

Spring 26 Sustainable Materials Recovery Program (SMRP) Grants

**Thursday, April 2, 2026
MassDEP Municipal Waste Reduction Branch**



SMRP Grant Team



Rachel Smith
SMRP Facilitator
Background & Data



Becky Ferguson
Minimum Eligibility / EPP
Food Waste Carts
Food Waste Collection
Equipment at Drop-off



Micaela Guglielmi
Drop-off Equipment
Regional Small Scale
RDP Spending



Ron Cochran
PAYT Program Funding



Cathy Doodnauth
RDP



Alison Beucler
Waste Reduction
Organics Capacity
HHW Permanent Facilities

SMRP MVPs



[Find your Municipal Assistance Coordinator \(MAC\)](#)

Background

- Created through the Green Communities Act
- MassDEP regulations (310 CMR 19.300)
- Municipal waste combustors qualified to earn Waste Energy Certificates (WECs)
- 50% of WECs revenue goes to fund MassDEP approved recycling programs, including staff and grants:
 - [Reduce, Reuse, Repair Microgrants](#) (opens April 15th)
 - [Reuse & Recycling Business Development Grant](#)
 - [Waste Reduction Innovation Grant](#)
 - [Sustainable Materials Recovery \(SMRP\) Grant](#)

SMRP Budget

Year	Total # Grants	Other SMRP Grants	RDP & SS Funding	Total Awarded
2021	266	None	\$3.2 M	\$3.2 M
2022	314	\$750 K	\$3.4 M	\$4.2 M
2023	311	\$1.5 M	\$3.7 M	\$5.2 M
2024	323	\$1.1 M	\$3.1 M	\$4.2 M
2025	347	\$1.1 M	\$3.0 M	\$4.1 M
2026	TBD	TBD	TBD	\$4.0-4.5 M

SMRP Grant Evaluation Criteria

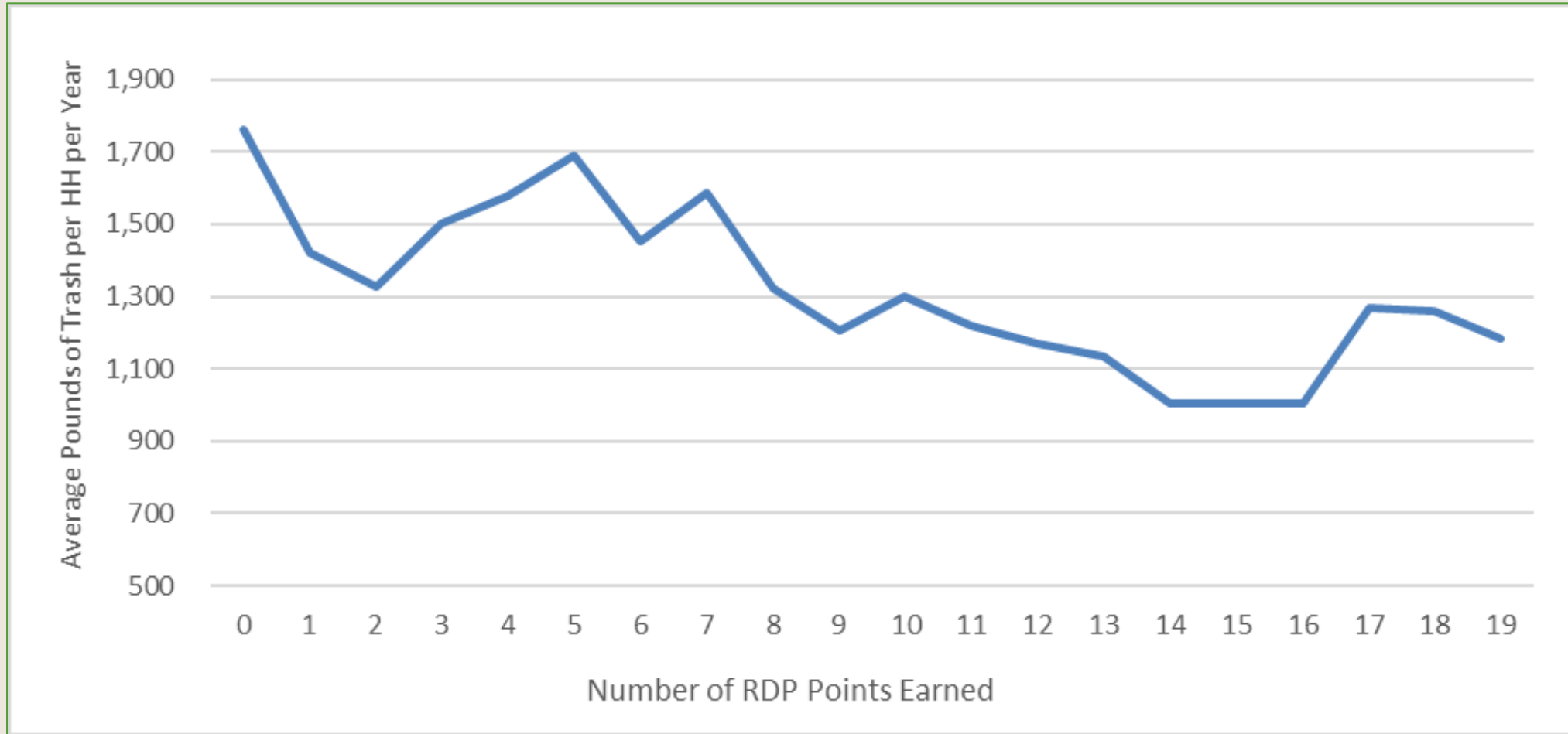
- Goals and objectives of the [Solid Waste Master Plan](#)
- Recycling & Solid Waste (RSW) Survey
- RDP Spending Report - including funding balances
- Responses to questions in the Grant Application
- Demonstrated need, ability to implement, likelihood of success
- Past grant performance/compliance
- Designated as a [Disadvantaged Community](#)

* Each Grant Category may include additional evaluation criteria.

RSW Data Supports MassDEP

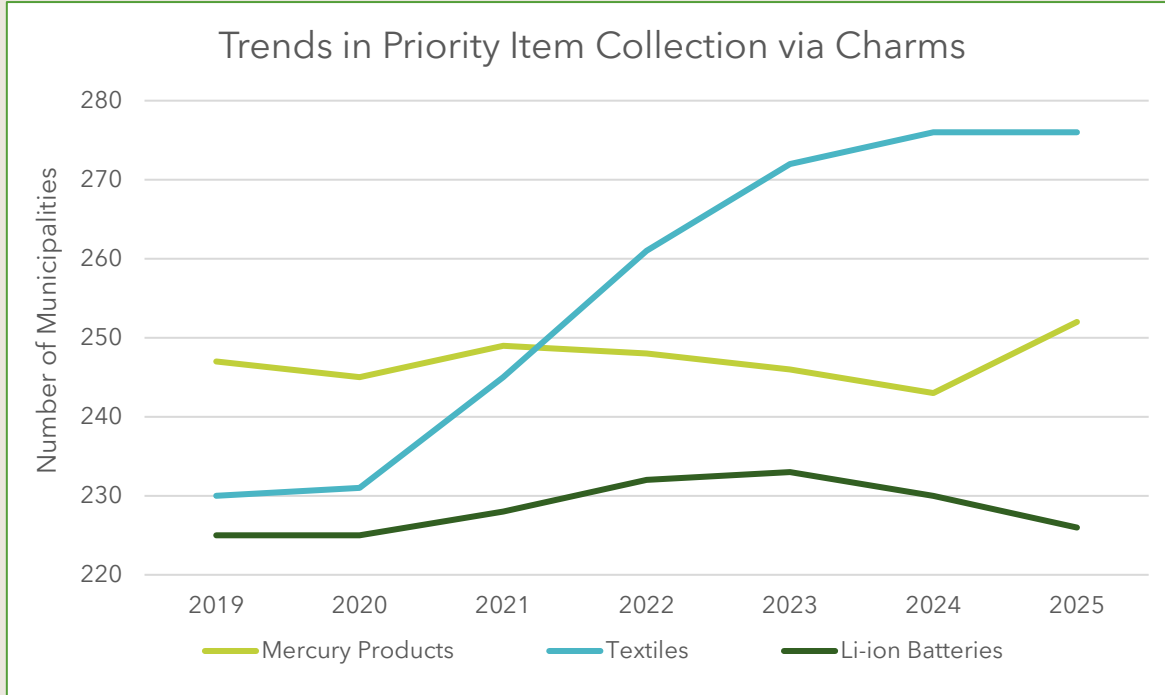
- Recycling and Solid Waste (RSW) survey data is used by:
 - Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC)
 - Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Commission
 - Municipal & Commercial Waste Reduction Branches
 - General public
- **288** munis completed their reports by February 15th
- Pre-requisite of all SMRP grants - due June 1st
- Historical municipal data is [published online](#)

