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Earth Day

Massachusetts Waste Bans

In addition to certain hazardous and infectious waste, the following materials have been banned from being disposed of in landfills, waste-to-energy facilities and transfer stations in Massachusetts (310 CMR 19.017). These materials should be recycled or disposed of properly at your town's hazardous waste collection facility.



To view SSRC article about how the South Shore fared in the latest MassDEP Waste Ban sting, click here

MATERIAL	MATERIAL DEFINITION
Recyclable Paper	All paper, cardboard, and paperboard products excluding tissue paper, toweling, paper plates, cups, and other low-grade paper products which become unusable to paper mills as a result of normal intended use (e.g., office paper, newspapers, unwaxed cardboard and cereal boxes, but not used paper towels).
Metal Containers	Aluminum, steel or bi-metal beverage and food containers.
Glass Containers	Glass bottles and jars excluding light bulbs, plate glass, ceramics, Pyrex cookware, drinking glasses, windows, and windshields.
Single Resin Narrow- necked Plastics	All narrow-necked plastic containers of any resin type. In narrow-necked containers the diameter of the opening is smaller than the diameter of the base (e.g., a soda bottle is "narrow-necked", but a yogurt container is not).
Leaves and Yard Waste	Deciduous and coniferous leaves, grass clippings, garden materials, shrub trimmings, and brush up to one inch in diameter.
Whole Tires (landfills only)	Whole car and truck tires of all types. A tire can be landfilled only if it has been shredded or ground into at least four pieces so that it no longer has a circular shape. Combustion facilities and transfer stations can accept whole tires.
White Goods	An appliance employing electricity, oil, natural gas or liquefied petroleum gas to preserve or cook food, to wash or dry clothing, cooking or kitchen utensils or related items, or to cool or heat air or water. These include refrigerators, freezers, dish washers, clothes washers, clothes dryers, gas or electric ovens and ranges, and hot water heaters.(310 CMR 19.006)
Lead-acid Batteries	Lead-acid batteries used in motor vehicles or stationary applications.
Cathode Ray Tubes (CRTs)	Any intact, broken, or processed glass tube used to provide the visual display in televisions, computer monitors and certain scientific instruments such as oscilloscopes. (310 CMR 19.006)
Asphalt Pavement, Brick and Concrete	Asphalt pavement, brick and concrete from construction activities and demolition of buildings, roads and bridges and similar sources are banned from disposal or incineration or transfer for disposal at a solid waste disposal facility
Metal	Ferrous and non-ferrous metals derived from used appliances, building materials, industrial equipment, transportation vehicles, and manufacturing processes are banned from disposal or incineration or transfer for disposal at a solid waste disposal facility.
Wood	Treated and untreated wood, including wood waste are banned from disposal or transfer for disposal at landfills.

facilities, landfills and transfer stations. Examples of these materials include hazardous wastes (as defined in 310 CMR 30), and infectious wastes (as defined in 105 CMR 480).

For more information on the Waste Ban, visit the Massachusetts DEP site.