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## December Board meeting notes and updates

### Recycling Dividend Program grant planning:

Municipal Assistance Coordinator **Todd Koep** reminded towns that prerequisites to apply for grants include submission of the **2018 Recycling Data Survey**, distribution of a **Buy Recycled memo** by the Town manager, and **Recycling in practice** in municipal buildings **AND schools**.

Sustainable Material Recovery Program (SMRP) Grant applications open on ReTrac mid-April, due **June 12**. Towns need a minimum of **8 points** to qualify. Maximum points up to 26 from 23. Curbside and dropoff requirements have been combined to streamline.

**Textile point:** join webinar from 2-3pm today. 1 of 5 easy requirements. (Update: see [Second Chance article](#)) The SSRC is airing radio ads (sponsored by Bay State Textiles) and data tracking, which fulfill 2 other activities. Towns only need 2 more, which may include bins at schools, bins at TS/RC, and a link to Beyond the Bin Directory on web page.

**Compost bin point:** Sell subsidized compost bins at \$25. RDP funds may be used to purchase. The SSRC will do a radio ad, towns need one more thing.

## Discussion of plastic bag bans without fees

Several South Shore towns have passed local plastic bag bans, and several more are considering them. The Director researched potential impacts to municipalities and the environment based on increased use of paper bags, and provided a [summary](#) to the Board.



Five plastic bag ban advocates in attendance asked that SSRC not take a position opposing local bans. **Mr. Ken Stone**, who helped Plymouth pass a ban in 2016, is working with other area towns that have brought bans forward.

The Director noted that bans on plastic with no fees or restrictions on paper bags will increase the use of the much heavier paper bags. This will increase solid waste and recycling tonnage, costing our Member towns an estimated \$1000 per thousand households per year.

Compared with its functional equivalent plastic, paper also inflicts greater environmental harm from its energy-, chemical-, water- and land-intense production and transportation. While not as visible as plastic pollution, this pollutes the ocean with chemicals, and exacerbates ocean acidification and heat retention due to higher greenhouse gas emissions.

Bans also don't require 100% recycled content for paper bags. Such bags are readily available and would help drive needed market demand for paper, and reduce (but not eliminate) environmental impacts.

Advocates pointed out that plastic and paper have different environmental risks, noting that some chemicals used to produce plastics are hormone disruptors. The impacts of ocean plastic on animals that ingest or become entangled in them, and resultant human health impacts are not quantified in life cycle analyses. They consider paper the lesser of two evils. Bag bans highlight problems of all single use plastic, such as Styrofoam, describing plastic bag bans as a "gateway drug" to bans on straws and foam carry out containers. They characterized the costs to towns of a few thousand dollars /year as minimal.

The strategy is to pressure the legislature to bring a statewide bill to the floor. [HD134](#) includes a 10c fee on paper bags, and allows towns to pass more restrictive bans.

The Director pointed out that the Speaker has never allowed bills with fees or taxes to come to the floor in the Director's many years of experience. In the last legislative session, the committee stripped the fee and pre-empted local bans bag bans in the final version. It didn't come to a floor vote. Advocates postulated that a critical mass of local support could prevail this time.

The Board discussed some other implications and strategies, including the magnitude of the garbage patch, and a focus on education.

Advocates indicated they could back a 100% recycled paper requirement. No action was taken.

## Municipal program updates

Pace Glass won't pick up on South Shore anymore, citing the long haul.

Hingham will be changing its mattress recycler to Ace in RI, which is less expensive than UTEC.

## RECO Report- Scituate

Chairman Brown introduced our new Recycling Education and Compliance Officer, **Dorie Stolley**, at the January Board meeting. She will complete the DEP grant project to improve compliance by residents or haulers with recycling rules in each town.

In the last month, Dorie has been working primarily with Scituate. She and Assistant DPW director **Sean McCarthy** did an Outreach Blitz to educate residents on new recycling guidelines and inform them of Dorie's presence at the transfer station. They updated the Town website, sent a Town-sponsored email, posted on social media, and composed messages for electronic message boards at the transfer station. Dorie collaborated with a reporter on a [Scituate Mariner article](#), had a spot on [WATD radio](#), and designed [flyers](#), which were posted by a volunteer from Sustainable Scituate. Dorie begins her fourth and final week of work at the Scituate transfer station this Friday.