RSW Data and RDP Best Practices



Municipalities that generate < 750 lbs. per HH earn 8-16 points - average is 14 points
Municipalities that generate > 2,000 lbs. per HH earn 3-10 points - average is 7 points

RSW Data and Grant Planning





Sustainable Materials Recovery Program (SMRP) Grants Spring 2026

[Regional
Small-Scale
Initiatives](#)

[Recycling
Dividends
Program \(RDP\)](#)

[Pay-as-You-
Throw
Programs](#)

[Drop-off
Equipment](#)

[Waste Reduction
Organics Capacity
HHW Projects](#)

[Food Waste
Carts](#)

SMRP Grant Timeline

- **April 1 at 9:00 AM:** Grant applications open in [ReTRAC](#).
- **April 1 - May 1 at 5:00 PM:** Applicants can submit questions [via online form](#).
- **May 8:** Official responses posted to the [SMRP Grant Webpage](#).
- **June 1 at 11:59 PM:** Deadline to submit grant applications.



Minimum Eligibility Requirements

[Becky Ferguson](#)



SMRP Minimum Eligibility Requirements

The [Certification Form](#) Has Four Sections to Complete:

- ✓ Environmentally Preferable Products (EPP) Purchasing Policy
- ✓ Municipal Recycling Data Reporting
- ✓ Waste Ban Compliance
- ✓ Other Compliance Issues

The screenshot displays the Re-TRAC web application interface. At the top, the user is logged in as Rebecca Ferguson. The main header identifies the user as 'MassDEP Municipal Recycling Programs' for 'Rockland'. The navigation menu includes 'Dashboard', 'Members', 'Responses', and 'Analytical Reports'. The current page is titled 'Certification Of Minimum Eligibility Criteria (Municipality)' for 'Rockland - Annual | 2026'. A 'Response History' section is visible, containing a link to the 'Sustainable Material Recovery Program-Municipal Grant Application'. The application text states that the SMRP offers funding for recycling, composting, reuse, and waste reduction activities. It also notes that grants are administered through a grant agreement and that applications must be submitted via Re-TRAC Connect by 11:59pm on June 1, 2026. An 'Overview' section begins with the text: 'As a condition for receiving grant funds, grantees must comply with the eligibility criteria requirements described below.' The first requirement listed is '1. Environmentally Preferable Products (EPP) Procurement Policy', which is marked as completed with a checkmark. The requirement text states: 'MassDEP requires all municipalities to pass an Environmentally Preferable Products (EPP) Procurement Policy or Sustainable Purchasing Policy for the June 2026 grant cycle, to replace the previously required Buy Recycled Policy.'

Environmentally Preferable Products (EPP) Procurement Policy

Reminder: What must be true for the U.S. recycling system to really work?



- 1 Design for Recycling:** All packaging needs to be designed for recyclability.
- 2 Ability to Recycle:** All households need access to recycling in their home.
- 3 Public Participation:** Residents need to fully engage in recycling.
- 4 Recycling Infrastructure:** Recycling facilities need to effectively process the material.
- 5 Old Stuff → New Stuff:** Recycling facilities need sufficient end markets.

EPP Procurement Policy

- **Reduce waste**
- **Support recycling markets**
- **Conserve natural resources** such as and water through purchasing energy-efficient products and increasing use of renewable energy such as solar or wind
- **Minimize environmental impacts** from pollution, including greenhouse gases reduce use of products with toxins that pose a significant threat to the environment and/or public health.
- **Prioritize reuse** by choosing products that are reusable, recyclable, compostable, made with recycled content or by identifying alternate options to new products.

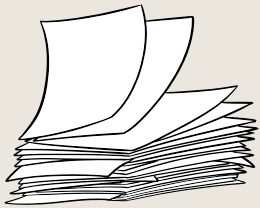
Policy Template

To meet the above goals, [Town/City] will:

1. Commit to purchasing products and services offered through the Massachusetts Operational Services Division (OSD) [Environmentally Preferable Products and Services Program](#), whenever feasible;
2. Adhere to [Federal Comprehensive Procurement Guidelines](#), or other established criteria, for minimum accepted recycled content levels when purchasing office supplies; and
3. Give preference to, whenever possible, purchase goods and equipment through reuse and surplus property networks. When purchasing new, look for durable, reusable, and refillable items. When goods and equipment are no longer needed, prioritize using reuse and donation before disposal.

State EPP Products

- More than half of Statewide Contracts include EPP products and services, and more than 700 vendors offer 1,800 EPP products.
- 44 Categories of EPP Products and 31 Categories of EPP Services.



Office Supplies & Paper

What to do: Purchase 100% post-consumer recycled paper and supplies with ecolabels (e.g. FSC certified).

Why it's low-hanging: Readily available, cost-competitive, high volume.

State Contract #: [OFF53](#)



Lighting Products

What to do: Purchase ENERGY STAR or equivalent certified LED lighting.

Why it's low-hanging: Major energy savings, long lifespan, and good ROI.

State Contract #: [MRO Contracts](#)



Cleaning Supplies & Janitorial Services

What to do: Purchase Green Seal or Eco-Logo certified cleaning products and require green cleaning practices in janitorial contracts.

Why it's low-hanging: Safe for health, better indoor air quality, and widely available.

State Contract #: [FAC118](#)

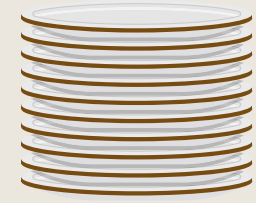


IT Equipment & Electronics

What to do: Purchase ENERGY STAR, EPEAT-certified computers, monitors, printers.

Why it's low-hanging: These certifications are clear and established.

State Contract #: [ITC73](#)



Food Service ware

What to do: Purchase reusable service ware (e.g., trays, tableware, etc.), made from recycled content and/or biodegradable/compostable.

Why it's low-hanging: Readily available, cost-competitive.

State Contract #: [GRO40](#)

EPP Resources

- [Additional Information about the Massachusetts Operation Services Divisions' Environmentally Preferable Products Procurement Program](#)
- [Massachusetts Environmentally Preferable Products and Services Guide](#)
- [EPA's Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Program](#)
- [EPA's Guidance for Institutional Purchasers of Greener Products and Services](#)
- [Energy Saving Resources through Mass Save](#)
- [Product Stewardship Institute](#)
- [Stop Waste Sample EPP Model Policy](#)
- [Sustainable Purchasing Leadership Council Guide to Getting Started](#)

EPP Requirement

- Due June 1, 2026.
- MassDEP has posted guidance, including [Template Language](#) and [Model Policies](#)
- Passed via vote or approval of municipal leadership.



Food Waste Collection Cart Grants

[Becky Ferguson](#)



Poll #1

1. What percentage of the municipal waste stream is food waste?

- 5%
- 17%
- 25%
- 35%

Answer: 25%

Food Waste Collection Carts

- To grow or establish a curbside food waste program
- Reimbursement will be **\$25** per participating household, includes cost of carts and required labels.
- Maximum award amount is **10,000** households or **\$250,000**
- Eligible for second grant if first was not for maximum amount
- Private subscription programs must be subsidized by the town or city
- Must plan to run a minimum of 2 years
- Vendors available on [FAC113](#)



Food Waste Collection Carts, Cont.

