

Action Implementation Blueprints



ACTION NAME

Create opportunities town wide to increase the waste diversion rate by 30%.

DESCRIPTION OF ACTION

Waste from Concord residents and businesses contribute to community-wide GHG emissions. Develop programs to reduce waste produced, including hard-to-recycle items, and increase waste diverted via reuse, recycling, organics collection/composting methods.

CHAMPION

Concord Public Works

IMPLEMENTATION STEPS	PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS	
	TIME FRAME	KEY PARTNERS
1. Inventory Concord's current waste stream and current hauling practices, research best practices research on waste diversion program, and develop plan to increase waste diversion by 30%.	2020-2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public Works MA Department of Environmental Protection Sustainability Division
2. Develop pilot programs for <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Curbside organics collection Solid waste reduction incentives Hard-to-recycle items Development and support of a circular economy 	2022-2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public Works Sustainability Division Waste Hauler Natural Resources Division Department of Planning and Land Management
3. Procure vendors and new materials, prepare infrastructure and apply for request permits for organics collection and handling and subsequent composting processes.	2022-2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public Works Natural Resources Division Department of Planning and Land Management Curbside Composting Vendors
4. Launch educational and promotional materials to community for pilot programs.	2022-2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public Works MA Department of Environmental Protection Sustainability Division Concord Free Public Library Concord Public Schools Select Board CSEC REUSIT
5. Revise programs and launch community-wide.	2022-2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concord Public Works Sustainability Division Select Board

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FINANCING RESOURCES AND MECHANISMS

- Sustainable Materials Recovery Program (SMRP) Municipal Grant
- MassDEP Compost Bin Distribution Program

TRADEOFFS (CHALLENGES/BARRIERS)

- Increased programmatic costs but tradeoff is long-term waste disposal savings
- Need to implement new processes, such as to rollout organic materials collections

EQUITY CONSIDERATIONS

- Provide educational materials in a variety of formats (e.g. audio, visual) to ensure all Concord residents are engaged.
- Ensure program designed to provide value to all residents.

TRACKING SUCCESS

- Outputs:
- Improved handling of hard-to-recycle items
 - Increased community education on waste diversion strategies and opportunities
 - Organics collection program
 - Increased reuse programs and events
- Outcomes:
- Reduction in tons of solid waste disposed
 - Tons of organic waste diverted from waste stream
 - Reduction in % of organic waste as percentage of solid waste disposal
 - Tons of recyclable materials diverted from waste stream
 - Reduction in % of recyclable materials as percentage of solid waste disposal
 - # of residents participating in organics collection

ENGAGING THE COMMUNITY

- Distribute free community compost
- Promote DropOff SwapOff programs as a sustainable and affordable way to obtain items of interest.
- Work with local restaurants and grocery stores to donate prepared foods and ingredients to local pantries.