Dorie and Health Agent **Ben Margro** have been in communication about doing outreach and follow-up curbside evaluations in **Norwell**, to begin in March. In **Plymouth**, Dorie met with Public Health Director, **Dr. Nate Horwitz-Willis**, and Board of Health Chair, **Birgitta Kuehn**, about continuing work on private hauler compliance with the remaining 40 hours. Dorie and Birgitta will meet with DPW Director, **Jonathan Beder**, and **Rachel Newell** to strategize on the details of how best to further boost private hauler compliance with recycling rules.

## Cutler files Product Stewardship legislation

**Rep. Josh Cutler** filed [HD1042](#), **An Act reducing paper and packaging waste** in the Commonwealth. This extended producer responsibility bill shifts much of the cost of recycling from municipalities and other generators to producers. It is a redraft of H447, which advanced to House Ways and Means in the last session.

HD1042 creates a Sustainable Packaging Advisory Board, appointed by the governor with broad stakeholder representation. The Board would be required to submit a post-consumer waste reduction plan to achieve a specified reduction and recovery rates by 2026 and 2031. The bill tackles the costly problem of excessive packaging and paper waste by incentivizing brand owners to use minimal, recyclable, and recycled content in their products, as well as to share the cost of their proper end-of-life management.



All legislators representing SSRC towns were asked to cosponsor HD1042. The bill has fifteen cosponsors, including **Senator Michael Brady**, and **Representatives Kathleen LaNatra, Joan Meschino, and Matt Muratore**.

The SSRC supported similar bills in the previous 2 sessions.

## SSRC marks 20 years of service

A standing room only crowd attended the South Shore Recycling Cooperative's 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary "show" last month. Executive Director **Claire Galkowski** presented "**From Single Use to Zero Waste: What's new with recycling**" at the South Shore Natural Science Center. The event was part of the **North and South River Watershed Association's** Water Watch Lecture Series.



MassDEP's Municipal Assistance Coordinator **Todd Koep**, and **Rep. Kathleen LaNatra's** legislative director **Meghan Cleaves** both surprised Galkowski with official recognitions. **MassDEP** sent congratulations signed by Commissioner **Marty Suuberg**, and the **House of Representatives** sent an impressive citation signed by several legislators noting her and the Cooperative's twenty years of service. DEP's **Janine Bishop**, and Kingston's **Jean Landis Naumann** worked behind the scenes on these commendations.

The hour-long show covered the onerous environmental impacts of the manufacture of consumer products, and paper in particular; explained how the recycling process works and how residents can help it work better; and finished up with some easy ways to reduce waste

from single use paper products. Board Members helped distribute "paper towel elimination starter kits" (baskets of clean rags) to the crowd. Most of the audience stayed late, asking lots of interesting questions.

The presentation was live-streamed on Zoom, thanks to the SSRC's "IT Department", **Jan Galkowski**. **Harbor Media** filmed the event, posted [here](#) along with the slides and notes.



## Second chance to do Textile webinar

MassDEP's Textile Recovery Webinar provided on 1/17/19 was recorded, and may be accessed at [Clicking Here](#). It could seal up your Textile RFDP point! The webinar runs for 60 minutes.

If you were unable to access or participate in the webinar, you may watch the recording. Then email [Ann McGovern](#) to request credit for the webinar activity on the [SMRP](#) grant application for the RDP textile recovery point.



## Propane tank recycling changes

Pickups of 20#-40# propane tanks are now arranged directly through Mighty Flame. Call 877-438-6444 before you're too full. Ask for Mary or Aubrey.

Rindge Energy, the company that has provided propane tank recycling for years, still manages all other cylinder sizes. Call 603-899-9959, or email Grace at [rndg\\_nrgy20lb@yahoo.com](mailto:rndg_nrgy20lb@yahoo.com).

## Mixed waste MRF opening amid Mass. disposal 'crisis'

Jan. 15, 2019 , [ColeRosengren@ColeRosengren](mailto:ColeRosengren@ColeRosengren), Waste Dive (excerpts)

(Director's note:  
CEO Mike Camara  
reports that  
equipment  
installations are  
20% complete as of  
2/19/19)

A long-awaited  
facility set to open  
in Massachusetts



this spring has the potential to offer much-needed additional processing capacity.