Implementation Plan

- Start date of the program (within 12 months)
- Description of the program - # of HHs participating, method of cart distribution, contracted hauler, and permitted composting facility where material is tipped
- Explanation of how program will be financed.
- Explanation of steps remaining to implement the program

FREE CURBSIDE COMPOSTING

STARTING JULY 1, 2024!

GO GREEN | Medford
A program of the City of Medford, MA

- New curbside program **funded by the City**
- **FREE** for eligible residents, opt-in required
- **Compost ALL food scraps**, paper towels, and other compostable items
- **Weekly service** on your trash day
- **Animal-proof** locking bins
- Say goodbye to stinky, wet trash bags!
- Help protect the future of clean air, water and soil
- Access finished compost for use in plants and gardens!



REGISTER YOUR ADDRESS: medfordcomposts.com

Did you know?
One-third to half of household trash is made up of food scraps and organic waste.
One household composting for three years can divert up to ONE TON from the waste stream!
Sign up and help Medford reach its Sustainability Goals!



Accepted Items:

YES	NO
✓ bread, pasta, rice, grains	✗ plastic
✓ coffee grounds & filters	✗ baby wipes
✓ compostable serviceware	✗ hand wipes
✓ dairy products	✗ cat litter
✓ eggshells, seafood shells	✗ diapers
✓ fats, oils, greases	✗ glass & metals
✓ fruit & veggie scraps	✗ medicines
✓ meat, bones & fish scraps	✗ pet waste
✓ paper napkins	✗ styrofoam
✓ wooden stirrers	✗ rubber bands
✓ tea bags	✗ yard waste

How This Program Works
Residents need to sign up to participate. **To be eligible**, residents must live at an address with four units or fewer. Each unit should sign up separately to receive their own 12-gallon curbside bin. **2024 enrollment is limited**, but will be expanded each year until all eligible households can participate.

- 1. Line Your Bin:**
Use a brown paper bag or certified compostable bag (BPI, CMA or OK Compost certified).
PLASTIC BAGS MAY NOT BE USED AS LINERS.
- 2. Collect Your Food Scraps:**
Avoid contamination by only throwing compostable materials in your bin.
- 3. Place Bin Curbside For Pick Up:**
Make sure your bin is placed curbside for your regular weekly trash day.

Still have questions? This service is provided by
Garbage to Garden
Please call Customer Service at Garbage to Garden (617) 977-4547 or visit:
medfordcomposts.com

Food Waste Cart Summary

- State Contract [FAC113](#): collection carts, kitchen compost bins.
- Reimbursement is for **distributed carts only**.
- Evaluation Criteria include:
 - **Readiness** to implement the project, including a plan for outreach and education.
 - Demonstrated understanding of **steps needed to implement** the proposed program.
 - Ability and willingness to **use RDP funds** to offset costs.
 - NEW: Applicants located in a **disadvantaged community**
- [Details: Food Waste Curbside Collection Carts](#)

Drop-off: Food Waste Collection Equipment

- **Target: Residential Food Waste**
- Reimbursement up to \$3,000 per site, maximum 4 sites for \$12,000
- Must be on municipal property
- Eligible use of funds includes:
 - Collection systems: carts, dumpsters, public containers, etc. (required purchase unless provided by vendor)
 - Site improvements, such as fencing or a shed
 - Certified compostable liner bags
 - Kitchen countertop containers
 - Outreach and education material





Drop-off Recycling Equipment

[Micaela Guglielmi](#)



Poll #2

2. How much funding did MassDEP award for equipment for reuse and recycling at municipal drop-off locations in the 2025 grant cycle?

- \$400K
- \$160K
- \$40K
- \$35K

Answer: \$400K

Drop-off: Bulky Rigid Plastics

- **Target: Bulky Rigid Plastics**
- New This Year!
- More potential to recycle this material
- Examples: plastic buckets, laundry baskets, lawn furniture, toys, carts, etc.
- Reimbursement up to \$8,000 for 20- or 30- CY Open Top Roll-Off



Drop-off: Cardboard Compactor

- **Target: Cardboard**
- Old Corrugated Cardboard (OCC) only (not intended for mixed paper)
- Reimbursement up to \$10,000 for a compactor to flatten OCC for more efficient recycling



Drop-off: Glass Container

- **Target: Source-separated Glass**
- Reimbursement up to \$8,000 for 20- or 30- CY Open Top Roll-Off
 - Required to purchase a heavy-duty container
 - Grant funds may also be used towards purchase of a gable top



Drop-off: Paint Shed

- **Target: Oil-based paints, varnishes, and stains**
- Latex paint is not hazardous and can be dried out and trashed, or collected for reuse
- Reimbursement up to \$5,000 for shed or other enclosed, weather-proof structure



Drop-off: Reuse Swap Shop

- **Target: Reusable home goods and furnishings**
- Reimbursement up to **\$8,000** for a shed or other enclosed weatherproof structure



Drop-off: Universal Waste Shed

- **Target: Universal waste (U-waste)**
- Reimbursement up to \$5,000 for a shed or other enclosed, weatherproof structure
- Materials for collection include:
 - Fluorescent lamps
 - Certain batteries (button-cell)
 - Other mercury containing devices (thermostats, thermometers, etc.)
- [Municipal Waste Combustor Partnership](#)



Drop-off Equipment Summary

- Can apply for up to **two** equipment categories, but it's a one-time grant once awarded.
- State Contract [WMR001](#): HHW, universal waste and paint processors.
- State Contract [FAC113](#): sheds, compactors, bins etc.
- Evaluation Criteria include:
 - Accessible to residents, non-residents, and businesses
 - Market identified for target material
 - Tonnage or target material is most substantial
 - NEW: Applicants located in a **disadvantaged community**
- [Details: Drop-off Equipment for Reuse and Recycling](#)

Drop-off Equipment Invoicing

- Grant funds are disbursed on a reimbursement basis only. Invoices are due the end of the fiscal year (June 30, 2027).
- Must submit **one request for reimbursement** for the equipment and the required signage **only**.
 - Proof of purchase in the form of an invoice.
 - Photograph(s) of the equipment in use, including the required signage.
- Reimbursement up to the awarded amount only, but may supplement with RDP or other funds.





Pay-As-You-Throw (PAYT) Program Assistance

[Ron Cochran](#)



Why PAYT?

- One of the most effective tools to reduce waste and increase diversion
- Creates a clear price signal that directly changes resident behavior
- Equitable—like utilities, you pay for what you use
- Delivers fast, measurable results
- Reduces disposal costs and stabilizes municipal budgets
- Helps insulate communities from rising hauling and disposal costs
- Strengthens recycling and composting participation
- Widely proven—nearly half of Massachusetts communities have PAYT
- Earns Recycling Dividend Program points (more funding opportunities)

Poll #3

3. Municipalities that implement Pay-As-You-Throw (PAYT) programs generate how much less trash on average than non-PAYT municipalities?

