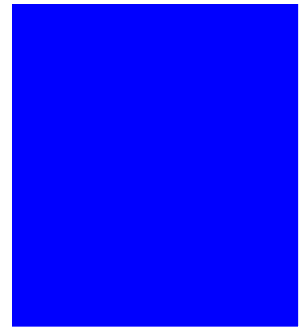


Trash or Treasure?



Evaluating the
Effectiveness of
Boston's
Recycling
Program



TOXICS ACTION CENTER

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Evaluating the Effectiveness of
Boston's Recycling Program

Author:

Paul Schramski

Recycling Action

A project of Toxics Action Center

44 Winter St, 4th Floor

Boston, MA 02108

Phone: 617.292.4821

Fax: 617.292.8057

www.toxicsaction.org

info@toxicsaction.org

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Recycling Action is a project of Toxics Action Center. Toxics Action Center provides assistance to residents fighting toxic hazards in their communities. Since 1987, we have helped more than 500 neighborhood groups clean up hazardous waste sites, reduce the use and release of chemical toxins, and increase recycling. When the government refuses to take action and a polluting industry denies that there is a problem, we are a resource for residents concerned about the health and quality of life in their community. We provide residents with information about environmental laws, strategies for organizing, a network of activists involved in similar battles, and access to legal and technical experts.

Recycling Action works with residents to encourage government leaders and corporate officials develop and implement policies to reduce the waste stream in our communities, reduce our reliance on harmful forms of disposal, clean up our streets, and save our natural resources.

Toxics Action Center is funded by donations from concerned citizens and grants from private foundations. This financial support enables us to provide our services free of charge to neighborhoods facing the threats of pollution.

By increasing recycling and decreasing waste production, we will all live in safer and healthier communities.

Paul Schramski, Author
Recycling Action
November 2005

For additional copies of the report, send \$5 to:

Recycling Action
44 Winter St, 4th Floor
Boston, MA 02108

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Executive Summary

Recycling saves Boston more than \$2.3 million annually, keeps the skies clearer and our lungs healthier. As Mayor Thomas Menino stated, "Recycling improves the economic and environmental health of Boston."¹

While total recycling has increased both in Massachusetts and in Boston over the past decade, the actual rates of recycling have decreased in the city. Since 1995, recycling rates have hovered at about 10% in Boston. Of the 20 communities in the Boston Metropolitan area, only three communities have poorer recycling.

In order to better understand recycling in the city, Toxic Action Center's Recycling Action project examined one of the city's major recycling programs, recycling in large apartment buildings. Recycling Action conducted a survey of 56 large apartment buildings in Boston and found:

- 68 % of large apartment buildings provide access to recycling.
- More than 5,600 people in large apartment buildings in Boston still don't have access to recycling.
- 53 % of Boston Housing Authority (BHA) monitored buildings have access to recycling.
- 48 % of large apartment buildings provided information to new apartment tenants.

The City of Boston passed an ordinance to bring recycling to large apartment buildings in 2002 and is planning to bring recycling to public parks and City Hall plaza in the coming months. Yet, these programs have failed to generate an increase in recycling.

In order to increase recycling rates in Boston, the city should strengthen policies in four key areas:

- **Apartment Buildings**
Create greater access to recycling in large apartment buildings and build better educational programs for new and existing efforts in these buildings.
- **Public Places**
Increase the accessibility of public recycling bins beyond parks and City Hall to areas of heavy traffic such as T stations.
- **Pay-As-You-Throw (PAYT)**
Enact a PAYT program to reduce waste and create incentives for residential recycling.
- **Commercial Properties**
Capitalize on recycling markets for recycled paper and plastics, and create business recycling programs such as those in Worcester, Springfield and Cambridge.

Tackling Solid Waste in Boston

"Use it up, wear it out, make it do, or do without."

- New England proverb

Every individual, city, state and nation creates waste. Our regulatory agencies, specifically the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) in Massachusetts, are charged with the task of finding appropriate means of disposing of this garbage.

In Massachusetts more than 60% of our household garbage gets dumped in landfills or burned in incinerators.² Neither of these disposal methods have long-term viability. Massachusetts spends on average \$70 per ton to burn or bury solid waste.³ Not only do incinerators and landfills cost the Commonwealth money, but they also threaten public health and the environment.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) admits that all landfills eventually leak.⁴ Landfill leaks threaten groundwater supplies, and emit dangerous gases and odors that can make living next to a landfill a nightmare.

Incinerators are no alternative. Incinerators release dangerous metals such as lead and mercury into the air. The ash that is the by-product of incineration has highly concentrated level of toxins and must be disposed of in a hazardous waste landfill.