Zero Waste Solutions (ZWS), a new 2,000-ton-per-day "advanced MRF," is scheduled to begin operations in the town of Rochester by April. It has been permitted to handle MSW, C&D material, single-stream recyclables and source-separated material including cardboard, e-waste, paper and white goods.

The \$40 million facility will have two sorting lines... and receive a portion of its energy from rooftop solar panels. ZWS CEO **Mike Camara** is projecting initial recovery rates of 65%.

Some of the equipment that will be used to achieve these rates includes CP Group's anti-wrapping Auger Screen, ... MSS FiberMax and PlasticMax optical sorters.

Zero Waste Solutions, a sister company of ABC Disposal and New Bedford Waste Services, has been in the works for years. Initially projected to open in 2014, the 94,000-square-foot project was delayed by a fire in 2016 and again by changing market conditions.

Now, equipment installation is underway, and at least 14 municipalities have committed tonnage. [More](#)

## SWANA SNE hosts EPR Summit at SWANAPalooza

Next week in Boston, the **Solid Waste Association of North America** will hold its storied "SWANAPalooza" conference at the Hynes! The Southern New England Chapter, under the leadership of Bourne's **Phil Goddard**, is in the thick of organizing it.

Among the SNE Chapter events is a free **Summit on Extended Producer Responsibility**, on Thursday, **Feb. 28** from **8 am-12:30** in Room 200.

The Summit will feature such luminaries as **David Biderman**, Executive Director and CEO of SWANA, **Gretchen Carey**, President of MassRecycle, **Dan Moon**, President and Director



of the Environmental Business Council of New England, **Scott Cassel**, Founder and CEO of Product Stewardship Institute, and **Heidi Sanborn**, Executive Director, National Stewardship Action Council, CA Product Stewardship Council.

Legislators and municipal officials are encouraged to attend in person or online. Director Galkowski will be there.

Click [here](#) for agenda and to register. Webinar services are generously provided by Product Stewardship Institute. Log in [here](#), or dial in at (646) 749-3112 , Access Code: 220-388-997.

## MassRecycle Summit and Trade Show

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The MassRecycle R3 Summit and Trade Show will take place on **March 25** at the **Sheraton Framingham**. [Registration is now open](#).

The 2019 R3 Summit will focus on solutions and collaboration among Massachusetts recycling stakeholders. The emphasis will be how municipalities can move recycling forward despite today's challenges. The Summit format will foster engaging discussions on issues impacting everyone in the recycling industry.

Registration for municipal officials is \$95, which reflects the free membership sponsored by MassDEP. Click [here](#) to register and view agenda. Contact [MRexdir@massrecycle.org](mailto:MRexdir@massrecycle.org).

## Using Recycled Material in Road, Infrastructure Projects

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On April 9<sup>th</sup>, NERC and NEWMOA will be hosting a daylong regional workshop to promote the use of recycled materials in road and infrastructure projects. The workshop will bring together state, local highway, and public works officials, environmental departments, and others to hear about new opportunities, case studies, and lessons learned from experts in the field.

The workshop will emphasize case studies by peers who have successfully used the following materials in road and infrastructure projects:

- Compost
- Glass
- Ground asphalt shingles
- Shredded tires

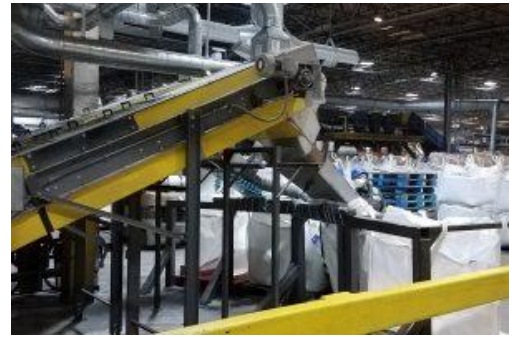
The workshop will take place at the Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection (CT DEEP) Offices. The agenda is now [posted](#). [Registration](#) is open. Sponsorship opportunities are available. For more information, contact [Terri Goldberg](#), NEWMOA.

## URT converts CRTs into tile feedstock

by [Jared Paben](#), January 17, 2019, Resource Recycling (excerpts)

One of the country's largest e-scrap companies is recycling CRT glass into a marketable product that could reduce (its) dependence on erratic downstream markets for leaded material.