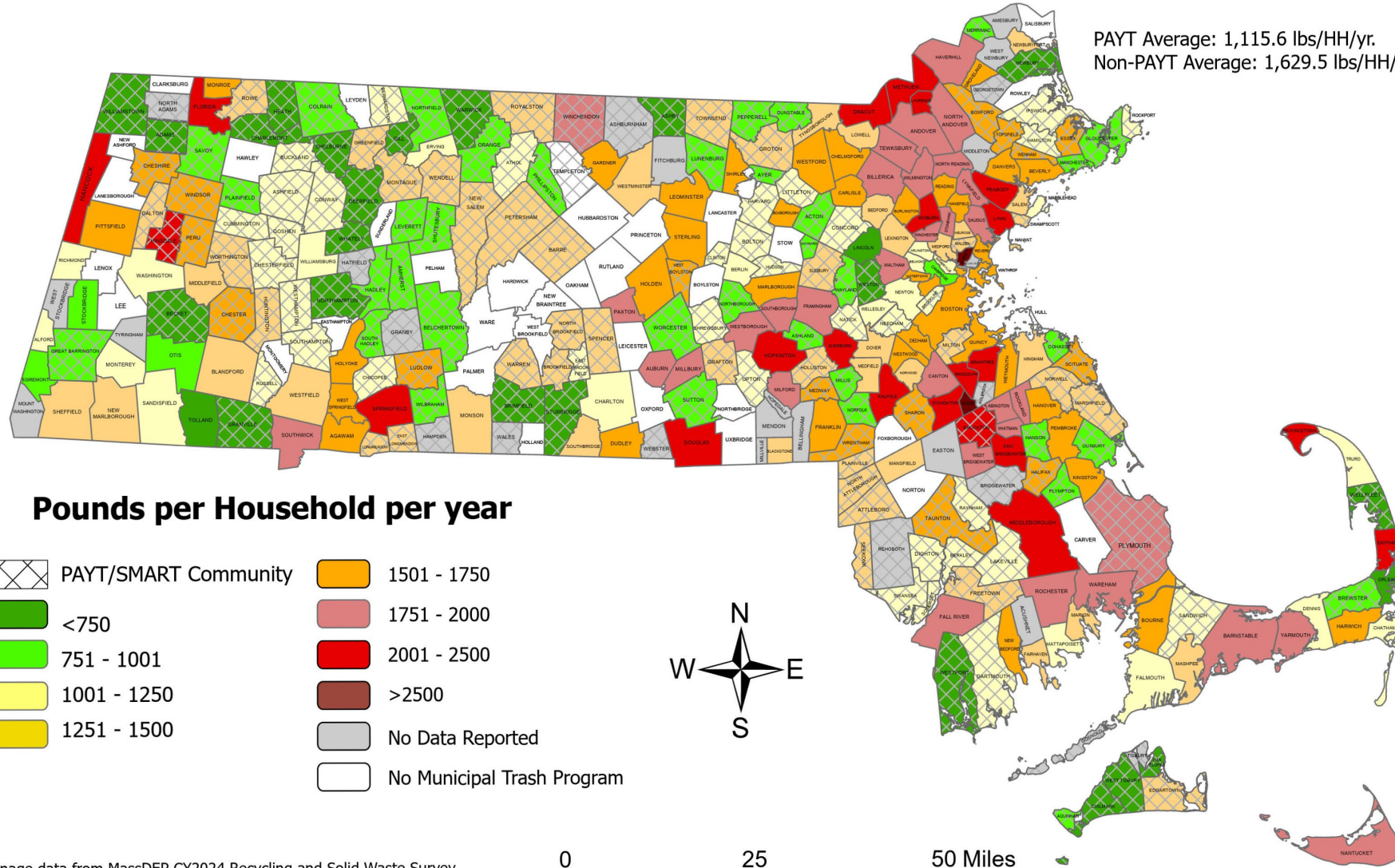
- < 5%
- 15%
- 32%
- 48%

Answer: 32%



How Much Trash Did We Throw Out in 2024?

PAYT Average: 1,115.6 lbs/HH/yr.
Non-PAYT Average: 1,629.5 lbs/HH/yr.



Tonnage data from MassDEP CY2024 Recycling and Solid Waste Survey
This data includes tonnage from municipal bulky waste collection
Municipal Boundaries provided by MassGIS
Map Prepared by MassDEP GIS Program, June, 2025



What does this mean for your community?

Already have PAYT?

- Think about ways to sustain or grow the program
- Is your trash tonnage going down, leveling or going up?
- Grants available to upgrade an existing program

Looking to adopt PAYT?

- First educate yourself on the topic, then spread the word to stakeholders and community members
- Run the numbers and forecast the impact to both budget and environment
- Always be somewhere on the path to PAYT

PAYT Technical Assistance (TA) Grant

- 80 hours dedicated [in-kind technical assistance](#) from your MAC
- Provide background information on comparable PAYT communities
- Set up site visits at communities with PAYT programs
- Provide financial analysis of PAYT and variations under consideration
- Attend public meetings and forums
- Provide support for public outreach materials such as FAQ documents and PPT presentations
- Help develop Draft Implementation Plan

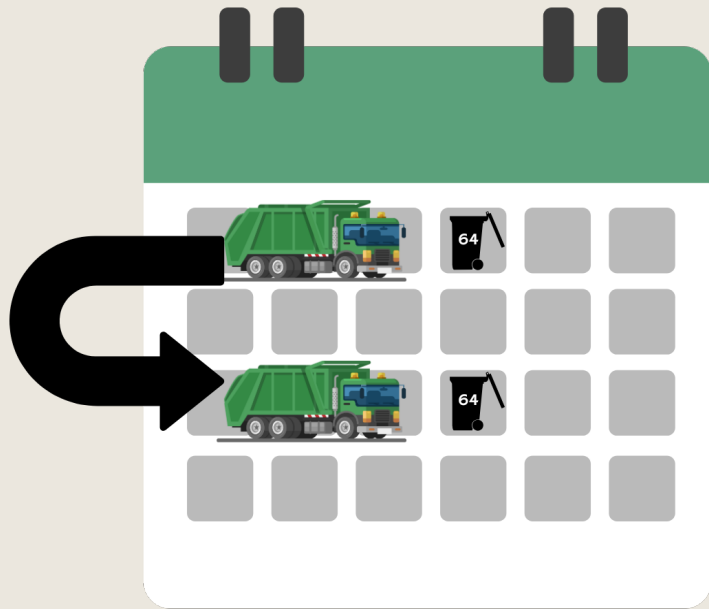


PAYT Grant Program Models

- **New Drop-off PAYT Program** = \$10 per HH
- **New Curbside PAYT Program**
 - One bag/barrel free (e.g., hybrid program) = \$10 per HH
 - No bags/barrels free (e.g., full PAYT w/ bags) = \$20 per HH
 - One 35-gallon trash cart = \$30 per HH
 - One 64-gallon trash cart collected every other week = \$10 per HH
- **Updates to Existing PAYT Program**
 - Convert from 1 bag/barrel free to Full PAYT = \$5 per HH
 - Transition from a sticker program to a bag program = \$5 per HH
 - One 64-gallon automated trash cart, collected every other week = \$5 per HH
 - Provide automated trash carts of <35-gallon capacity = \$30 per HH
- [Details: Pay-As-You-Throw \(PAYT\) Program Funding](#)

Highlighting a Notable Change in 2025

- \$5 Per Household for municipalities with one 64-gallon automated trash cart, collected **every other week**



Participate in our PAYT Workgroup Series

1. Intro to PAYT
2. Getting to Yes
3. Implementation Planning
4. PAYT Models
5. Financials of PAYT
6. Education and Outreach
7. Maintaining and Updating a PAYT System



Pay As You Throw Workgroup

**A Seven-Session Deep Dive into
Waste Reduction and Cost Savings**



PAYT Workgroup

[PAYT Workgroup Learning Series](#)



Questions?



Recycling Dividends Program (RDP)

[Cathy Doodnauth](#)



RDP Background

- Best practices framework, maximizes waste reduction through reuse, recycling, and composting
- 10 categories, **23** points available
 - Point values range from 1-5 depending on the activity's impact on waste reduction and its level of effort to implement
 - Only one option per category can be selected
- Programs claimed must be implemented or in effect during FY26 (July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026)
- Links provided in the application **must** go directly to the muni website

[Details: Recycling Dividends Program](#)

RDP Payment Brackets

Number of Households with Municipal Trash Service	Basic Level 1-9 pts.	Advanced Level ≥ 10 pts. & RDP EJ Populations
0 - 4,999	\$420	\$600
5,000 - 7,499	\$770	\$1,100
7,500 - 9,499	\$910	\$1,300
9,500 - 12,499	\$1,260	\$1,800
12,500 - 16,999	\$2,100	\$3,000
17,000 - 24,999	\$2,450	\$3,500
25,000 - 31,999	\$2,800	\$4,000
32,000 - 99,999	\$4,550	\$6,500
100,000 +	\$7,000	\$10,000

RDP Environmental Justice Populations

45 Percent or more residents live in an [EJ Census Block Group](#) that meets combined criteria for either:

- 1) Minority population (b.) AND Income ("MI") components OR
- 2) Minority population (a. or b.), Income, AND English isolation ("MIE") components

Minority Population ("M"):

- a. Minorities make up 25% or more of the population and the annual median household income of the municipality in which the neighborhood is located does not exceed 150% of the statewide annual median household income, OR
- b. Minorities make up 40% or more of the population regardless of the income of the municipality.