Leaky Landfills: The Case of Hardwick, Massachusetts

For the past 35 years, the Hardwick landfill sat atop the Muddy Brook in Western Massachusetts. The original Hardwick dump was constructed without a liner, so leachate flowed into the Muddy Brook for years. The leachate didn't stop at the Muddy Brook, in fact, the brook flows into private Hardwick wells and the main well field for Ware. Despite these problems, the dump remained open and even grown over the past several decades. The landfill is currently permitted to accept 82,000 tons of municipal solid waste (MSW), but is expected to expand to accept 234,000 tons by 2007 under the state's Solid Waste Master Plan. The Hardwick landfill is just one of dozens of leaky, dangerous landfills in the state to which we continue adding more waste.

Rather than dumping or burning our waste, we need to reduce, reuse and recycle. Boston has one of the lowest recycling rates in the state -- a meager 10 % in 2003.⁵ That same year the state municipal recycling average was 34% of all disposed garbage.⁶ Only 15 % of residential waste is recycled in Massachusetts. To make matters worse, 58 % of municipal solid waste is recycled by the commercial sector.⁷ Given that almost 10 % of the 6,400,000 Massachusetts residents live in Boston, the low recycling rate in Boston has serious environmental implications for the entire state, as well as surrounding states to which we export our waste.⁸

Recycling is big business in Massachusetts. With more than 1,400 businesses and organizations involved in recycling, 19,500 jobs, \$557 million in annual payroll, and \$3.5 billion in receipts, the benefits of the recycling economy are evident.⁹ According to Mayor Menino's office, the city saved more than \$2.3 million from burning or burying trash in 2000.¹⁰

In publishing this report, Recycling Action aims to assess the City of Boston's current recycling program, especially the recently implemented large apartment building program, and make recommendations to the City of Boston and Department of Environmental Protection on ways to increase the city's recycling rates.

■ A History of Recycling in Boston

"This country must make every effort to stem the rising tide of garbage and industrial waste through a more aggressive use of waste minimization and recycling practices. America as a nation is filling landfills faster than it can establish new ones. The waste problem is not going away, and it can no longer be neglected."

- George Bush, 41st President of the United States,
Message to Congress, June 23, 1989

The Birth of Recycling in Boston

Organized municipal recycling was first introduced to Boston in 1988, largely through the efforts of volunteers for the Jamaica Plain Recycling Task Force. Volunteers of the Task Force staffed the drop-off center the third Saturday of

Citizens Win Municipal Recycling

Two years later the separate neighborhood recycling committees pooled their talent and resources to form the Boston Recycling Coalition (BRC), with the aim of securing comprehensive multi-material curbside collection for all Boston residents. With the support of key city councilors, the BRC drafted and unanimously passed the first citywide recycling ordinance through the City Council. Mayor Raymond L. Flynn signed it into law in August of 1990. In 1993, three years after the ordinance was signed, Boston launched a citywide curbside collection of newspapers. The following year the City extended the program to include bottles, cans and two types of plastic containers. By 1995 Boston's curbside recycling program was well established

each month and the City's Department of Public Works supplied a single packer truck to transport the materials. Soon similar drop-off centers sprang up in the South End, Dorchester, Roslindale and later Charlestown and East Boston, each staffed by members of the neighborhood recycling committee and serviced by the City of Boston Department of Public Works.

and the city focused its resources on increasing access, awareness and accepting more items.

More Materials Accepted

Between 1995 and 2000 the city added more than 10 new materials to its curbside collection program, opened four household hazardous waste programs, and added more days to its seasonal yard waste composting program and the household hazardous waste collection program.¹¹

Expansion

Until 2002, no program existed to guarantee residents of large apartment buildings -- 32 % of Boston's population -- access to the city's free recycling program. In 2002, residents in the Boston Recycling Coalition succeeded in passing a resolution through the city council extending guaranteed access to

the city's free recycling program to residents in apartment buildings greater than six units in size.¹² For the first time ever, Boston adopted plans for universal residential recycling. Further expanding its efforts to increase recycling, the City announced that it would maintain recycling baskets in city parks and City Hall Plaza in October 2005. When this report went to print, the plan had not yet been implemented.¹³

Apartment Recycling 101

If you are a resident of Boston and you want recycling in your large apartment building you can call the Recycling Coordinator in Boston at 617-635-4959. The Boston Recycling Coordinator will then notify the owner of the building of the request. A "large apartment building" is defined as a building of more than 6 units.

Within 30 days of receipt of the notice, the owner is required to install and maintain an adequate number of recycling carts in common areas on the building premises, ideally close to the existing trash containers, but can also include set-out containers, such as individual bins.

Is Boston's Recycling Program Working?

"Recycling and composting diverted nearly 70 million tons of material away from landfills and incinerators in 2000, up from 34 million tons in 1990 – doubling in just 10 years."

