via a private subscription. The municipality does not fund or provide subsidies, but does advertise vendors via their website, including pricing and contact information for vendor(s). | 1 | |
| Subsection 6b. Drop-off Center Collection | | |
| Food waste collected at municipally owned collection center AND municipality offered home compost bins to residents at cost or less. | 2 | |
| Food waste collected at municipally owned collection center. | 1 | |
| Subsection 6c. Backyard Composting | | |
| Municipality offered home compost bins to residents at cost or less. | 1 | |
| Subsection 6d. Food Rescue | | |
| Municipality or school coordinates local program for food rescue and donation. | 1 | |
| None of the above. | 0 | |
| Section 7: Recycle Center Access | | |
| Recycling Center open to Local Haulers. | 2 | |
| Recycling Center open to Businesses. | 1 | |
| Recycling Center open to Residents Not Served by Municipal Program. | 1 | |
| Recycling Center open to Non-Residents. | 1 | |
| None of the above. | 0 | |
| Section 8: Reuse Initiatives | | |
| Municipality completes 1-3 activities from the list below. Consult guidelines for full details. Permanent Swap Shop.; Seasonal Swap Shop open six months/year.; Regional Swap Shop.; Local bylaw/ordinance/regulation that bans the distribution of at least two single use items.; Materials management plan for all building, renovation, and/or demolition projects.; Incentive program for building deconstruction for projects that incorporate deconstruction and reuse/recycling.; Pilot deconstruction project at a designated building.; Community Repair Event where the public can bring broken household items and receive assistance or coaching from volunteer "repair experts" to return the item to service.; Non-municipally run community repair events.; Zero Waste Day ("Reuse Rodeos"/Donation Events) that acted as a "one-stop shop" for residents to drop-off items for reuse and/or recycling.; Regional Zero Waste Day; Tool Library/Library of Things that lends reusable items to the public at no charge.; Non-municipally run Tool Library/Library of Things.; Dishwashers and reusable dishware are utilized in K-12 grade school cafeteria(s).; Local policy requiring the donation of surplus municipal property in usable condition.; Community-wide yard sale where usable and/or leftover items are collected and the municipality directs items to donation, reuse, or recycling. | | |
| Conduct 3 Reuse activities | 2 | |
| Conduct 1 Reuse activity | 1 | |
| None of the above. | 0 | |

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| Section 9: Solid Waste Reduction | | |
| Full PAYT Program: all trash in bags, stickers, tags, punch cards. Points vary based on performance measures re: participation. Consult guidelines for full details. | 4 or 5 | |
| Modified/Hybrid PAYT Program: allows for ≤35-gal per week included in basic service, fee for excess trash in PAYT bags, tags, stickers, punch card. Points vary based on performance measures re: participation. Consult guidelines for full details. | 3 or 4 | |
| Trash limit: Every-Other-Week trash collection in 64-gal carts. | 3 | |
| Trash limit: 48-gal cart/week. | 2 | |
| Trash limit: Every-Other-Week trash collection in 96-gal carts. | 2 | |
| None of the above. | 0 | |
| Section 10: Waste Prevention Outreach & Education | | |
| <p>Complete a minimum of 6 activities from the list below. Consult guidelines for full details.</p> <p>Required: Dedicated webpage containing direct links to the Beyond the Bin Search Directory, RecycleSmartMA.org, and Recyclopedia Widget.</p> <p>Optional: Sent an annual town-wide household recycling mailing or handout distributed at the recycling centers.; Actively used and maintained at least one social media channel or regularly published a widely distributed paper or electronic newsletter.; Ran an advertisement or public service announcement.; Published a press release.; Created guide or manual.; Ran a message via a sandwich board, electronic ticker tape sign, mural, or billboard twice/year.; Published a waste reduction goal or progress towards a previously declared goal.; Had an active recycling committee or other municipally recognized entity assist with education and outreach.; Distributed recycling bins or tote bags to multi-family apartment units.; Replaced municipal list of recyclable items with a list consistent with Recycle Smart and related graphics.; Subscribed to a mobile recycling application that is made available to residents seeking information about recycling and trash schedules, special events.; Conducted a recycling campaign, or Recycling 101 course, for municipal buildings and schools.; Hosted or coordinated a community-wide litter pickup or cleanup event and provided recycling access and education.; Reshared at least six Recycle Smart MA social posts on municipal social media channels and is signed up as a Recycle Smart MA Partner.</p> | 1 | |
| None of the above. | 0 | |
| Total Points: Maximum 23 | | |
| <p><i>Submission of the 2024 and 2025 Recycling & Solid Waste Surveys and annual 2025 RDP Spending Report is a prerequisite, and are due by February 15, 2026 via ReTRAC. One RDP point will be deducted from a municipality's earned points for failing to file by the deadline.</i></p> | | |
| Contact your MassDEP Municipal Assistance Coordinator (MAC) | | |
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