

SWAC Waste Bans Update

January 26, 2023



Solid Waste Master Plan Goal

- Reduce disposal by 1.7 million tons on annual basis by 2030
- Nearly 50% of trash is material subject (at least in part) to waste bans
- Do not expect 100% capture of any material
- But know we have opportunities for gains

Increasing Waste Ban Compliance

- Working to increase inspections & enforcement
- Building waste ban awareness
- Implementing Minimum Performance Standard for C&D facilities

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WASTE BAN COMPLIANCE TIPS FOR PROPERTY MANAGERS



The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) bans easy-to-recycle materials, such as cardboard, from the trash. This is an overview of waste ban requirements, avoiding fines or fees, and tips on tenant compliance.

More detailed information for Property Managers is available at: recyclingworksma.com/how-to/business-sector-guidance/property-managers

WHAT ARE WASTE BANS?

Many businesses and institutions are not aware that a number of materials are banned from disposal in Massachusetts. Your municipality might have additional bylaws/ordinances or regulations requiring businesses and institutions to recycle.

As a property manager, you, your tenants, your waste hauler, and solid waste facilities are all responsible for complying with waste ban requirements.

Even when a property manager offers recycling containers, multifamily, commercial, and mixed-use properties may receive MassDEP enforcement when recyclable materials are placed in the trash, as no person shall dispose, transfer for disposal, or contract for disposal or transport of the restricted materials. A number of common issues can result in recyclable materials being placed in the trash, including:

- Breakdown in staff and tenant participation
- Poor signage
- Miscommunication with haulers about what materials go in each collection container
- Collection containers not the right size
- Pickup schedule not properly set
- No backup plan for equipment failures

More information: mass.gov/guides/massdep-waste-disposal-bans

Waste ban materials applicable to property managers, depending on whether your tenants are residential, commercial, or both, include:

- Cardboard
- Paper
- Glass, Metal, and Plastic Containers
- Commercial Food Waste (> one ton per week)
- Leaf and Yard Waste
- Construction and Demolition Materials

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CONSEJOS PARA RESTAURANTES PARA CUMPLIR CON LA PROHIBICIÓN DE DESECHOS

¿QUÉ SON LAS PROHIBICIONES DE DESECHOS?

Muchos negocios no son conscientes que en Massachusetts deshacerse de algunos materiales está prohibido. El Departamento de Protección Ambiental de Massachusetts (MassDEP) prohíbe tirar a la basura materiales fáciles de reciclar, como el cartón. Puede ser que su municipio tenga estatutos/ordenanzas o reglamentos adicionales que exijan a los negocios reciclar. Todos los negocios, transportistas de desechos, e instalaciones de desechos sólidos son responsables de cumplir con la prohibición de desechos. Visite el sitio web de RecyclingWorks para obtener una descripción general de las prohibiciones de desechos: www.recyclingworksma.com/waste-bans-and-compliance.

Restaurantes que coloquen materiales prohibidos en la basura corren el riesgo de que las instalaciones de desechos sólidos rechacen sus desechos, que se les cobre honorarios adicionales, y recibir sanciones de MassDEP.

Los negocios que reciben sanciones de MassDEP a menudo ya tienen programas de reciclaje. Sin embargo, algunos problemas comunes pueden provocar que materiales reciclables terminen en la basura, por ejemplo

- Falta de participación del personal
- Señalización deficiente
- Falta de comunicación con el transportista de desechos sobre qué materiales van en cada contenedor de colección
- Contenedores de colección no son del tamaño adecuado
- El horario de recolección no ha sido establecido correctamente
- No hay plan de respaldo para fallas de equipos
- Las prohibiciones de desechos especialmente relevantes para restaurantes son las de cartón, botellas, latas, y desechos de comida.

RECICLAJE DE CARTON

¡Más del 80% de todas las acciones de cumplimiento de MassDEP, son a causa de cartón.

El cartón limpio es un material fácilmente reciclable con mercados bien establecidos para el procesamiento. Ver el sitio web de RecyclingWorks para obtener información sobre cómo se recicla el cartón: www.recyclingworksma.com/how-to/materials-guidance/recycling-cardboard.

Hable con su transportista de desechos sobre las opciones para recolectar cartón para reciclar, como por ejemplo:

- Compactador
- Contenedor de basura
- Carretas
- Embaladora

Las especificaciones del material pueden incluir solo cartón, cartón mezclado con papel o en conjunto (cartón, papel y contenedores). Los negocios a menudo ahorran dinero en tarifas de recolección de basura cuando reciclan cartón.