- National Recycling Coalition, 2005

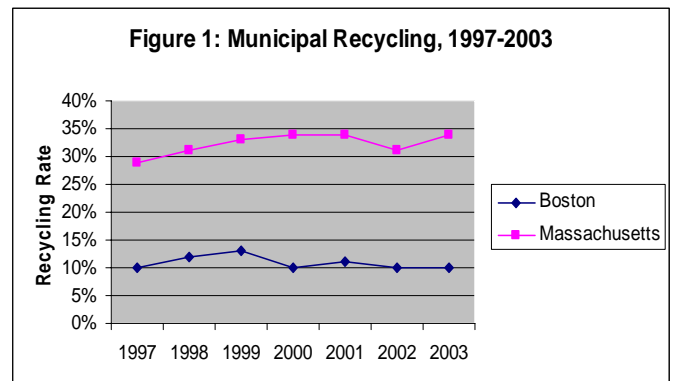
Overview

After the passage of universal recycling in Boston, many thought recycling would dramatically increase in the city. Yet, recycling in Boston and the rest of Massachusetts is not improving. Over the past decade, recycling rates have neither improved in Boston nor in Massachusetts. As Boston's population continues to grow, and recycling rates remain the same, the city faces an increasing burden of waste.

The Myth of Better Recycling in Boston

On the surface, it appears that recycling in Boston is getting better. More tons of waste are recycled every year. The increase of tons of waste recycled is a good thing for Massachusetts. The population of Boston has not grown significantly in the past decade, the amount of waste generated has increased dramatically. Boston's recycling rates were much lower than the state average for 1995-2005. In 2003, the municipal solid waste generation rate in Boston was 59 tons/person/year, while the average for the state was .50 tons/person/year. Bostonians are generating over 100 times more waste than the average person in Massachusetts.¹⁴ In the same year, the city's recycling rate was 10 %, while the state average was 34 %. The statewide goal for municipal waste recycling, set by the Department of Environmental Protection's *Beyond 2000 Solid Waste Master Plan*, is 46 %. In fact, Boston is

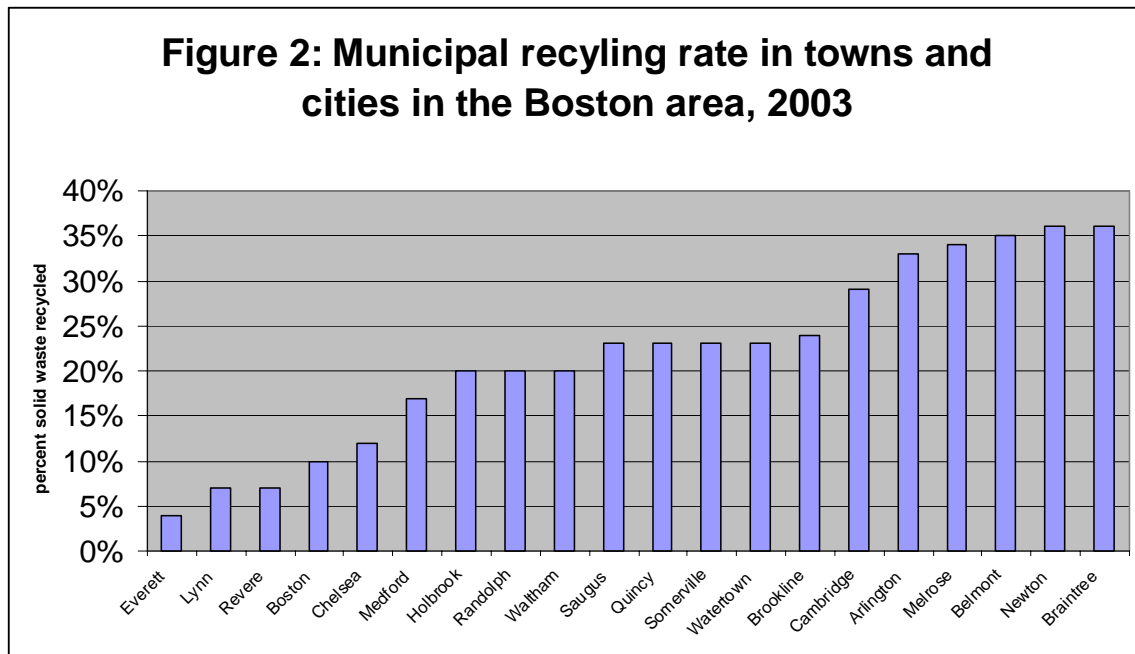
holding the state back from reaching its mandated goal. (Figure 1).



