

## Changes to the Recycling Dividends Program Next Year (2017):

### Summary of changes:

- Next year municipalities that qualify for RDP funds **\*will not\*** also be awarded Small-Scale grants
- The loss of Small-Scale funds, however, is more than offset by an increase in the RDP payment brackets
- Minimum number of points to qualify will remain at 6 for next year only **and then will increase by 1 to 3 points**
- Total number of qualifying points will increase from 20 to 23; the textile bonus point will again be offered
- Two new point categories
  - Permitted hauler regulations that apply to all generators within the municipality (residents, commercial, institutional) [2 points]
  - Waste Prevention Outreach and Education [1 point]
- Additional option in the Organics category for distribution of discounted home compost bins
- Additional option under Drop-off Recycling Access for allowing non-residents to drop-off recyclables (paper, bottles, cans, cardboard) free of charge
- Addition materials listed under CHARM
- Minor changes to the eligible Use of Funds

### **1. NEW Payment Brackets**

Households Served by Municipal Trash	Current RDP \$/Point	Next Year \$/Point
1 - 1,999	\$200	\$350
2,000 - 4,999	\$400	\$600
5,000 - 7,499	\$800	\$1,100
7,500 - 9,499	\$1,000	\$1,300
9,500 - 12,499	\$1,500	\$1,800
12,500 - 16,999	\$2,500	\$3,000
17,000 - 24,999	\$3,000	\$3,500
25,000 - 31,999	\$3,500	\$4,000
32,000 - 99,999	\$6,000	\$6,500
100,000+	\$10,000	\$10,000

### **2. NEW Category: Hauler Regulation – All Generators [2 points]**

The municipality has adopted a bylaw/ordinance and/or regulation that requires all permitted haulers collecting solid waste to provide a bundled service for the provision of both solid waste and recyclables collection for each customer/generator including residential, commercial and institutional customers.

For residential and commercial customers, bundled service must be charged as a single charge so that each customer automatically receives recycling collection with trash collection.

*Eligibility Notes:* You will be required to attach a copy of the bylaw/ordinance and/or regulation, which demonstrates the integrated pricing requirement.

### **3. NEW Category: Waste Prevention Outreach and Education [1 point]**

Waste prevention education refers to the promotion of any/all of the following: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Repair/Reduce, and Contamination Reduction. In order to qualify a municipality must complete a minimum of 4 of the following activities.

- Establish or publicize an officially adopted Recycling Goal:
  - Officially adopt a recycling goal of 50% or greater, or
  - Annually publicize metrics and progress towards the previously declared goal (*will be required to attached a PDF of the publicity*)
- Waste prevention information posted two times per year on a sandwich board, electronic ticker tape sign, or a “billboard” style sign at two major intersections. Drop-Off towns may instead post at the transfer station.
- Publish waste reduction and recycling information in a local paper four times per year. This could be in the form of an advertisement, op-ed, column, or news brief (*will be required to attach PDFs with name and date of publications*).
- Operate an official municipal mobile application or a substantive module on an official municipal mobile application. For example, ReCollect or Remynder. (*will be required to provide name of application*)
- Mail an annual recycling brochure to residents. Drop-off communities may instead pass out the brochure at the transfer station.
- Create or maintain a municipal waste reduction webpage with a social media component (municipal Facebook, Twitter and/or Instagram). Website must include a link to the [Beyond the Bin directory](#).
- Broadcast a waste reduction public service announcement on local radio or T.V. twice per year. Full programs with segments on waste reduction and recycling may substitute.
- Participate in The Green Team: at least one representative from two or more schools are members of the Green Team

### **4. Expand Organics Category: Home Compost Bins [1point]**

This change will add an option to the existing Organics category for the sale of discounted home compost bins along with an effective promotion and outreach program. A municipality qualifies by:

- Selling home compost bins at a discount. Price per bin not to exceed \$25; (*provide #bins sold and sale price*)
- Promoting the compost bin distribution program online and I the press each spring and fall; (*provide link to online promotion and press*)

- Offering outreach on composting to the public at least once per year. Outreach may consist of a workshop, a demonstration, promotion of home composting at a tabling event, a video program at a library or a video produced and aired locally. *(provide link to publicity for the outreach provided)*

## 5. **Drop-off: Hauler and Business Access to Non-residents [1 point]**

- The title of the existing Drop-off category will change from “Hauler and Business Access” to “Access to the Municipal Recycling Center”
- This change will add a third option to this category
- To qualify, the municipal recycling center must be open to non-residents for the free drop-off of recyclables (paper, bottles, cans, cardboard)
- *Eligibility Notes*
  - The municipality must publicize on one of the following: recycling/waste brochure, town website, or signage at the recycling center.
  - MassDEP will publicize

## 6. **CHARM:**

The following items will be added to the list of CHARM items. All other requirements remain the same except as noted for low density rural areas.

New items:

- Plastic bags
- Fire extinguishers, **and** BOTH one pound and twenty pound propane tanks

An exception to the ‘contiguous’ requirement will be made for rural areas with very low population density. Census data provides statistics on the number of people per square mile in each municipality. To meet this criterion a municipality’s population density must be less than or equal to 400 people per square mile and be within seven miles of an open CHARM. Contact Dawn Quirk if you have questions about qualifying as a low density community.

Change to Eligibility note:

The municipality must

- have a CHARM within its borders, or
- its residents must be allowed to use a qualifying CHARM in a contiguous community (i.e., shares a border), or
- meet the low population density requirement and be located within a seven mile radius of an open qualifying CHARM. To meet the low density designation a municipality must have  $\leq$  to 400 people per square mile according to available census data.

## 7. **Textile Bonus**

The Textile Bonus point will be offered again next year and one additional activity will be added to the menu of options:

- Municipality (DPW, School Department, Fire Department, etc.) purchases wiping cloths made from recycled textiles. *(Provide name of supplier)*

## **8. Changes to Use of Funds**

Uses of RDP Funds:

- Funding up to \$750 annually for recycling related conferences and memberships.
- *Eligibility Notes*
  - Up to \$750 per year for recycling and waste reduction related industry memberships, workshops, and conferences. Includes travel and related expenses to be used in adherence with municipal policies.
- Cost to host a second or subsequent comprehensive additional household hazardous waste collection event(s) first two years of expansion only; if charging less than full cost to resident. RDP funds are no longer authorized for first event or startup costs.
- *Eligibility notes*
  - Only for municipalities that host events; not for regional or reciprocal costs.