Cartón que este contaminado con comida o desechos líquidos no debe ser reciclado. Cartón encerado no es un parte de la prohibición de desechos, así que no debe ser reciclado. Restaurantes que coleccion residuos de comida para compostaje pueden combinar cartón sucio y cartón encerado con los residuos de comida. Así como es importante mantener materiales reciclables fuera de la basura, es igualmente importante mantener materiales como bolsas de plástico, residuos de comida, y guantes de hule fuera de los contenedores de reciclaje. Consulta a su transportista de desechos para averiguar si esto es una opción.



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CAMBIOS EN LA PROHIBICIÓN DE ELIMINACIÓN DE RESIDUOS DE MASSDEP

Efectivo el 1 de Noviembre de 2022

MassDEP va añadir **textiles y colchones** a la lista de materiales prohibidos. Las empresas e instituciones de Massachusetts que generan **media tonelada de alimentos o más por semana** también estarán sujetas a la prohibición de eliminación de desperdicios de alimentos.



Contacta RecyclingWorks en Massachusetts para recibir ayuda para comenzar:
recyclingworksma.com | (888) 254-5525 | info@recyclingworksma.com

Maneras Fácil y Económico para Cumplir

- Reduce el desperdicio de alimentos a través de técnicas de prevención, donación de excedentes comestibles y separación de desechos para compostaje, digestión anaerobia o alimentación animal
- Reutilizar textiles, donar a organizaciones de reutilización o asociarse con recicladores de textiles
- Recicle colchones con poco uso o donelos a través de programas locales, nacionales e internacionales



DALE AQUÍ PARA OBTENER AYUDA

RecyclingWorks en Massachusetts es un programa de asistencia de reciclaje fundado por el Departamento de Protección Ambiental de Massachusetts (MassDEP) que ayuda a empresas e instituciones reducir los residuos y maximizar oportunidades de reciclaje, reutilización y recuperación de alimentos.

Publishing Enforcement Actions

- Will publish list of waste ban enforcement actions every 6 months
- <https://www.mass.gov/doc/waste-ban-enforcement-2022/download>
- Through most of 2022 completed 161 enforcement actions

Most Common Materials

- Cardboard
- Food Waste
- Bottles and Cans
- Construction Materials
- White Goods

New Waste Disposal Bans

- Effective date of new bans - November 1, 2022
 - Mattresses
 - Textiles
 - Reduced food waste threshold
 - (from 1 ton to $\frac{1}{2}$ ton per week)

Waste Ban History & Background

- First waste bans promulgated in early 1990s
- Done via regulation under statutory authority
- “No person shall dispose, transfer for disposal, or contract for disposal or transport of the restricted material...”

Waste Ban Approach

- Develop and implement new waste bans over several years
- Combine with technical assistance, education & outreach, & market development
- Primary focus compliance by larger generators – businesses and institutions
- New bans – emphasize compliance assistance initially

Waste Ban Implementation

- Outreach and Assistance
 - Preferred approach to achieve compliance
 - Work with stakeholders to raise awareness
- Mattress & textiles communication toolkit
 - <https://mdep.app.box.com/s/8zrcc5tp2n1y3915ox46vrhpOZOW410g>
- Beyond the Bin listing
 - <https://recyclesmartma.org/beyond-the-bin-search/>

Waste Ban Implementation

- RecyclingWorks in Massachusetts
 - Free statewide Assistance program for businesses
 - www.recyclingworksma.com
 - info@recyclingworksma.com
 - 888-254-5525
 - Searchable service provider database

Food Waste Ban

- Food waste largest portion of MSW – about 20 percent
- 2030 goal
 - increase diversion by 500,000 tons on annual basis

Businesses Diverting Food Waste

Year	# Businesses Diverting
2014	1,350
2015	1,550
2016	1,700
2017	2,250
2018	2,600
2019	3,250
2020	3,200
2021	3,500

Other Progress to Date

- Rescue of fresh and perishable foods up > 50%
- Total capacity for food waste exceeds current goals
- Food in trash down from 26% in 2016 to 21% in 2019

Estimated New Businesses Subject by Sector

Sector	Estimated Number of New Businesses Subject
Full-Service Restaurants	809
Limited-Service Restaurants	511
Manufacturers and Processors	123
Supermarkets	115
Hotels	92
Hospitals	81
Distributors and Wholesalers	75
Nursing Homes and Residential Facilities	31
Primary and Secondary Schools	29
Schools, Colleges, and Universities	9
Correctional Facilities	3
Total	1878

How can my Business Comply?