Business recycling is also a challenge in Boston. Boston has failed to implement a municipal business recycling program, while over 184 municipalities in the state have these recycling programs. Cities such as Cambridge, Springfield and Worcester have all implemented business recycling programs that accept materials from businesses, non-profits, religious institutions and schools.¹⁵

Boston is No Role Model for Eastern Massachusetts

Boston's rates are not only lower than most of Massachusetts', but these rates are also lower than much of eastern part of the state. Of the 25 communities in the Boston metropolitan area, only Lynn, Revere and Everett reported lower recycling rates than the Commonwealth's largest city (Figure 2)¹⁶. Two of these cities now have pay-as-you-throw programs, and the majority (15 of the 20, including Boston) have curbside recycling programs. In addition, there is no obvious relationship between higher recycling rates in these communities and the different types of materials that can be recycled in those communities.



Summary

Boston's recycling rates are much lower than much of the state's. From 1995 to 2000, the overall tonnage of recycled materials increased each year, but so did the overall amount of waste generated. As a result, the actual diversion rate hovered around 13% for. In 2001, the total tonnage of recycled materials decreased, and although it is again increasing, the total tonnage is only now reaching 2000 levels.¹⁷

When asked for a reason for the decline, Susan Cascino, Director of the City of Boston's Recycling Program, could not name a specific cause. She cited an economic downturn, decline in recycling awareness, and the elimination of a municipal recycling incentive program because of budget cuts.¹⁸

Recycling in the City of Boston has not increased in the past decade. Without changes to current recycling policies, or better implementation of existing policies, recycling cannot improve in the city.

Table 1 – Curbside Co-mingled and Paper Recycling Actuals in Boston (Tons), 1998-2004

Year	Actual	Diversion rate
FY1998	15,830	13%
FY1999	17,474	13%
FY2000	19,383	14%
FY2001	18,063	13%
FY2002	17,381	13%
FY2003	17,969	14%
FY2004	18,450	19%

Why Are Boston's Recycling Rates Stagnating?

"There must be a reason why some people can afford to live well. They must have worked for it. I only feel angry when I see waste. When I see people throwing away things we could use."

- Mother Teresa, A Gift for God, 1975

Despite expansions in Boston's recycling program since its implementation in 2002, the percentage of our waste diverted from landfills and incineration has remained relatively constant. Although Bostonians are recycling more, we are also throwing more into our trash cans.

Bostonians, as well as the rest of people in the Commonwealth, continue to produce more and more trash. Wasteful packaging of products and increased emphasis on disposable products are the primary culprits for our overflowing trash.

The Problem

Large apartment buildings fill the Boston skyline. The city defines large apartment buildings as those with six or more units, but the truly large apartment buildings house hundreds of residents. Creating access for large apartment residents, who comprise one third of the city's population, to the municipal recycling program was thought to boost Boston's recycling rates. However, the anticipated surge in recycling did not take place. To investigate the efficacy of the new large apartment recycling program, Toxics Action Center's Recycling Action project conducted phone surveys and site visits of 56 of Boston's largest apartment buildings at two different periods in 2005, in both Spring and Fall of that year. We surveyed these apartment buildings to determine accessibility and

implementation of the city's recycling program (Appendix, survey results).

Methodology

Large apartment buildings were identified as buildings with 20 or more units within Boston, using the U.S. Census' largest data grouping. There are approximately 1000 buildings with 20 or more units in the Boston area. We surveyed 56 buildings in the Boston area, or approximately 5 % of the total buildings, focusing our efforts on those buildings with the greatest number of occupants. Buildings were surveyed in all parts of Boston, including downtown Boston, Charlestown, East Boston, Mattapan, the North End, Roxbury, South Boston, Brighton, Back Bay and Roslindale. Aggregate data on recycling tonnage and rates is not currently available for larger buildings in Boston. However, data was collected from

individual buildings and was then extrapolated to all buildings in the city.

Data

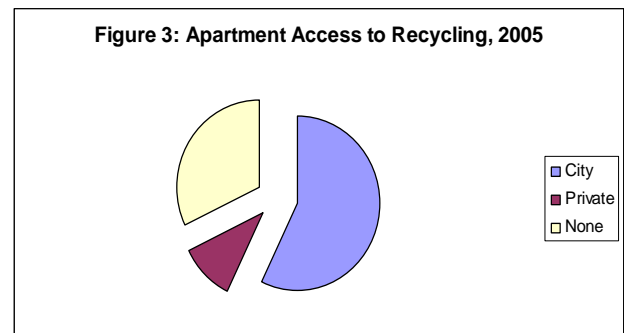
According to the City of Boston's Annual Report on "Recycling Programs for Large Residential Buildings," 89 % of units of seven or more people have access to recycling. The same report states that access to recycling has increased by 67 % since 1998.¹⁹

According to our survey, these rates do not accurately reflect recycling in the largest buildings in the city of Boston. On the contrary, our analysis suggests that a large number of buildings do not have access to recycling and an even larger number don't have effective programs for educating tenants.

