

The background features abstract, overlapping green geometric shapes in various shades of green, creating a modern and eco-friendly aesthetic.

Western Mass Green Consortium ‘Green Night’ Presentation

All Things Recycling in Western MA

Véronique Blanchard

MassDEP Municipal Assistance Coordinator (MAC)
for Western Mass

Who am I?

Mass DEP Municipal Assistance Coordinator (MAC)

- ▶ There are 8 MACs statewide and we each cover a specific geographic region.
- ▶ I represent the 100 towns in the four counties of Western Mass, and provide assistance with any solid waste issues, including waste reduction programs, composting, recycling, household hazardous waste management, solid waste contracting, etc.
- ▶ I also help municipalities with the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection SMRP grants.
- ▶ There are 3 solid waste districts in Western MA
 - ▶ Hilltown Resource Management Cooperative (HRMC) has 10 towns
 - ▶ Northern Berkshire Solid Waste Management District (NBSWMD) has 13 towns
 - ▶ Franklin County Solid Waste Management District (FCSWMD) has 21 towns

Sustainable Materials Recovery Program

- ▶ The SMRP grants are the vehicle through which MassDEP helps to support municipalities reduce trash, increase recycling and composting, and manage household hazardous waste. Among the 2020 offerings:
 - ▶ Mattress Recycling Incentive
 - ▶ PAYT
 - ▶ Education and Enforcement Coordinator
 - ▶ Recycling and Organics Carts
 - ▶ Drop-Off Recycling Equipment
 - ▶ School Assistance
 - ▶ Waste Reduction and Organics Capacity Projects
 - ▶ Small Scale Initiatives
 - ▶ Recycling Dividends Program

What we will cover tonight:

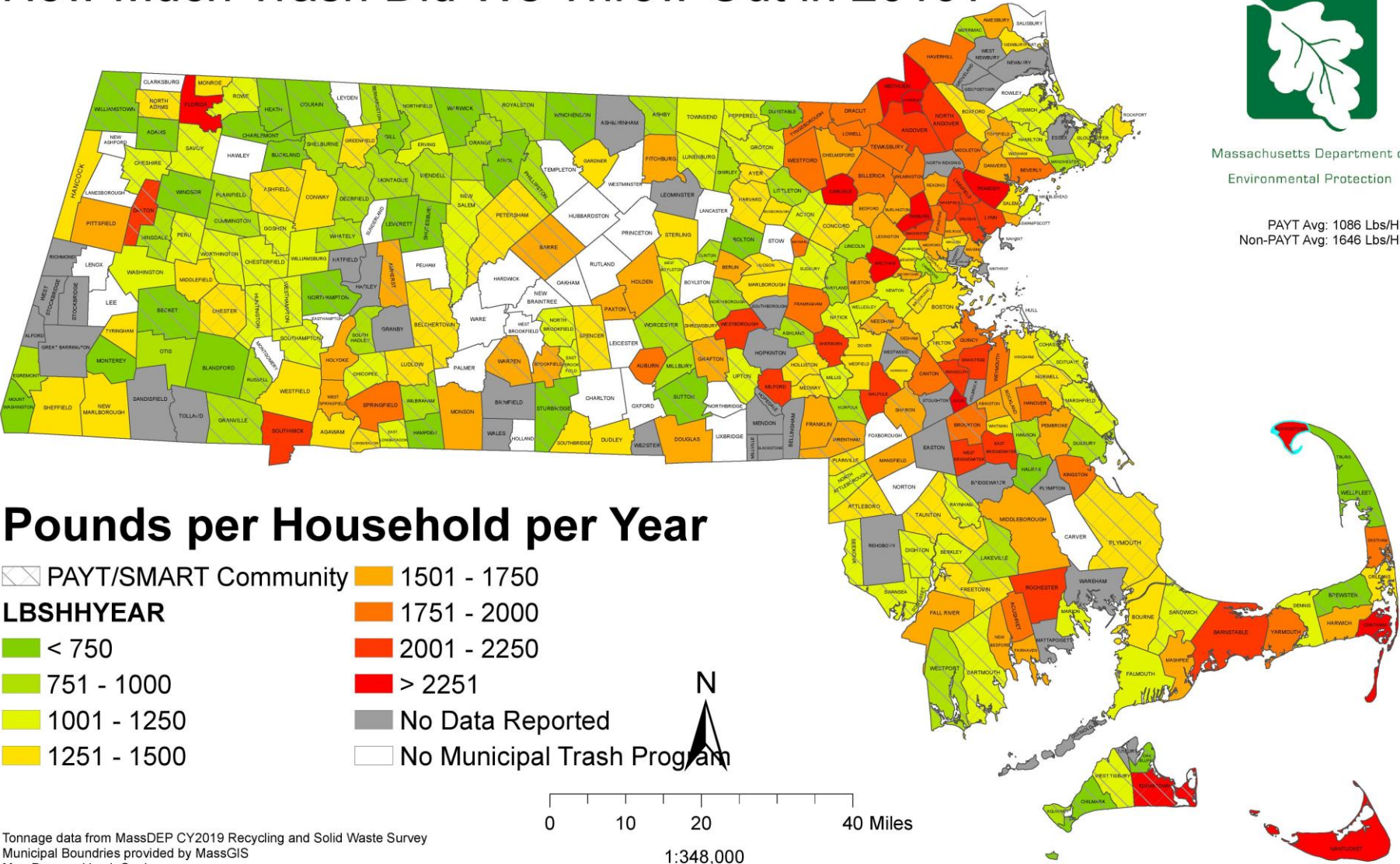
- ▶ How much trash do we produce?
- ▶ The history of the Springfield Materials Recycling Facility (MRF)
- ▶ The MRF Advisory Board (MAB)
- ▶ The new MRF Contract
- ▶ What materials can and cannot be recycled
- ▶ Educational materials put out by the MAB
- ▶ RecycleSmartMA
- ▶ Quick update on the 2030 Solid Waste Master Plan and Waste Bans
- ▶ Questions?