Income ("I"):

The annual median household income is not more than 65% of the statewide annual median income.

English Isolation ("E"):

25% or more of households include no person over the age of 14 who speaks English very well.

RDP Environmental Justice Populations - Munis

Amherst	Chelsea	Greenfield	Lynn	Norwood	Saugus	Waltham
Ashland	Chicopee	Haverhill	Malden	Oak Bluffs	Somerville	Watertown
Ayer	Clinton	Holbrook	Marlborough	Pittsfield	Southbridge	Webster
Boston	Everett	Holyoke	Medford	Quincy	Springfield	West Springfield
Braintree	Fall River	Lawrence	Methuen	Randolph	Sunderland	Westborough
Brockton	Fitchburg	Leominster	Milford	Revere	Taunton	Woburn
Brookline	Framingham	Lowell	New Bedford	Salem	Tisbury	Worcester
Cambridge	Gardner					

Spring26 RDP Categories

- Bulky Item Collection
- Center for Hard to Recycle Materials (CHARM)
- Curbside Recycling Regulations
- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) in Recycling Programs
- Household Hazardous Waste
- Organics / Food Waste
- Recycling Center Access
- Reuse Programs
- Solid Waste Reduction
- Waste Prevention Outreach and Education

Poll #4

4. How many municipalities earned points in all 10 categories?

- 0
- 1
- 5
- 10

Answer: 5

Bulky Item Collection



- Collect at least 3 of the listed items for a minimum of \$5 each - 1 Point
 - Upholstered furniture
 - Wooden furniture
 - Toilets
 - Sinks
 - Carpet

Bulky Item Collection Fee Schedule

Example of fee schedule from the [Town of Warwick](#).

BULKY AND CONSTRUCTION	
Sofa, couch, loveseat	\$30 each
Upholstered chair	\$15 each
bathtub, sink or toilet	\$10 each
Carpet or area rug up to 10' x 10'	\$10 each
Carpet or area rug up to 12' x 20'	\$20 each
20# BBQ tank, fire extinguisher	\$5 each
Up to 100# LP, helium, CO2 tank	\$10 each
Wooden chair, desk, bureau	\$5 – \$10 each

Center for Hard to Recycle Materials (CHARM)

NEW POINT VALUES AND NEW OPTION

- **3** Points - Collect 12 items (2 required, 10 optional), 12 times/year
- **2** Points - Collect 8 items (2 required, 6 optional), 12 times/year
- **1 Point - Collect 8 items (2 required, 6 optional), 9 times/year**

Keep in mind:

1. Mercury bearing products and textiles are **REQUIRED**.
2. Items must be collected for **recycling or reuse**.
3. Recycling processor or reuse organization must be identified, not the hauler.
4. CHARM sites **must** be listed on [Beyond the Bin](#) and items collected **must** match the materials list.

CHARM Items

Optional Items:

- Automotive wastes (tires and lead acid batteries, and either oil OR antifreeze)
- Books/Media (must be a book reuse organization)
- Bulky rigid plastics
- E-waste (computers, laptops, TVs, printers, etc.)
- Fire extinguishers AND 20 lb propane tanks
- Household batteries (all types of non-alkaline batteries, including Li-ion)
- Large appliances (white goods)
- Mattresses and box springs
- Paint (must include oil-based paint, 6x/year qualifies)

- **3 Points** - Collect 12 items (2 required, 10 optional), 12 times/year
- **2 Points** - Collect 8 items (2 required, 6 optional), 12 times/year
- **1 Point - Collect 8 items (2 required, 6 optional), 9 times/year**

CHARM Items, Continued

Optional Items Cont'd:

- Plastic films (plastic bags [retail collection does not count], boat wrap, agricultural wrap [can be collected once per year])
- Shredded paper (one event per year qualifies)
- Solar panels
- Source separated gypsum wallboard
- String lights (once per year qualifies)
- Wood (source separated C&D wood)
- Yard waste (leaves and grass clippings; curbside and/or drop-off 4x/year)

- **3 Points** - Collect 12 items (2 required, 10 optional), 12 times/year
- **2 Points** - Collect 8 items (2 required, 6 optional), 12 times/year
- **1 Point - Collect 8 items (2 required, 6 optional), 9 times/year**

Beyond the Bin



The Beyond the Bin Search Directory is next-level recycle searching! Use it to find outlets for items that can't go in your home recycling bin but are too good (or too bad) to trash. Choose from the material categories listed or enter a keyword, then your location, and hit search. See [Glossary of Materials](#) for category descriptions.

Select a material category Search by keyword

Drop-off, Mail-in, or Pic... Enter location

10 mi radius

Visit [Beyond the Bin](#) to add a listing or view this [Video Tutorial & Instructional Guide](#)
Email mass.recycles@mass.gov to update current listings.

Poll #5

5. How many views were logged to the Beyond the Bin (BtB) directory in 2025?

- 50,000
- 250,000
- 500,000
- 650,000

Answer: 650,000

Curbside Recycling Regulations - CHR

Subsection 1: Comprehensive Hauler Regulations

CHRs must require bundled service, pricing, and mandatory recycling for generators.

- Actively enforces CHRs that apply to residents and businesses - 3 Points
- Actively enforces CHRs that apply to residents only - 2 Points
- Adopted CHRs - 1 Point
 - Can claim for 3 years before starting to enforce

Required attachments: copy of CHRs, proof of enforcement.

Who's eligible?

Municipalities that have curbside, drop-off, or subscription service can claim points for CHRs.



TOWN OF ASHBY

895 Main Street
Ashby, Mass. 01431
Town Hall Fax: 978-386-2490

Town Hall
Town Clerk,
Treasurer &
Town Accountant
978-386-2424

Board of Selectmen &
Town Administrator
978-386-250
Town Collector &
Board of Assessor
978-386-242

March 7, 2025

Certified Mail # 7016 2070 0000 1388 8032

Livestock Rubbish Removal, LLC
DBA Murray & Sons Waste
Attn: Jennifer Archambault
358 Churchill Rd.
Mason, NH 03048

RE: Violation to Ashby Board of Health MSW & Recyclables Transport Permit
Regulations

Dear Livestock Rubbish Removal, LLC:

The Ashby Board of Health was recently made aware, and provided evidence, that you are charging \$5/month for provision of a recyclable materials container to Customers in Ashby that have retained your firm to provide curbside MSW pickup services. The Ashby Board of Health MSW & Recyclables Transport Permit Regulations state:

"SECTION 5: RESIDENTIAL MSW AND RECYCLABLES COLLECTION

a) Any Disposal Firm holding a MSW Collection and Transport Permit shall provide residential collection of recyclables listed in these regulations to their customers.

Recycling shall be provided at no additional cost to the customer. (emphasis added)...



Example of a letter to a private hauler from the Town of Ashby.

Curbside Recycling Regulations - MR

Subsection 2: Mandatory and Quality Recycling Requirements

CHRs must require bundled service, pricing, and mandatory recycling for generators.

- Actively enforces these rules AND measures results through an annual contamination audit conducted by MRF - 3 Points
- Actively enforces these rules - 2 Points
- Municipality's hauler enforces these rules - 1 Point

Required attachments: copy of mandatory and quality recycling bylaw/ordinance, copy of audit, proof of enforcement, copy of hauler contract if applicable.

Who's eligible?

Municipalities that have curbside service can claim points for mandatory & quality recycling rules.



Example of a residential letter from the City of Fitchburg.

On **March 27, 2024**, an inspection was made of the property located at **77 Pacific St.**

Non-compliance with the Code of the City of Fitchburg was found, as detailed below.