Limited Access

According to our survey, 38 (68 %) of the large apartments surveyed provided access to recycling services. This is 20 % lower than those rates reported by the city of Boston Recycling Department²⁰. Thirty-One (56%) of the apartments surveyed offered recycling through the city of Boston. Six buildings (11%) offered recycling through private contractors, and 18 of the buildings (33%) did not offer any recycling services (Figure 3). From our survey, over 5,000 units of housing in Boston don't have access to recycling, or over 5,600 people included in our survey don't currently have access to recycling. If rates for the city mimic rates in our survey, then approximately one third of large apartment building residents, or one ninth of the city's total residents, don't have access to recycling.

Our survey raised the question of if environmental injustice is occurring with regard to recycling in Boston public housing. We found that a greater number of Boston public housing buildings fail to provide access to their residents. The Boston Housing Authority (BHA) monitors ten of the largest buildings (18 % of total buildings) in the survey. The BHA is the city's largest landlord, serving approximately 10 % of the city's population through provision of public housing and administration of affordable housing.²¹ Only 53 % of BHA monitored buildings provided access to recycling, even lower (14 % lower than our estimates, 36 % lower than the city's) than the city average.



Poor Implementation

In most cases, residents were informed of large apartment building recycling when the ordinance passed in 2002. However, the transience of many apartment tenants creates a problem for this kind of program. Boston's numerous colleges and young population contribute to this high level of transience. In fact, one-third of Boston's population is between 20 and

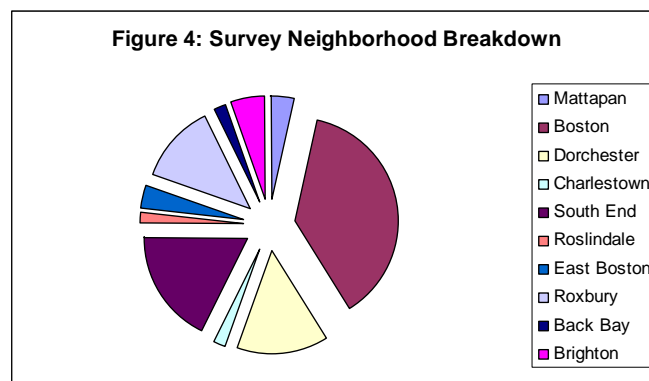
34 years old and less than half lived in the same house in 1995 and 2000.²²

In approximately 17 of the 38 (48 %) buildings surveyed, residents were informed of recycling when they first signed in either verbally or as part of the written material within the lease. While a majority of residents were provided with a collection service, education within apartment buildings was limited. Four buildings reported frequent building newsletters or memos that reminded residents of recycling and several building managers noted recycling signs posted in refuse rooms. On more than one occasion, building managers reported that they were never educated nor provided recycling information from the city.

Analysis

Boston apartment buildings have increased access to recycling with the passage of the 2002 ordinance. However, challenges to access and implementation of successful apartment recycling programs remain. According to our survey conducted of large apartment buildings, the City of Boston is behind its goal in providing universal access to recycling in apartment buildings. Data from our survey suggests more than 5,600 thousands Boston residents still don't have access to recycling. The survey also raises questions about adequate access to

recycling for those living in public and affordable housing.



Secondly, the survey suggests that the city has failed to provide programs for education within apartment buildings, leaving apartment managers to draft a wide variety of programs on their own. In many cases, this means apartment managers provide information about recycling at the signing of the lease and fail to provide any additional information thereafter.

The City still has a long way to go in order to reach the goals set forth by the state's Department of Environmental Protection. The forthcoming 2005 DEP *Solid Waste Management Plan* sets a goal of recycling at 56% by 2010 for the state. In order for Boston to play a key role in pushing for greater recycling rates in the state, the city must work with apartment managers to create and implement better recycling programs.

Recommendations For A Better Boston

“Between 170 and 190 incinerators operate at any given time in the United States. They handle about 17 percent of the nation's trash. Any respectable recycling program would easily put them all out of business.”

- Sandra Steingraber, Living Downstream, 1997

The best way to prevent trash is to never generate it in the first place. As a city, we need to reduce the amount of waste we generate by making wiser individual purchasing choices, and by demanding less wasteful packaging of products. Toxics Action Center's recycling project, Recycling Action, and MASSPIRG have produced recommendations for programs that will reduce waste. The most important ideas are outlined in this section.

Secondly, we need to recycle as much of our waste as possible. Recycling Action conducted a study of the large building part of the city's recycling program to examine that part of the city's recycling process. The city is to be commended for their residential recycling programs and the broad range of materials they recycle. In addition, efforts to make recycling more available in public places like parks and City Hall Plaza are a great step. However, these measures should be seen as one step towards increasing recycling in Boston. We need to build an even better infrastructure and then increase implementation in order to achieve recycling rates over 50 % in the state. Recycling Action, recommends the following improvements to raise the recycling rates in Boston.