How Much Trash Did We Throw Out in 2019?



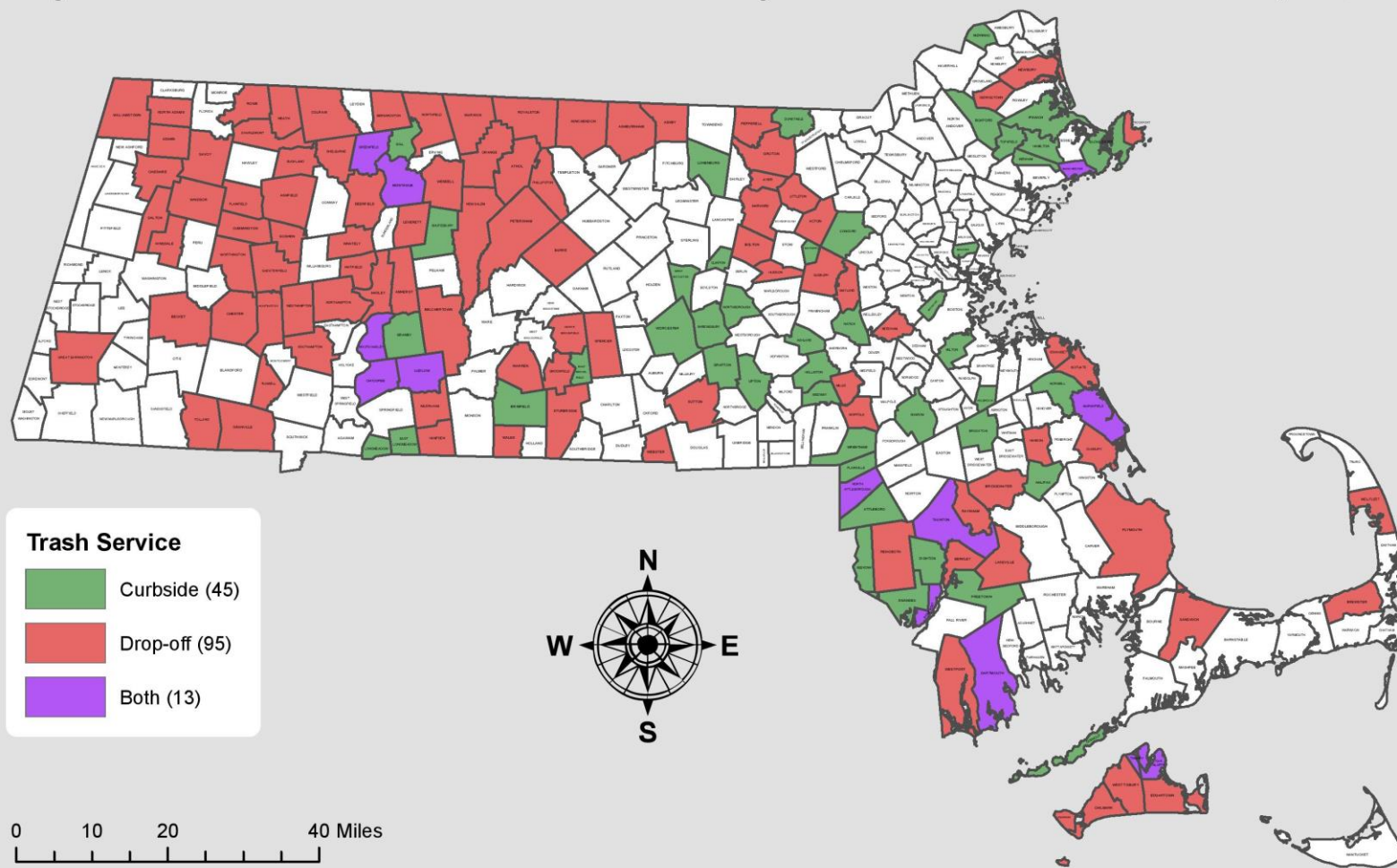
Massachusetts Department of
Environmental Protection