VIOLATIONS

City Code §112-4 Separation of Recyclables and Other Material, Placement for Removal

- A. Each homeowner or residential occupant participating in the program will benefit from sorting and preparing all recyclable material, and will separate these materials from the trash.
- B. Recyclables shall be washed and rinsed of residual food products, and separated from the trash. The City will only provide curbside collection of approved recyclables if property placed in the recycling cart.
- C. Approved curbside recyclables shall be placed into the recycling cart and placed at curbside in a manner specified by the hauler (bimonthly), every other week according to schedule, and removed from the curbside of the roadway no earlier than 12 hours before collection day as identified by the Board of Health or 12 hours after collection.
- D. All recycling materials shall be placed in the recycling cart in a manner so as to prevent the scattering or spilling of the materials on the ground. No recycling cart shall exceed 75 pounds in weight. Snow-coning and the placement of recyclables in plastic bags are prohibited.

Please be advised that your recycling carts were rejected by the hauler because trash is mixed in with recycling which violated codes A and B above. In addition, there are plastic bags and/or plastic film/wrapping as well as recyclables placed in plastic bags in the recycling cart. You need to remove the offending items from your recycling cart for the next collection to occur. Please ensure that proper recycling method are employed and that trash is properly separated from recycling forthwith. Failure to do so will result in further fines and or court action against you. Please affix the enclosed stickers to your recycling carts as a guide to recyclable materials.



Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in Recycling Programs

Must complete 3 activities (1 required and 2 optional) – 1 Point

Recycle Smart **Guía de reciclaje** AN INITIATIVE OF THE MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Su referencia para el reciclaje en Massachusetts

 Metal  Latas de comida y bebida vaciar y enjuagar	 Plástico  Botellas, frascos, jarras y tarrinas vaciar y reemplazar la tapa	 Vidrio  Botellas y frascos vaciar y enjuagar	 Papel y cartón  Papel mixto, papel periódico, revistas, cajas vaciar y aplastar
---	--	--	---

¡No!

 No bolsas de plástico No meter los materiales reciclables en bolsas	 No ropa ni sábanas usar programas de donación	 No objetos peligrosos no tanques de propano, pilas, jeringas y agujas, ni productos químicos	 No enredadores no mangueras, cables, cadenas, o electrónicos	 ¡Qué asco! No comida ni líquidos vaciar todos los contenedores
--	--	---	--	---

Recyclopedía: ¿Puedo reciclarlo?
Escribir el nombre del artículo (p.ej. botella)
Usar nuestro buscador en línea en: RecycleSmartMA.org

 **RecycleSmartMA.org**
Todos los programas de reciclaje en Massachusetts aceptan los artículos que se muestran arriba.

Required activity: Translated trash & recycling guide or [Recycle Smart translated guide](#) is available on the website and/or sent as a mailer.

Google translated content does not qualify.



GUÍA DE RECICLAJE DE DOBLE FLUJO



Holyoke utiliza un sistema de clasificación de dos contenedores para mantener limpio nuestro reciclaje.

Example of translated trash/recycling guide from the [City of Holyoke](http://www.cityofholyoke.com).

Contenedor 1: Papeles



Papel de oficina, periódicos, revistas, correo, cajas vacías de pizza y cartón.

Contenedor 2: Envases



Latas vacías, botellas, frascos, jarras, envases, cartones de leche y jugo.

Visita RecycleSmartMA.org o SpringfieldMRF.org para obtener más detalles sobre lo que debe ir en tus contenedores.

No, gracias. ¡Estos artículos van en la basura!



Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in Recycling Programs Activities

Must complete 3 activities (1 required and 2 optional) - 1 Point

- Multilingual trash & recycling materials shared with property managers
- Multilingual trash/recycling signage at drop-off location
- Multilingual HHW guides
- Hosted multilingual webinar, live stream, Cable TV program, or created video
- Reduced costs for HHW/bulky waste/zero waste days
- Reduced TS access fee or **reduced annual fee for curbside collection programs (NEW)**
- Recycling services are provided to large buildings (6+ units) - counts as 2 activities
- Presented (in-person or virtual) about trash & recycling to adult/continuing education classes for marginalized groups about trash & recycling

Example of translated signage at a drop-off location in the City of Methuen.



Household Hazardous Waste (HHW)

Household hazardous waste:

Chemicals, materials, and products that are toxic and can be harmful to our health and environment.



Check with your city/town for HHW collection days.



- Municipality hosts, funds, or participates in comprehensive HHW events
- Two subsections:
 - 6+ collection opportunities (including a permanent site) - 2 Points
 - 2 collection opportunities - 1 Point
- Events must be registered through the [MassDEP Notification for Household Hazardous Waste Events system](#)

Organics / Food Waste - Curbside Programs

Curbside Collection

- Weekly collection from all HHs served by muni trash program - 3 Points
- Weekly collection from HHs participating in a municipally funded or subsidized private subscription collection program - 1-2 Points
 - At least **5%** of HHs must participate or will receive 1 point less
- Weekly collection in a municipally funded pilot program - 1 Point
- Preferred vendor selected through public procurement process - 1 Point
- Weekly collection via private subscription, muni does not fund but promotes via website - 1 Point



Organics / Food Waste - Drop-off Programs



Drop-off Center Collection

- Food waste collected at municipally owned collection center AND municipality offers home compost bins to residents at cost or less - 2 Points
- Food waste is collected at municipally owned collection center - 1 Point

Organics / Food Waste - Other Programs

Backyard Composting

- Municipality offers home compost bins to residents at cost or less - 1 Point
 - Must have an active outreach and education component (videos with composting instructions, demonstrations at public events, videos/demos at library or on local TV).

Food Rescue & Other Food Waste Diversion

- Municipality or school coordinates local program for food rescue and donation via programs like share tables at schools, community refrigerators, and food pantries, that support students, low-income residents or seniors, and those in need - 1 Point

Recycling Center Access

- Open to local haulers to tip recyclables - 2 Points
- Open to local businesses - 1 Point
- Open to residents not served by the municipal curbside program (i.e., multi-family units, etc.) - 1 Point
- Open to non-residents - 1 Point





Example of outreach
to businesses from
the Town of
Chesterfield.

RE: Small Business Recycling

Did you know that the Town of Chesterfield has a mandatory recycling by-law? Is your company participating in being sustainable?

Many customers in Chesterfield and the surrounding Hilltown's value environmentally friendly businesses. Businesses that visibly recycle tend to generate loyal customers, help preserve the environment, and save \$\$\$ in waste disposal fees.

The Town of Chesterfield encourages you to engage in proactive, responsible recycling of waste materials and wants to let you know that the Town Recycling Center is an option for your recycling needs.

The Town of Chesterfield Transfer Station and Recycling Center is located at Willcutt Rd. and accepts household quantities of these post-consumer materials from local businesses: recyclable paper and cardboard, glass containers, tin and aluminum cans and foil, plastic containers labeled 1-7, household re-chargeable batteries, mercury lamps and bulbs, books and CDs, scrap metal and textiles.

For more information visit the Town's transfer station and recycling center website at: townofchesterfieldma.com.

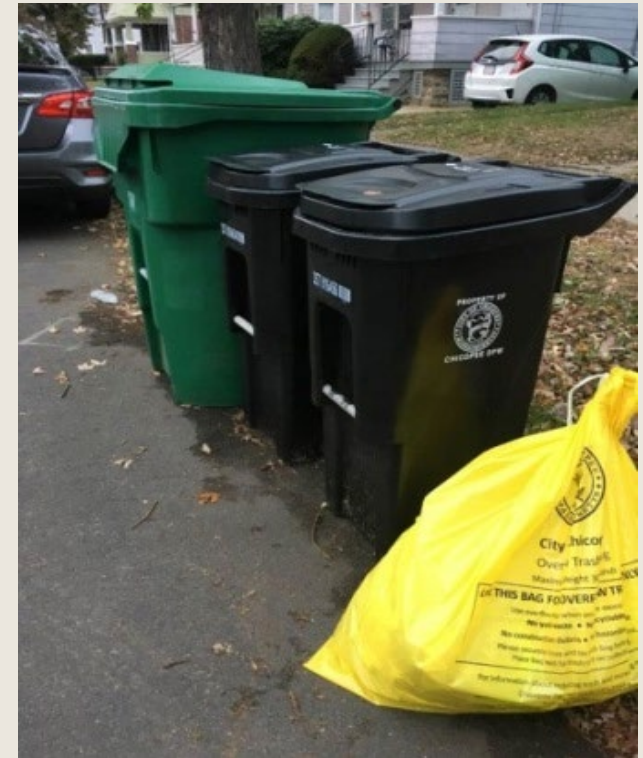


Reuse Programs

- The municipality completed 3 activities from the list – 2 Points
 - The municipality completed 1 activity from the list – 1 Point
-
- Swap Shops (permanent, seasonal, regional)
 - Single-use items ban
 - Repair events
 - Zero Waste Days
 - Tool Library/Library of Things
 - Dishwashers & reusables in schools
 - Deconstruction pilot
 - Municipal program incentivizing deconstruction
 - **Process** for sharing surplus goods between muni departments and schools or local reuse organization
 - Community-wide yard sale or bulky collection event where leftover items are collected and directed to donation, reuse, or recycling