Strengthening Boston's Policies

Apartment Buildings

The city has made great improvements in large apartment building recycling, but more needs to be done. Thousands in the city are still without education of and access to recycling, even those living in city housing. The city's interaction with apartment building managers should go beyond the first initial visit at which they set up the recycling carts. Instead of a one-time visit, the city should work with the apartment managers to set recycling goals and develop plans to achieve

them. There should be incentives in place to reward buildings that reach their goals. In addition to working with building managers, the city should provide smaller, vertical blue bins that are more likely to fit under a counter in an apartment building than the large blue bins.

Public Places

Whether at lunch, before or after work, or walking around the city on the weekends, Bostonians generate a lot of waste outside the home. While this report has focused on recycling inside the home, recycling in public places is also important. The city's recent efforts

to place recycling baskets in public parks and City Hall Plaza definitely increase recycling. Yet, the 215 parks in Boston do not cover enough area.²³ Recycling baskets should be placed all around the city, in high-traffic areas such as T stops and downtown corners. Without increasing the access in dozens of public places where huge parts of the population pass, these new efforts will do little to increase recycling rates.

Pay-As-You-Throw

While increasing access to recycling is critical, other policies should be developed to provide incentives for recycling. More than 116 communities in Massachusetts use pay-as-you-throw (PAYT) programs to encourage the reduction of waste. In a PAYT program, the city offers recycling at no cost, but charges residents a fee proportional to the amount of trash they generate. In these programs, a resident pays a fixed price per bag or sticker, and can use as many bags or stickers for bags as he or she is willing to pay for.²⁴

The city of Boston should conduct a feasibility study of a Unit Pricing, or Pay-As-You-Throw (PAYT) Program, and work to implement a program of this sort in the city. Hundreds of communities in every part of the state have implemented these programs successfully. PAYT programs need to be expanded to more communities in Eastern Massachusetts, particularly Boston, to directly target the greatest population centers and waste generators.

The opportunity to increase recycling with PAYT is clear. The recycling rate of Massachusetts cities with PAYT programs is approximately 43 %, while for non-PAYT cities is 31 %, or a 12 % difference²⁵. Moreover, PAYT is a very attractive program because it is flexible enough to be customized by each municipality for greatest efficacy.

Commercial Properties

The city of Boston should also expand its recycling program to commercial properties. In Massachusetts, 58 % (4,910,000 tons) of all waste is generated by the commercial sector. Thirty-four percent (1,660,000) of this waste is actually recycled. According to the Massachusetts DEP, paper and paperboard products constitute the largest part of the waste stream, while there is a powerful overseas market for recyclable paper²⁶. According to the American Forest and Paper Association (AF&PA), a national trade association, 81 % of the paper recovered in the United States is recycled by U.S. paper mills; 16 percent is exported to foreign markets.²⁷ It makes good environmental and fiscal sense for Boston to capitalize on the opportunity to recycle paper and other materials from commercial properties.

Policy Recommendations for Massachusetts

To increase recycling and decrease waste, the state needs to reinstate the Clean Environment Fund (CEF), to give environmental programs, such as recycling, the money to which they need

to operate effectively. As part of the Bottle Bill, a bill passed in 1983 that directed proceeds from the recycled cans and bottles into a special Fund earmarked for environmental protection. The Bottle Bill creates a 70% redemption and recycling rate as well as contributing \$34 million/year to state coffers.²⁸

During the fiscal crisis of 2002, the legislature merged the CEF with the general fund, and eliminated the necessary funds to the state's recycling program. Because of funding shortfalls, the state's recycling efforts have been crippled. The state needs to update the Bottle Bill, and pull the bill from general fund in order to maximize recycling.