PAYT Avg: 1086 Lbs/HH
Non-PAYT Avg: 1646 Lbs/HH



Tonnage data from MassDEP CY2019 Recycling and Solid Waste Survey
Municipal Boundries provided by MassGIS
Map Prepared by J. Cook
July, 2020

PAYT/SMART Communities (Pay-As-You-Throw/Save-Money-And-Reduce-Trash)



1:1,200,000

DATA SOURCES:
- Community Boundaries: ITD/MassGIS
- Unit-based Pricing Data: MassDEP BAW, May 2020
W:\BW\PISWM\gis\PAYT\PAYT_2020.mxd
MassDEP, BAW, Revised May 14, 2020, J Cook

History of the Springfield MRF

- ▶ Partnership between MassDEP, City of Springfield and vendor
- ▶ Built in 1989, became operational in 1990
- ▶ Has always been a Dual Stream facility
- ▶ The new contract runs from 7/1/20 to 6/30/25, with the possibility of two five-year renewals
- ▶ 65 municipalities contract with the MRF
- ▶ Current vendor is Waste Management Recycle America (WMRA)

Who are the MRF Advisory Board (MAB)

- ▶ Part of the management of the Springfield MRF rests with the MRF Advisory Board, made up of 12 representatives
- ▶ 3 representatives each for Hampden, Hampshire, Franklin and Berkshire counties, and each representative has a list of towns with whom they communicate to keep towns abreast of any news or developments at the MRF
- ▶ The MAB budget has been funded through an educational fee assessed on member towns. This money is used to promote education and outreach about the MRF
- ▶ The MAB is responsible for providing education and outreach, and receives regular updates from the vendor on markets and market trends
- ▶ The MAB hires a tour guide to provide tours of the MRF (pre-Covid) to groups of ten or above (less than 25 per group) and maintains and education room at the MRF

New contract details

- ▶ There has always been a cost to process recyclables
- ▶ Old contract had a zero floor and up until June 30th, 2020 all MRF member towns were getting at least \$6/ton revenue
- ▶ \$93.50 is the base processing fee for FY21, which will go up every year for next five years; FY22 \$95.84
- ▶ As of July 1, 2020 there is a net payment for processing. This is in part due to China Sword and the market downturn
- ▶ The AMV, or Average Market Value, is an index used to determine what revenues towns will receive for their recyclables
- ▶ Net processing fees; if AMV goes up, net payment goes down

SMRF Net Fee Calculation FY2021



Yes, our materials are recycled, and our markets are in the US.

Material	Example	Buyers
Aluminum	Aluminum foil, cans, take-out containers, pie plates, disposable pans	Universal Scrap Metal Inc
HDPE Natural	Clear milk and water jugs	Clean Tech-Dundee
PET	Water bottles, juice bottles	Clear Path Recycling
Steel/Tin Cans	Pet food cans. soup, tuna fish cans	Triple M Metal
Cartons, Aseptics	Milk cartons, juice cartons, soup, soymilk cartons, juice boxes	Virginia based company
Paper	Paper, cardboard	Rand Whitney in Montville CT

Educational Materials Available

- ▶ Posters; kitchen, bath, holiday, paper/cardboard, mixed containers, etc.
- ▶ Mini-grant from MAB. Each member town may choose educational materials from a menu of items. Each town receives a certain number of points based on population and can use up to the total of those points for 'free', as a return on their educational fee assessment
- ▶ [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#)
- ▶ New [videos](#) listed on website



