



Department of Environmental Protection

One Winter Street Boston, MA 02108 • 617-292-5500

MassDEP Policy: Extended Storage of Recyclable Glass by Municipalities

As a result of an announcement of the closure of a major consumer of recycled glass within the Northeast, the glass market is under significant pressure in Massachusetts. MassDEP understands that there is also uncertainty regarding a major glass processor's ability, at least in the short term, to accept municipal glass containers. To assist municipalities during this time, MassDEP has developed the following policy for recycling drop-off operations that request additional storage for a limited time of source separated container glass collected from residents.

Storage of unprocessed glass at town owned/run transfer station:

- Notify regional MassDEP staff
- Material can be stored for up to 90 days
- Material must be stored on paved area
- Material can be stored in a bunker, uncovered
- Material can be stored in open spot as long as the area is paved and the material is covered
- Facility operating permits may need to be modified through an SW-45 application or Transfer Station Certification, whichever is applicable

Storage of unprocessed glass on town-owned property (DPW Yard):

- Notify regional MassDEP staff
- Material can be stored for up to 90 days
- Material must be stored on paved area
- Material can be stored in a bunker covered
- Material can be stored in open spot as long as the area is paved and the material is covered

Storage of unprocessed glass at recycling drop-off centers:

- Notify regional MassDEP staff
- Material can be stored for up to 90 days
- Material must be stored on paved area
- Material can be stored in a bunker, uncovered
- Material can be stored in open spot as long as the area is paved and the material is covered

In all instances, facility operators must also notify the Board of Health in the municipality prior to the extended storage.

Glass may not be stored for longer than 90 days. If the municipality does not have a viable outlet for its glass after this time MassDEP may issue an extension or a waste ban waiver for the disposal of the recyclable glass material upon request.

Locations that intended to process glass to meet process glass aggregate (PGA) specifications on site assigned property must notify the regional staff and operating permits may need to be modified through an SW-45 application or Transfer Station Certification, whichever is applicable.

This information is available in alternate format. Contact Michelle Waters-Ekanem, Director of Diversity/Civil Rights at 617-292-5751.

TTY# MassRelay Service 1-800-439-2370

MassDEP Website: www.mass.gov/dep

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