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- ¹ "Curbside Appeal: Private and public sectors work hand-in-hand to increase recycling efforts," *green@work* magazine, Fall 2004.
- ² Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection, 3rd Annual Progress Report on the *Beyond 2000 Solid Waste Master Plan, 2002*.
- ³ Interview with John Fisher, Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection, September 23, 2005.
- ⁴ Federal Register, February 5, 1981 (pp 1128-1129) and July 26, 1982 (pp 32284-32285).
- ⁵ MA Department of Environmental Protection, Massachusetts Municipal Recycling Rates – FY1994-CY2002.
- ⁶ Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection, 3rd Annual Progress Report on the *Beyond 2000 Solid Waste Master Plan*.
- ⁷ Department of Environmental Protection, *Solid Waste Master Plan*, September 2005.
- ⁸ US Census Bureau, American Factfinder, Profile of General Demographic Characteristics: 2000.
- ⁹ Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection, fact sheet, "The Massachusetts Recycling Economy," 2005.
- ¹⁰ Mayor's Press Office, "Mayor Menino Announces Expanded Recycling Program," 2000; City of Boston, "Recycling Strategic Plan: Outline for Action," January 2001.
- ¹¹ City of Boston Residential Recycling Plan: Outline for Action, page 6, 2001.
- ¹² City of Boston Residential Recycling Plan: Outline for Action, page 6, 2001.
- ¹³ Ebbert, Stephanie, "Boston Ramps Up Recycling Efforts," *The Boston Globe*, Friday, October 7, 2005.
- ¹⁴ Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection, *Solid Waste Master Plan: 2005 Revision*, Appendix B, September 2005.
- ¹⁵ Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection, Massachusetts Municipal Business Recycling Access: An Inventory of Programs, Summer 2004.
- ¹⁶ Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection, Massachusetts Municipal Recycling Rates, FY1995-2001 and CY2002-2003, <http://www.mass.gov/dep/recycle/files/munirate.doc>
- ¹⁷ Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection, *Solid Waste Master Plan: 2005 Revision*, Appendix B, September 2005.
- ¹⁸ Interview with Susan Cascino, City of Boston, January 17, 2005.
- ¹⁹ Cascino, Susan, "An Update on the Large Apartment Building Ordinance in Boston," 2004.
- ²⁰ Interview with Susan Cascino, January 17, 2005.
- ²¹ Boston Housing Authority Website, Homepage, October 25, 2005.
- ²² U.S. Census, American Factfinder, Profile of General Demographic Characteristics: 2000.
- ²³ City of Boston, Parks Department, <http://www.cityofboston.gov/parks/>, October 2005.
- ²⁴ Bureau of Solid Waste, Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection, Communities with Pay-As-You-Throw Programs, January 2005.
- ²⁵ Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection, Municipal Recycling Rates, FY1994-CY2002.
- ²⁶ Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection, 3rd Annual Progress Report on the *Beyond 2000 Solid Waste Master Plan*.
- ²⁶ US Environmental Protection Agency, Municipal Solid Waste Commodities, Paper and Paperboard Products, 2005.
- ²⁶ Container Recycling Institute, data compilation, July 2005.

Appendix

TABLE 1 – Apartment Building Survey Results, 2005

Apartment name	Agency	# Units	Materials Recycled	How is access supplied?	Pick-up frequency	How are tenants educated?
Annapolis <i>Dorchester</i>	city	56	paper only	bin in community trash room	unknown	there was a meeting where the city educated tenants
Archdale Village <i>Roslindale</i>	n/a	283	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Ashmont <i>Dorchester</i>	city	54	paper only	bins in community trash room	unknown	there was a meeting where the city educated tenants
Avalon <i>Boston</i>	private	781	paper, cardboard, glass, cans, plastic	paper and cardboard in trash room, co-mingled in basement	co-mingled twice/week, newspaper three times /week	unknown
Babcock Tower <i>Boston</i>	n/a	300	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Baker's Chocolate Apartments <i>Dorchester</i>	city	133	glass, cans, paper, cardboard, plastic	bins in central recycling room	weekly	tenant handbook
Blackstone <i>Roxbury</i>	city	145	paper, plastic, glass	15 large communal bins	twice/week	multilingual signs and flyer
Braemore <i>Boston</i>	city	102	plastic, glass, paper, aluminum	back hall of the building has separate bins for each item	weekly	memos given to residents
Brandywyne Village <i>East Boston</i>	city	402	paper, plastic, cans	individual blue bins for curbside	weekly	verbal info shared at move-in
Burbank Apartments <i>Roxbury</i>	city	134	cardboard, glass, plastic	two large bins per building (7 buildings total) located near trash bins.	weekly	program explained at move-in.
Cathedral <i>South End</i>	city	314	paper, cans, glass	bins in designated locations	weekly	task force training, posters

Charlesbank Apartments <i>Boston</i>	city		paper, cans, plastic	bins next to dumpster for different materials	weekly	lease attachments and building newsletter
Charles River Park Rental Apartments <i>Boston</i>	city	710	paper, cans	bins in laundry room	weekly	info at start of new program, info at move-in
Codman <i>Dorchester</i>	n/a	103	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Constitution Quarters <i>Charlestown</i>	city	367	paper	2 bins per building in base floor near elevator		info at move-in
Court Square <i>South Boston</i>	private	130	glass, paper, plastic	trash room with separate bins for each item	weekly	send out notice when new people move in
Dorchester Bay <i>Boston</i>	n/a	134	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Eva White <i>South End</i>	n/a	102	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Faneuil <i>Brighton</i>	n/a	254	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Fairlawn Cameo <i>Mattapan</i>	city	340	unknown	3-4 large blue bins next to dumpster outside	unknown	n/a
Franklin Field Family <i>Dorchester</i>	n/a	386	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Gallivan <i>Mattapan</i>	city	251	plastic, paper	individual blue bins	weekly	n/a
High Point Village <i>Roslindale</i>	city	540	plastic, cardboard, glass	individual blue bins		info at move-in, monthly newsletter
Lenox/Camden <i>South End</i>	n/a	376	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
The Mariner Condo Association <i>Boston</i>	city	105	paper, glass, plastic	central trash room with separate bins for each material	weekly	informed when move in and signs posted in trash room
Mary Ellen McCormack <i>South Boston</i>	n/a	1014	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Mason Place <i>Boston</i>	city	127	paper, cans, plastic	3 bins in basement	twice/week	Newsletters
Mass Pike Towers <i>Boston</i>	n/a	200	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Mission Main <i>Roxbury</i>	n/a	532	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