What we accept



THE "YES AND NO" OF RECYCLING IN WESTERN MASS



YES - emptied, rinsed and unbagged:	NO - do not place in municipal recycling:		
<u>Aluminum</u> ➤ cans ➤ aluminum foil ➤ pie pans, "disposable" aluminum trays	aerosol cans siding scrap metal foil-wrapped pouches (kids drinks, fruit, baby food) pots & pans		
<u>Steel (tin) cans</u> <i>Labels do not need to be removed.</i> ➤ food and beverage cans (metal lids OK) ➤ pet food cans (metal lids OK)	aerosol cans tanks of any kind hangers scrap metal paint cans		
<u>Glass</u> <i>Empty and rinse.</i> <i>Labels do not need to be removed.</i> ➤ food and beverage bottles and jars, any color	broken glass holiday lights wine corks dishes drinking glasses		
<u>Plastics</u> <i>Empty and rinse. Plastic caps may be left on.</i> <i>ONLY containers smaller than 2.5 gallons are recyclable.</i> ➤ food bottles, tubs, jars: yogurt, cooking oil, condiments, peanut butter, margarine ➤ beverage bottles and jugs: water, juice, soda, milk (empty, rinse if possible, put caps back ON) ➤ soap bottles: dish soap, detergent, hand sanitizer ➤ personal care bottles: hair products, soaps ➤ clear plastic clamshells (no black or Styrofoam™) ➤ clear plastic cups, clear plastic egg cartons	plastic bags plastic wrap/cling wrap cellophane food bags (e.g., candy bars, cookies, pasta) frozen food bags/pouches liners from food packaging plastic plates cups: color or opaque Styrofoam™ (polystyrene): - cups/take-out containers - egg cartons - packaging, peanuts - meat trays		
<u>Cartons</u> <i>Recycle w/containers, not w/paper. Straws go in trash.</i> ➤ milk and juice cartons (plastic spout OK) ➤ soy milk, soup and drink boxes (remove straws)	small items: straws, loose lids, utensils black plastic compostable plastics cookie trays blister pack packaging tubes: toothpaste, hair care prescription pill bottles refillable water bottles toys flower pots holiday lights		
<u>Paper and Cardboard</u> <i>Clean paper only. Flatten boxes.</i> <i>"Windows" in envelopes, staples, paper clips, tape all OK</i> ➤ newspaper, inserts, magazines, junk mail ➤ white, colored, glossy, and construction paper ➤ corrugated cardboard ➤ pizza boxes (empty: no food, wax paper, etc.) ➤ boxboard (i.e. cereal, pasta, tissue: windows ok) ➤ gift wrap, gift bags, gift tissue paper, cards (no metallic inks, foil, wire, glitter, batteries) ➤ paperback books and phonebooks (covers OK)	containers that held hazardous substances: automotive products, pool chemicals, pesticides, etc. containers over 2.5 gallons: 5-gallon pails, buckets, recycling bins, laundry baskets lawn furniture, swimming pools tarps hoses; PVC piping or tubing CD, DVD, VCR tapes/cases syringes, sharps electronics		
	foil-wrapped pouches (kids drinks, fruit, baby food) frozen food boxes ice cream cartons frozen juice cartons plastic straws		
	shredded paper soda, seltzer, beer cartons frozen food boxes ice cream cartons frozen juice cartons butter, margarine boxes paper cups paper plates paper egg cartons take-out containers paper towels, napkins tissues		

For more information: springfieldmrf.org

RECYCLING'S MOST UNWANTED

Please keep these items out of household recycling. At the recycling facility, plastic bags, hoses and holiday lights cause safety hazards and shutdowns when they wrap around conveyor belts and equipment.



For a complete YES & NO list of what can be recycled, visit www.springfieldmrf.org
or call the recycling hotline for more detailed information: 888-888-0784 ext. 52293 or 413-784-1100, ext. 52293

The Reduce, Reuse, Recycle (RRR) guide & the “What Do I Do With?” guide

Every year the MAB puts out an RRR insert in the Daily Hampshire Gazette and also in the Springfield Republican, for publication around Earth Day. These are different inserts but do include similar information

- “What Do I Do With” has a comprehensive listing of hard to manage materials and where they should be reused/recycled/properly disposed.
- The Pioneer Valley Listing of Community Household Hazardous Waste Collection events.
- Community listing showing what member towns accept for recycling or proper disposal