Solid Waste Reduction Point Summary

- Full PAYT - 4-5 Points (as eligible)
- Modified PAYT - 3-4 Points (as eligible)
- Trash Limit with 64-gallon cart collected every other week - 3 Points
- Trash Limit with 48-gallon cart collected every week - 2 Points
- Trash Limit with 96-gallon cart collected every other week - 2 Points



Solid Waste Reduction Performance Metric

- Full or modified PAYT municipalities may receive the maximum points (5 or 4) available when they have:
 - 50% eligible HHs participating
 - OR
 - <50% eligible HHs participating but has Comprehensive Private Hauler Regulations (CHRs) requiring recycling service and bundled pricing for all residential trash customers.
- Munis with <50% participation and no CHRs will receive one less point (4 or 3)

*This does not apply to municipalities claiming PAYT points for the first time.

Solid Waste Reduction - Examples

A municipality will receive full points if:

- 1,000 HHs are eligible to participate in the PAYT program and 500+ do
- 1,000 HHs are eligible to participate in the PAYT program, less than 500 do so, but the municipality has CHRs
- Muni has a newly implemented PAYT program and is claiming RDP points for the first time

A municipality will receive one less point if:

- 1,000 HHs are eligible to participate in the PAYT program and less than 500 do so, and the municipality does not have CHRs
- 1,000 HHs are eligible to participate in the Modified PAYT program with multiple trash cart sizes available, but less than 500 use a cart that is 35-gallon or less, and the municipality does not have CHRs

Waste Prevention Outreach and Education



Pizza boxes must be identified as recyclable in municipal outreach and education.

Why? To have consistent messaging about pizza boxes across the state. If our team comes across incorrect information during evaluations, the municipality will not be eligible for this category.

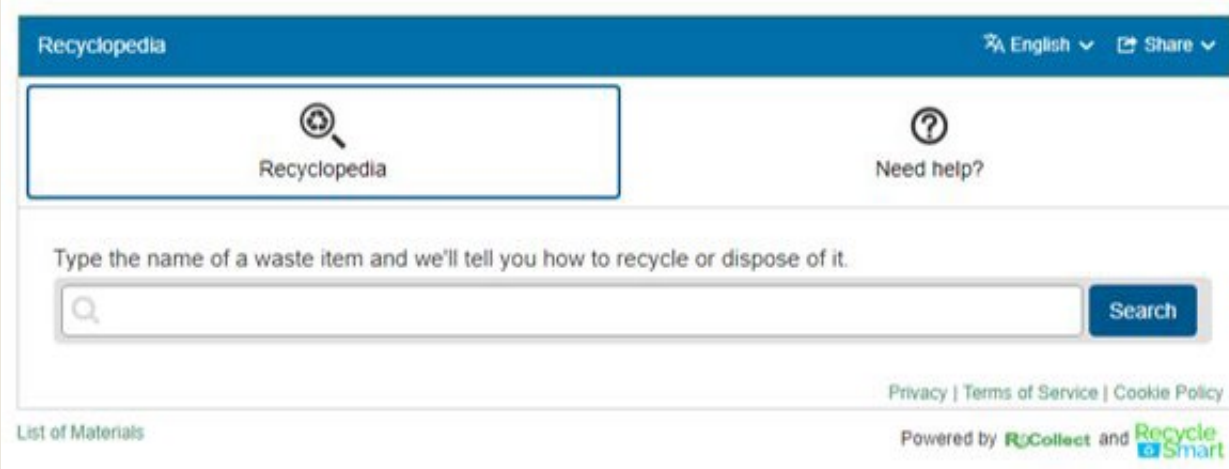
Waste Prevention Outreach and Education Requirement

- The municipality completed 6 activities (1 required and 5 optional) – 1 Point

[Beyond the Bin Search Directory](#)

[RecycleSmartMA.org](#)

Required activity: Link to Beyond the Bin directly, link to RecycleSmartMA.org, and the Recycle Smart Recyclopeda widget (or something comparable).



The screenshot shows the Recyclopeda website interface. At the top, there is a blue header with the text "Recyclopeda" on the left, and "English" and "Share" with dropdown arrows on the right. Below the header, there are two buttons: "Recyclopeda" with a magnifying glass icon and "Need help?" with a question mark icon. A search bar is present with the placeholder text "Type the name of a waste item and we'll tell you how to recycle or dispose of it." and a "Search" button. At the bottom, there are links for "Privacy | Terms of Service | Cookie Policy", "List of Materials", and "Powered by ReCollect and Recycle Smart".

Waste Prevention Outreach and Education Activities

- The municipality completed 6 activities (1 required and 5 optional) – 1 Point
 - Recycling mailer or handout
 - Actively posts on social media or publishes paper or e-newsletter
 - Runs an ad or PSA
 - Creates or contributes to a local, municipal, or regional guide
 - Messages via sandwich boards, billboards, **lawn signs**, etc.
 - Publishes a waste reduction goal
 - Subscribes to a mobile recycling app
 - Distributes bins or tote bags to multi-family buildings with recycling education
 - Reshares at least 6 RSMA posts on social media and is a [RSMA Partner](#)
 - **Tables at a community event to provide recycling education**

RDP Timeline and Invoicing

Timeline*:

- SMRP team evaluates RDP: June - August 2026
- Approvals process: August - November 2026
- Award Letters and Contracts out: November 2026
- Signed contracts due: January 2027

*Timeline may fluctuate depending on delays in the approval process.

Invoicing:

- Once the contract is countersigned by DEP, the last page is submitted as an invoice internally. Payments are typically sent via electronic transfer within 45 days.
- RDP funds can be carried over to future years and saved to fund larger projects.



RDP Spending

[Micaela Guglielmi](#)



Approved Spending

- Please see [Approved Spending Categories](#) for a list of pre-approved expenditures for RDP and Regional Small-Scale Initiatives.
- No special spending requests will be considered.
- See the [Community Spending Examples](#) fact sheet for ideas!