- Compliance standard is to dispose of <math><1/2</math> ton per week of food waste
- Can comply through any combination of:
 - waste reduction/prevention
 - Food rescue and donation
 - On-site systems
 - Sending food waste to animal feed, compost, or anaerobic digestion
- If comply with the 1 ton per week ban, may need to take further reduction/diversion steps now

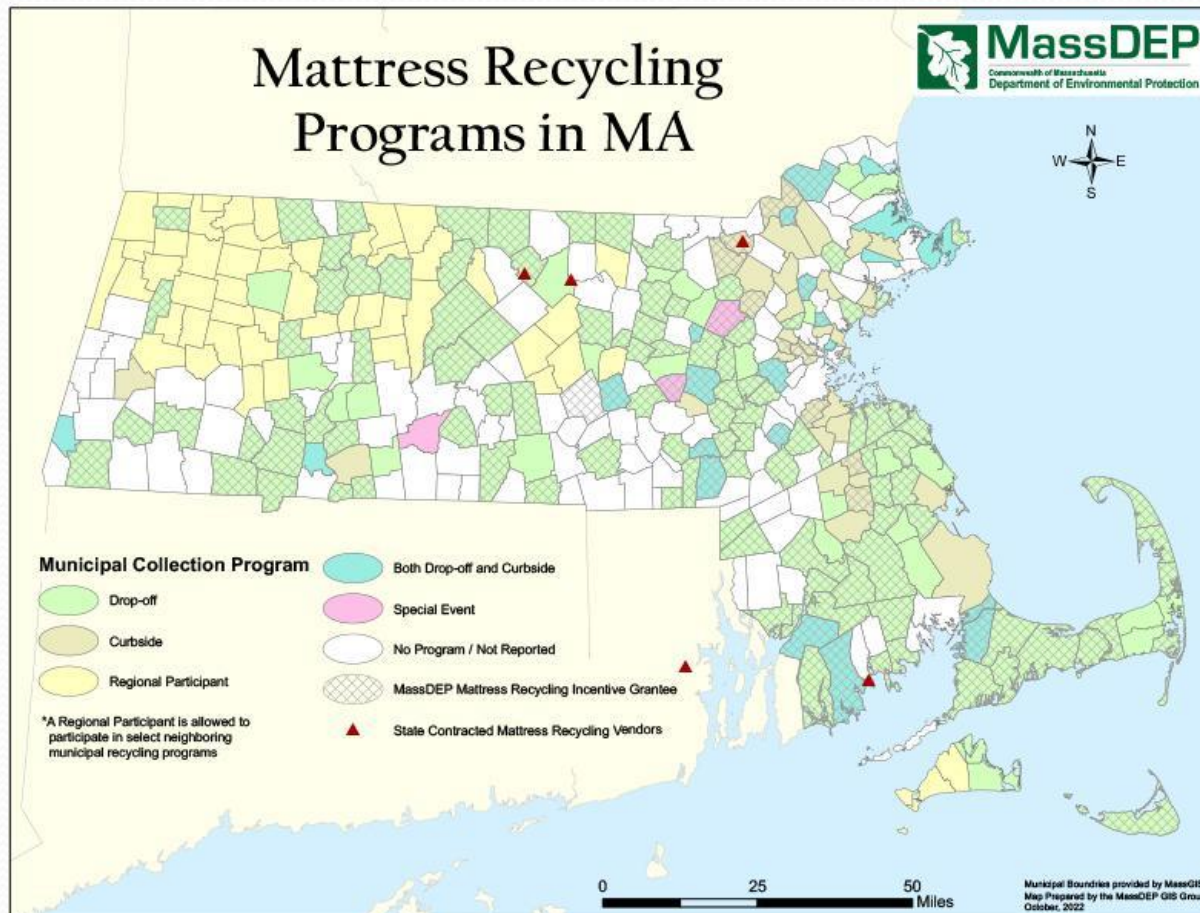
Mattress Waste Reduction Goal

- Reduce disposal of mattresses by 30 percent by 2030
- Do not expect 100% recovery or diversion of any material on statewide basis
- Solid Waste Master Plan:
www.mass.gov/guides/solid-waste-master-plan

Mattresses Waste Ban

- About 600K mattresses/year – about 200K residential
- All size mattresses and box springs, including foam
- No futons or sofa beds
- Less than 5% of mattresses not recyclable
- In-state capacity – 460K/year and growing
- Difficult to manage in solid waste - most solid waste facilities charge mattress fees at or above recycling cost
- State mattress recycling contract – FAC 90
- Additional mattress recyclers – www.recyclingworksma.com

Municipal Mattress Recycling



Unacceptable Mattresses - Disposal

- Torn, punctured, soiled, or moldy items
- Twisted or crushed
- Wet or frozen pieces
- Infested with bed bugs, mice
- Futons and fold-out sofa beds
- Mattress pads and toppers
- Infant sleeping pads
- Air or water beds



How to Handle Unrecyclable Mattresses

- If not subject to waste ban (e.g., sofa beds), no approval needed to send for disposal
- If mattress subject to waste bans, but contaminated, no approval **REQUIRED**
- But, if questions or concerns from hauler or solid waste facility, can use certification form
- https://massgov.formstack.com/forms/contaminated_mattress

