

# Regional Collaboration

**Action: Regionalize commercial waste diversion and reuse strategies.**

DESCRIPTION OF ACTION	Scale up commercial waste diversion strategies to maximize effectiveness of waste management, leverage more funding opportunities, and encourage regional leadership on waste diversion.
CHAMPION	Devens Eco-Efficiency Center

IMPLEMENTATION STEPS	PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS	
	Timeframe <sup>1</sup>	Key Partners
Conduct outreach to regional businesses to identify barriers and opportunities for regional collaboration on waste diversion strategies	Short	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Devens Enterprise Commission</li> <li>• Businesses around the region</li> <li>• Devens Public Works</li> <li>• Neighboring communities</li> <li>• MassDEP</li> <li>• US EPA</li> </ul>
Form a regional commercial waste management committee tasked with developing programs to increase waste diversion and reuse. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Waste management contracting options</li> <li>• Textile recycling program</li> <li>• Expanded offerings for Great Exchange and Devens Regional Household Hazardous Products Collection Center</li> <li>• Incentive program for product exchanges</li> <li>• Improvements to collection and handling of waste resources</li> <li>• Organics composting</li> </ul>	Short	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Devens Enterprise Commission</li> <li>• Businesses around the region</li> <li>• Neighboring communities Public Works and/or Sustainability Committees/ Waste Managers/Recyclers</li> <li>• Devens Public Works</li> <li>• Devens Regional Household Hazardous Products Collection Center</li> <li>• MassDEP</li> <li>• US EPA</li> </ul>
Identify and establish regional waste management goals, including those on resource recovery, circular economy, and sustainable materials management	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Devens Enterprise Commission</li> <li>• Businesses around the region</li> <li>• Devens Public Works</li> <li>• Devens Regional Household Hazardous Products Collection Center</li> <li>• Neighboring communities</li> <li>• MassDEP</li> <li>• US EPA</li> </ul>
Contract for and implement/construct shared infrastructure across facilities/communities for use in regional waste hauling and materials reuse	Long	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Devens Enterprise Commission</li> <li>• Neighboring communities</li> <li>• Devens Regional Household Hazardous Products Collection Center</li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup> Short = less than 1 year; Medium = 1-3 years; Long = 4-5 years

## REGIONAL COLLABORATION (CONT.)

IMPLEMENTATION STEPS	PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS	
	Timeframe	Key Partners
Pursue funding opportunities to pilot regional commercial waste management programs or expand existing programs (e.g. the Great Exchange).	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Devens Enterprise Commission</li> <li>• Businesses around the region</li> <li>• Devens Eco-Efficiency Center</li> <li>• Devens Regional Household Hazardous Products Collection Center</li> <li>• MassDEP</li> <li>• US EPA</li> </ul>
Develop and launch a regional waste challenge to encourage collaboration.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Devens Enterprise Commission</li> <li>• Businesses around the region</li> <li>• MassDevelopment</li> <li>• Recycling Works MA</li> <li>• Center for EcoTechnology</li> </ul>

## REGIONAL COLLABORATION (CONT.)

<p><b>FUNDING RESOURCES</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MassDEP grant programs:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sustainable Materials Recovery Program (SMRP)</li> <li>• Reduce, Reuse, Repair Micro-Grant</li> <li>• SMRP Municipal Technical Assistance</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p><b>TECHNICAL RESOURCES</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="http://Regionalbestpractices.org">Regionalbestpractices.org</a> – A Guide to Sharing Public Services in MA</li> <li>• MassDEP – Solid Waste Management Contracts &amp; Contracting</li> <li>• Lessons learned from Western MA Regional Recycling Program</li> <li>• MA Solid Waste Master Plan</li> <li>• Massachusetts Clean Energy Center</li> <li>• US EPA Waste Wise Program</li> <li>• <a href="http://RecyclingWorksMA.org">Recycling Works MA</a></li> <li>• <a href="http://CenterforEcoTechnology.org">Center for Eco-Technology</a></li> <li>• MassNatural</li> <li>• Re-Store</li> <li>• TRUE: Total Resource Use and Efficiency</li> </ul>
<p><b>LINKS TO OTHER PLANS &amp; ACTIONS</b></p> <p><b>How does this action connect to other Devens goals?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• May support regional collaborative relationships and efforts in Transportation and Land use and Economic Development</li> <li>• Regional collaboration and benefits in Devens Reuse Plan</li> <li>• Sustainable redevelopment goals of Devens Reuse Plan</li> <li>• Relevant STAR Objectives: Waste Minimization</li> <li>• Relevant LEED Credits: Integrative Planning and Leadership, Solid Waste Management, Responsible Sourcing for Infrastructure, Material Recovery</li> </ul>	<p><b>EQUITY CONSIDERATIONS</b></p> <p><b>How can the community incorporate equity into the implementation of this action?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourage businesses at a variety of waste management proficiencies to participate</li> <li>• Ensure new policies and/or fees to not disproportionately burden low-income residents or small businesses</li> <li>• Make education/communication materials available in multiple languages</li> </ul>
<p><b>MEASURING SUCCESS</b></p> <p><b>How can we measure the progress and success of this action?</b></p> <p><b>Outputs</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regional agreements</li> <li>• Regional waste management committee</li> <li>• Regional pilot program and funding</li> <li>• Regional waste challenge</li> </ul> <p><b>Outcomes</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$ saved on waste management services</li> <li>• Increase in waste diversion rate</li> <li>• Increase in materials repurposed and events by Devens Eco-Efficiency Center</li> </ul>	<p><b>ENGAGING THE COMMUNITY</b></p> <p><b>How can we engage the populations that benefit from implementing this action?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Include input from residents and businesses on regional programs needed, willingness to pay/participate in various program options</li> <li>• Educate residents and businesses on waste management practices/requirements through signage, videos, mobile applications, website, etc</li> </ul>