12 Spending Categories Including...



Toxics Reduction



Model Programming



Organics Diversion

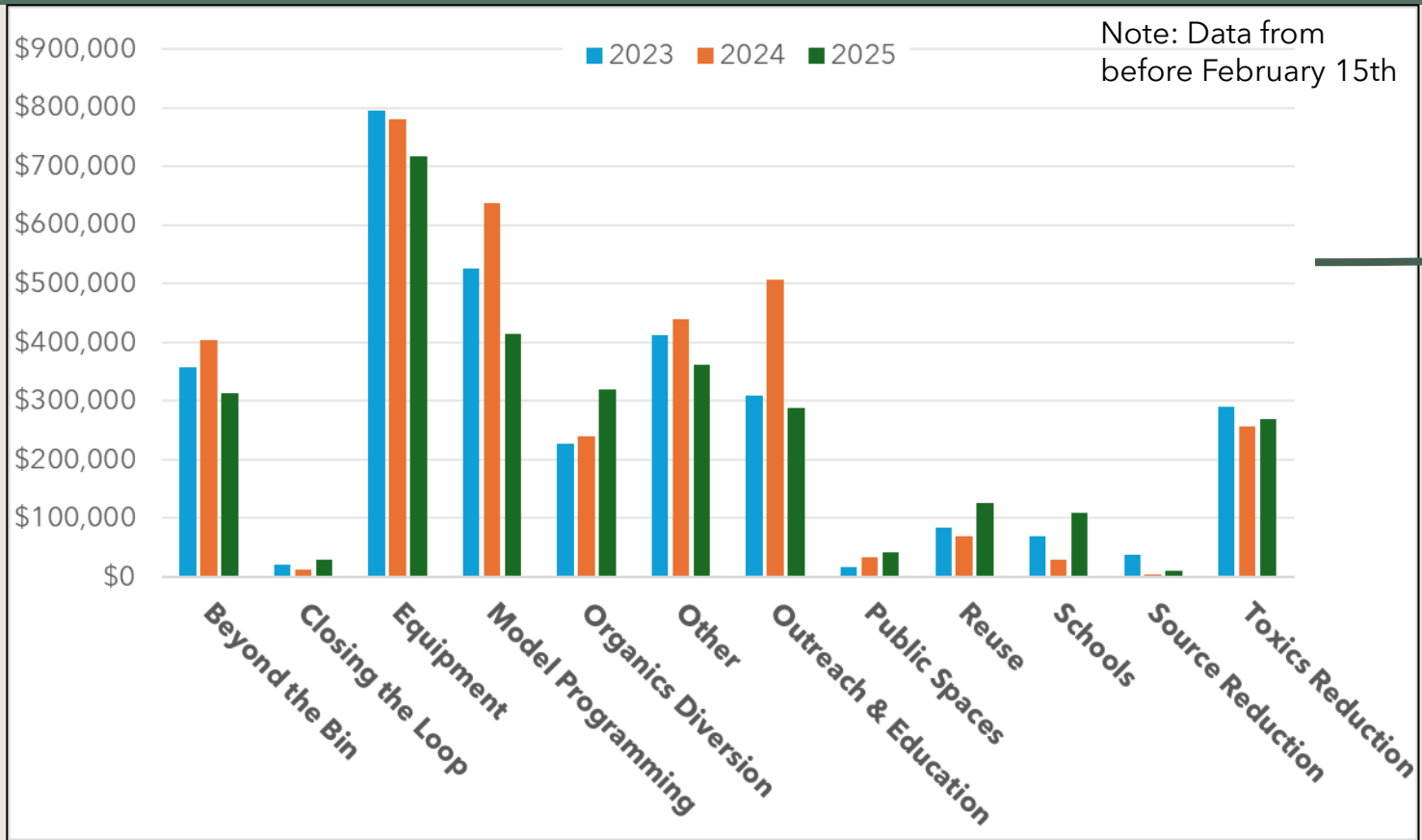


Outreach & Education



Reuse

Spending in RDP Categories 2023-2025



More \$ being spent on schools, reuse, and closing the loop than in past years!

Total RDP funds spent was a bit less than last year.

Balance dropped a lot from last year, keep up the good work, but keep spending!

Reminder: RDP dedicated spending accounts required

	2023	2024	2025
Total RDP Spent	\$3,139,595	\$3,407,116	\$2,995,646
Total RDP Balance Carried Over	\$8,200,734	\$7,881,233	\$6,993,581



Regional Small-Scale Initiatives

[Micaela Guglielmi](#)



Regional Small-Scale Initiatives Eligibility

Regional
groups only

Population
based

Same
spending as
RDP

[Details: Regional Small-Scale Initiatives](#)

Regional Small-Scale Initiatives Awards

Population	MassDEP Funds
Up to 15,000	\$1,000
15,001 - 25,000	\$1,250
25,001 - 50,000	\$1,500
50,001 and Above	\$2,000

[Approved Spending Categories](#)



Open Project Proposals: Waste Reduction / Organics Capacity / Household Hazardous Waste Facility Projects

[Alison Beucler](#)



Waste Reduction Projects

- Expand the scope or effectiveness of reuse, recycling, composting, or household hazardous waste programs.
- Grants range from \$20,000 to \$100,000.
- Must be completed within 2 years of award.
- Funds can be used for equipment, capital costs, professional services, outreach and education, and new personnel.
- Project serves residents, businesses, public agencies, schools, etc.
- **Maximum of 15%** of funds is allowed for professional services (engineering and design) and project management (consultants or contractors).

Waste Reduction Project Examples

- Regional centers for reuse and recycling of source-separated materials.
- Reuse and recycling of bulky items (e.g., furniture, sinks, toilets, rigid plastics).
- Materials reuse and/or repair to extend the useful life of products or packaging.
- Recovery of targeted materials or other difficult-to-recycle materials.
- Municipal program expansion to underserved populations (e.g., public housing, mobile home parks, apartments, condos, disabled residents, etc.).
- Innovative education, outreach, and enforcement strategies to increase public participation in reuse, recycling, composting, and waste reduction programs.
- Public space/event recycling that will serve large gatherings on an ongoing basis.
- Regional PAYT programs.

Waste Reduction Projects Over the Years



Cape Cod Latex Paint Collection and Recycling Initiative:

To recycle usable **latex or acrylic paint**, please visit Cape Cod Latex Paint Collection and Recycling Initiative at:
www.townofbourne.com/paint

HazMat not accepted.
Cape Cod Latex Paint Collection and Recycling Initiative sponsored by MA DEP.
Paint will be recycled for free by ReColor Paints (www.recolorpaints.com).

Organics Capacity Projects

- New or expanded facilities to manage source separated food waste through animal feed, composting, anaerobic digestion, etc.
- Grants range from \$20,000 to \$250,000.
- Must be completed within 2 years of award.
- 85% funds must be used for capital costs (equipment, site improvements, and facility construction).
- Maximum of 15% of funds is allowed for professional services (engineering and design) and project management (consultants or contractors).

Organics Capacity Project Examples

- Expansion of leaf and yard waste composting operations to include food waste.
- New equipment or operations to process source separated organics (e.g., slurring, decontamination, anaerobic digestion, and/or composting).
- Improvements to an existing operation that handles source separated food waste.
- Municipal organics collection program that also serves commercial generators.
- Promotion or installation of larger-scale organics collection equipment (e.g., compaction and programmable access) at multi-unit household residences
- Equipment for monitoring participation, contamination, and other data points at neighborhood food waste collection programs



Poll #6

6. Approximately what percentage of municipalities DO NOT have AT LEAST biannual access (twice per year) to household hazardous waste (HHW) collection?

- 10%
- 20%
- 35%
- 50%

Answer: 35%

Permanent HHW Facility

- Establish a permanent collection facility that allows municipalities to collect household hazardous wastes at regular intervals.
- Grants range from \$50,000 (individual) to \$250,000 (regional).
- Must be completed within 2 years of award.
- 85% funds must be used for capital costs (equipment, site improvements, and facility construction).
- Maximum of 15% of funds is allowed for professional services (engineering and design) and project management (consultants or contractors).

Application Process

- Eligible Applicants include:
 - Individual municipalities
 - A municipality acting as a lead for a multi-town regional initiative
 - A regional governmental entity established by legislative authorization
- Complete the [Mandatory Proposal Outline](#) on MassDEP's webpage.
- Upload document to ReTRAC.
- Complete all other SMRP grant pre-requisites.
- [Details: Waste Reduction / Organics Capacity / HHW Facility](#)

Evaluation Criteria

- **Justification/Need** - identifies a clear need/problem to address, unmet gaps, benefits, alignment w/ DEP priorities.
- **Feasibility/Work Plan** - roles and responsibilities, milestones, timeline, sustainability.
- **Measurement/Evaluation** - benchmarks, data to measure success.
- **Support/Commitment** - support from project partners.
- **Budget** - financial and in-kind resources.
- **Other** - matching funds, RDP funds, disadvantaged communities, population size, project model, existing ordinances/bylaws to support project, regional project.

General Timeline Overview

- Introductory meeting with MassDEP
 - Regular check-ins
- Scopes of Work
 - Once approved by MassDEP, work can commence
- Invoicing
 - Quarterly over the course of 2 years
- Site visit (if applicable)
- Final Report
 - 3 months after project completion



Final Questions?