RecycleSmartMA

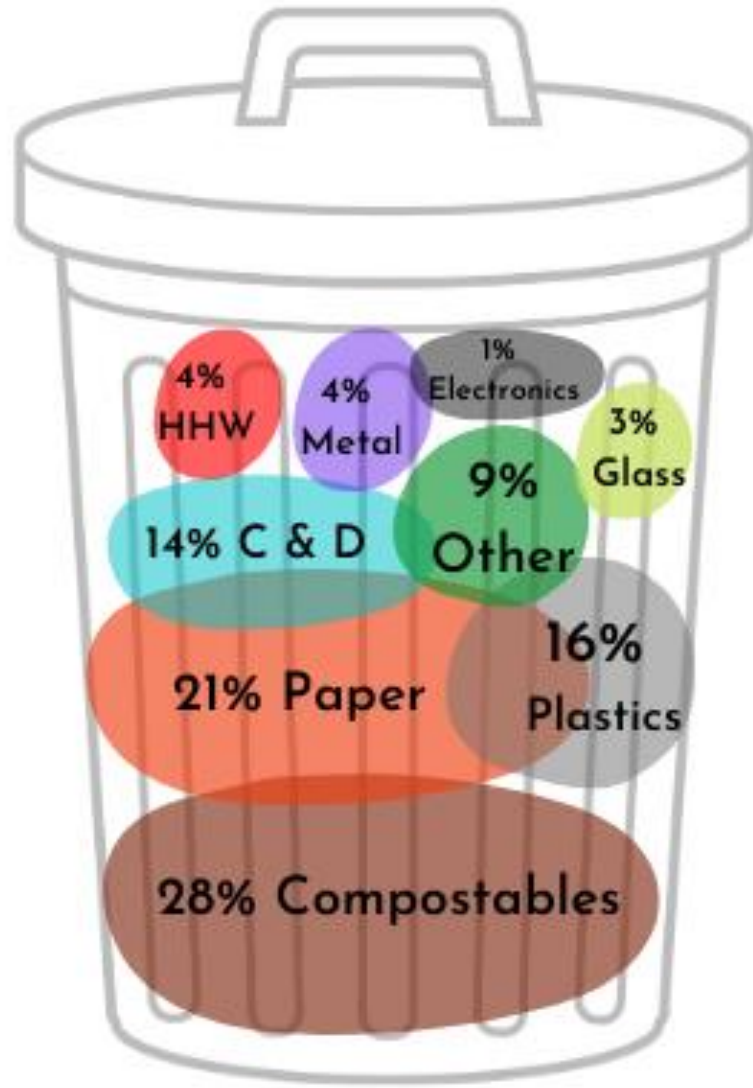
- ▶ RecycleSmartMA has a [Recyclopedia](#), which is a searchable database. Type in the item you want to find out about, and the Recyclopedia will tell you if that material is acceptable for recycling in Massachusetts.
- ▶ Municipalities can partner with RecycleSmartMA, and put the Recyclopedia widget in a prominent place on their website, helping to reduce contamination in recycling bins and saving towns money.
- ▶ There are monthly newsletters, and plenty of videos explaining how to recycle, social media posts, and quizzes.

State proposed waste bans/SWMP brief

- ▶ MassDEP has identified four areas which will help reach waste reduction goals most efficiently and effectively:
 - 1) Divert materials with the most potential for affecting the waste stream
 - Food material
 - Carboard
 - Untreated wood
 - Textiles
 - Bulky materials
 - 2) Target single use packaging and encourage better packaging and purchasing habits
 - 3) Increase reuse and donation opportunities. There is a Reduce & Reuse Working Group which all are encouraged to join.
 - 4) Develop local markets for recycling/reuse/management

Waste Characterization Study Results: Residential

Rank	Material	Percentage
1	Food Waste	23.0%
2	Textiles	9.9%
3	Compostable Paper	6.7%
4	Bio-Hazards	5.7%
5	Wood - Treated	5.2%
6	Remainder/Composite Organic	5.0%
7	Other Recyclable Paper	4.4%
8	Other Plastic Film	4.1%
9	Prunings, Trimmings, Leaves, Grass	3.7%
10	Remainder/Composite Plastic	3.5%
	Subtotal:	71.3%



Waste Characterization Study Results: Residential

Proposed Waste Bans

EFFECTIVE DATE currently proposed for the following three waste bans is October 1, 2021

- ▶ COMPOST: Move from 1 ton/week of food scrap production to ½ ton per week, RecyclingWorks has a [food waste estimator](#) to see if a school, business or organization is affected by the proposed ban
- ▶ MATTRESSES
- ▶ TEXTILES

QUESTIONS?

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Véronique Blanchard

PO Box 713

Conway, MA 01341

(413) 325-3472

vblanchardmac@gmail.com