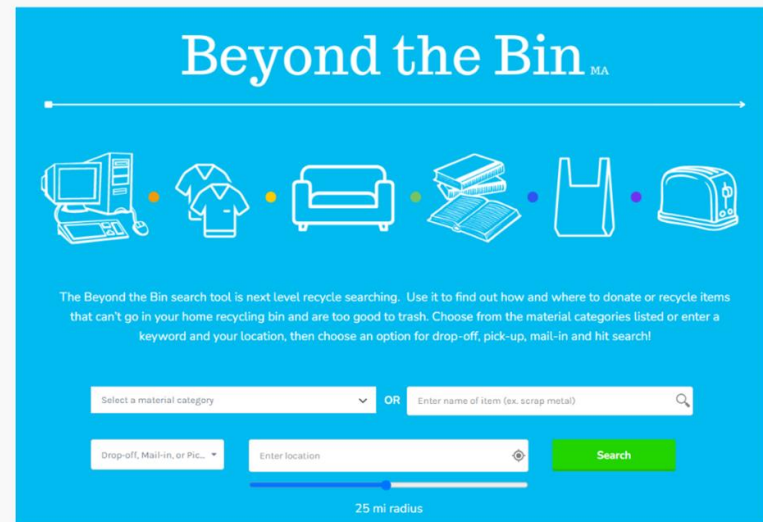
Textiles Waste Ban

- Dispose about 250K tons/year – about 5% of trash
- All types of textiles
 - Clothing, shoes, bags, towels, linens
- Most textiles have value – can save money by diverting from disposal
- Uses include resale/donation/reuse, recycling (wiping cloths, furniture/car seat stuffing, carpet padding, insulation)
- Must be clean and dry – if wet, moldy or oily, can and should be sent for disposal

Massachusetts Web Resources for Textiles



RecycleSmartMA.org



[RecycleSmartMA.org/
beyond-the-bin-search/](https://RecycleSmartMA.org/beyond-the-bin-search/)

Cathy.Doodnauth@mass.gov

NOT IN THE BIN

Many items you'd think belong in your recycling bin don't.
Putting them in does more harm than good. Not sure? Check the Recyclopeda.



Do Not Bag Recyclables

No garbage



No Plastic Bags or Plastic Wrap

Return to retail store collection bins



No Food or Liquid

Empty all containers



No Clothing or Linens

Use donation programs



No Tanglers

No hoses, wires, chains
or electronics

RecyclingWorks Assistance

The screenshot displays the RecyclingWorks Assistance website. At the top, there is a green navigation bar with contact information: info@recyclingworksma.com, [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Subscribe to Newsletter](#), [Contact Us](#), and [CALL HOTLINE: \(888\) 254-5525](#). Below this is a white navigation menu with the RecyclingWorks logo and links for [ABOUT US](#), [RECYCLE](#), [FOOD WASTE](#), [MATERIALS](#), [REUSE](#), and [BLOG/EVENTS](#). The main content area features a large image of a recycling center with signs for 'COMPOST' and 'TRASH'. Overlaid on this image is the title 'Recycling Assistance for Businesses & Institutions' and a search form. The search form includes three dropdown menus: 'Any Material', 'Enter location', and 'Pick Up/Drop Off', followed by a text input field 'OR, try a keyword or biz name' and a green 'Search' button. Below the search form, a paragraph states: 'RecyclingWorks in Massachusetts is a recycling assistance program funded by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection and delivered under contract by the Center for EcoTechnology that helps businesses and institutions reduce waste and maximize recycling, reuse, and food recovery opportunities.' At the bottom of the main content area, there are three green buttons: [LIST YOUR BUSINESS](#), [ABOUT RECYCLINGWORKS](#), and [ABOUT THE FIND-A-RECYCLER TOOL](#). The footer of the page includes a search bar, system tray icons, and the date/time: 8:50 AM 1/26/2023.

Waste Ban Waivers

- Generally not needed for mattresses or textiles
- MassDEP can approve waivers to allow one-time or temporary disposal of waste ban materials
- Either issue as one-time approvals or short term (up to 1 year) if no alternatives to disposal
 - May be contaminated or otherwise non-recoverable/recyclable material
- Can request and issue via email

Grants and Loans

- Recycling Loan Fund – can apply at any time
- Recycling Business Development Grants
 - Processing grants – expect to announce next round of awards shortly
 - Collection grants – award recommendations under review
 - Next round – spring 2023 TBD

Contact Information

- Existing Waste Bans
 - Claudine Ellyin – claudine.Ellyin@mass.gov
- New Waste Bans
 - John Fischer
 - John.fischer@mass.gov
- Mattress Recycling
 - Rachel Smith
 - Rachel.smith@mass.gov