The company developed technology to process both leaded and unleaded CRT glass into a fine powder used to produce **frit**, a key ingredient in compounding enamels and ceramic glazes.



URT ... is putting the finishing touches on a glass-to-frit-product system at its **Dover, NH** facility as well. The systems will consume much of the glass handled by the company.

In October, Spanish company Camacho Recycling [announced it was suspending](#) its acceptance of CRT glass from North America ... URT and many other e-scrap companies sent glass to Camacho.

Meanwhile, the winding down of a once-promising North American CRT outlet has reaching its conclusion. Nulife Glass, which operated a furnace in New York State, finished cleaning up its former Virginia site. The company [closed](#) ... amid conflicts with state environmental authorities.

About 18 months ago, URT was approached by a tile industry supplier about making a product from CRT glass to offset manufacturers' use of silica and lead for frit. ....

Staff at URT's Dover, N.H. site are working to refine a system installed in December to ensure the powder meets tile manufacturer specifications. URT has been shipping the product from its Janesville, Wisconsin plant since the second quarter of 2018.

... in New Hampshire, it is processing only funnel glass, where the substantial majority of lead is found, into the frit ingredient. The heavy metal is beneficial to the tile-making process in the high-heat furnaces. URT decided to use strictly funnel glass in the New Hampshire frit product upon the request from tile makers for higher lead content, Gloyd said.

...The big value is in lessening company risk by reducing usage of sometimes unreliable downstream outlets, a benefit he describes as "owning our own destiny."

URT's frit ingredient buyers – as well as those it's still pursuing – are located in North America, South America and Europe, Gloyd said.

He sees an almost unending appetite for the frit product, which is cheaper for tile manufacturers than the lead, silica and other fluxes they otherwise use. [More](#)

## OEM group crafts national CRT funding proposal

by [Colin Staub](#), November 1, 2018, Resource Recycling (excerpts)

Electronics manufacturers are proposing a nationwide point-of-sale fee to fund recycling of CRT devices, an industry group announced last week.

The **Consumer Technology Association** (CTA) has developed a program that would charge consumers a point-of-sale fee on new televisions and monitors. Money collected would ... fund recycling efforts for problematic legacy devices. Federal elected leaders would need to pass and sign legislation into law to establish the program.

... the program would target CRT devices. The advanced fee model is different from the extended producer responsibility (EPR) programs in place in many states, (CTA spokesman) Alcorn said, ... (which) internalize the costs of program management.

CRTs were targeted because of the difficulties associated with recycling them. They are occasionally stockpiled and abandoned, leaving a mess for government agencies and landlords.

The stockpiling problem creates expensive cleanups. But proper recycling of CRT devices is an expensive process as well. CTA has been looking into how it could tax consumer electronics products to pay for recycling costs, Alcorn said.

“... we’re restricted from doing that by antitrust laws. It’s called collusion and price fixing,” Alcorn said. “We just can’t do that.”

Under the CTA proposal, ... this program would charge a point-of-sale fee of \$10 or less per unit. That fee, Alcorn explained, “would go to paying for the recycling of the old technology televisions and computer monitors.”

The money could be routed through the Department of Commerce...to pay for recycling service providers, including processors and collectors.

CTA is actively proposing the fee concept to lawmakers on Capitol Hill, Alcorn said, noting that a program as big as this can’t be done without a law.

As CTA is proposing it, the program would go on for seven years.... A multi-stakeholder board would oversee the program, determining fee amounts, standards for recycling operators receiving the funding and distributions of money. [More](#)

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## EVENTS

**SSRC Breakfast Meeting**, Thurs., Feb. 21, 8:50-10:30, Abington Town Hall

**SWANA Palooza**, Feb. 25-28, Hynes Convention Center, Boston. Register [here](#).

**Extended Producer Responsibility Summit**, Thurs., Feb. 28, 8 am-12:30, Hynes Convention Center Room 200, 900 Boylston St., Boston. Hosted by SWANA SNE, no charge. Register [here](#)

**MassRecycle R3 Summit and Trade Show**, Mon., March 25, Sheraton Framingham. Register [here](#).

**SSRC Breakfast Meeting**, Thurs., Mar. 28, Kingston Town Hall