Mission Park <i>Roxbury</i>	city	1000	paper, plastic, glass	townhouses have individual bins, centralized bins at townhouses.	weekly	letters to new tenants
Morville House <i>Boston</i>	city	146	paper, cans, plastic, glass	bins in trash rooms	twice/week	monthly newsletters
Nazing <i>Dorchester</i>	n/a	150	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Orchard Garden Apartment Building <i>Roxbury</i>	city	42	cardboard, plastic	one recycling bin in each trash room	daily	n/a
Parklake <i>Brighton</i>	city	151	paper. Glass, plastic	bins in back room	weekly	signs in back rooms
Pasciucco <i>Dorchester</i>	city	86	paper only	bins in trash rooms	unknown	there was a meeting where the city educated tenants
Peabody Englewood <i>Dorchester</i>	city	103	paper only	bins in trash rooms	unknown	there was a meeting where the city educated tenants
Prudential Center Apts <i>Back Bay</i>	private	781	paper, plastic, glass	Bins located in basement of building	unknown	when they move in new tenants are informed about procedures
Piano Craft Guild <i>South End</i>	city	174	paper, plastic, cardboard, cans	unknown	unknown	Unknown
Regency Building Co. <i>Brighton</i>	city	105	paper, glass, plastic	trash rooms on every floor with separate bins for each item	weekly	informed when moved in and current residents received letters informing them in the process
Rollins Square Condo <i>South End</i>	private	184	glass, paper, plastic	bins on each floor for each item	weekly	informed people 2 years ago when program started
River House Condo <i>Boston</i>	city	220	plastic, aluminum, papers, glass	refuse room w/recycling on every floor	weekly	signs posted in refuse rooms, memos sent to residents
Shore Plaza East <i>East Boston</i>	n/a	374	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
St Botolph's Street Apts <i>Boston</i>	city	135				
St Cecillas <i>Boston</i>	n/a	122	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

Symphony Plaza East <i>Boston</i>	city	188	paper, cans, glass, plastic	separate bins for each material on ground floor	weekly	sent out notice 3 years ago when went into effect/new tenants receive info when they move in
Tai Tung Village <i>Boston</i>	private	215	paper only	bins on bottom floor	weekly	talked to when move in
The Stearns <i>Boston</i>	city	140	paper, newspaper, plastic, glass	bins in basement of building	weekly	n/a
Suffolk University <i>Boston</i>	n/a	402	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Tremont on the Common <i>Boston</i>	city	325	paper, glass, plastic	separate bins for each material outside building next to dumpsters; newspaper bins on every floor	weekly	orientation when they move in
Tremont Village <i>South End</i>	n/a	20	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Vendome Condominium <i>Boston</i>	city	110	paper, plastic, glass, aluminum	bins at the end of hall on each floor for each item	2x/weekly	orientation packets
Warren Towers <i>Boston</i>	private	839	cans, glass, plastic, paper, computers, batteries	large blue bins on ground floor of 18 story building		Resident Assistant, signs, student groups, website
Waterford Apartments <i>South End</i>	city	40	paper, plastic, glass	32 gallon bins in garage and building	weekly	city's multi-lingual literature
West Broadway <i>South Boston</i>	n/a	727	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
West Newton <i>Boston</i>	city	133	paper only	bins in building	2x/weekly	flyers and info pamphlets
West Ninth Street <i>Dorchester</i>	city	84	paper only	community bins	weekly	city educates them
Whittier Street <i>Roxbury</i>	n/a	200	na	n/a	n/a	n/a

Figure 1 – Survey for Large Apartment Buildings

Apartment Name _____ Date _____

Area _____ Units _____

Address _____

Contact person _____

- 1) Is recycling available in your building? Is it provided by the city or a private contractor?

- 2) What materials do you recycle?

- 3) How does the tenant participate in the process? Do you have blue bins? Does each tenant maintain his or her own recycling containers? Is it a simple process?

- 4) How often is recycling picked up?

- 5) How do you educate tenants of the process?

- 6) Do you have any data on recycling in your building? (amount or people who participate)

- 7) Is it more or less expensive than if it were all thrown away?

- 8) What do you think would increase recycling in your building?