

SWAC Subcommittee on Organics Recycling and Composting Meeting Notes from 6-27-07

Stakeholders Present: Geoffrey Kuter, Abigail Maynard, Myron Hirschman, Virginia Walton, Bill Nelligan, David Goodemote, Michael Maynard, Kim O'Rourke

DEP Staff Present: K.C. Alexander, David McKeegan

Introductions: Please see attached list for complete and revised member contact information.

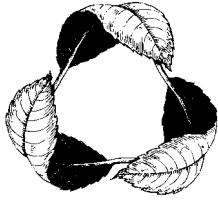
Overview: The subcommittees are the working groups of the full Advisory Committee. We reiterated the responsibilities of our subcommittee, namely, 1) Assist the Department in implementing the Solid Waste Management Plan, 2) Attend regular meetings, 3) Provide input and guidance on related solid waste management issues, 4) Promote efforts and provide outreach to respective constituents, and bring their concerns forward 5) Identify emerging issues and solutions, 6) Participate in any revisions to the plan as necessary, 7) Report out to the full Advisory Committee.

Discussion:

- We reviewed our recommendations to date and identified which strategies in the SWMP they would help support:
 - Use an SEP to fund distribution of home composting bins – Strategies 2-18; 5-1
 - Promote Food Banks as a source reduction strategy – Strategy 2-5
 - Re-format the home composting and grasscycling videos into DVD format (when funding or other resources become available) – Strategy 5-1
 - Encourage CT compost facilities to register on www.findacomposter.com until we have our own statewide or regional on-line waste exchange – Strategies 2-16; 2-17
- We agreed on two more recommendations:
 - Request that DEP develop a written policy that gives organics recycling facilities priority in the permitting process – Strategies 2-14; 7-1
 - Formally request that organics be included in the RFP for the solid waste characterization study that the DEP intends to undertake. Organics data should include, at a minimum, 1) % organics disposed at/by specific disposal facilities and/or generators; 2) % organics disposed by generator type (commercial/institutional vs. residential), and 3)% disposed of organic waste type (food, soiled paper, yard trimmings, etc.) In other words, gather as much information on the source and type of disposed organics as possible to facilitate private and public development of organics recycling. The subcommittee would like the opportunity to review and comment on the RFP prior to public notice/solicitation. - Strategy 6-7
- Suggest that CBEC educate companies with whom they do waste reviews about the potential, where applicable, for recycling food scraps and soiled paper even though they are not mandatory recyclables.
- Suggest that CRRRA implement a program to create/expand the organics processing infrastructure.
- Siting a facility was identified as a barrier to organics recycling. DEP could do more to find appropriate sites for private companies to locate. Facilitate between towns, agencies, developers.
- Explore whether the current permitting procedures are a barrier to increasing processing capacity.
- Next year “feels right” to get funding from the legislature. We should have a wish-list ready.
- Develop an organics project list for potential SEP’s so that these can be suggested during the settlement negotiations with environmental violators. Use Cambridge, MA brochure as example.

Next Steps: Draft our list of recommendations into a formal submittal to the full Advisory Committee Chair for consideration and distribution as appropriate.

Next Meeting: We decided to skip July and August, and reconvene in September with a longer working-lunch meeting. Next meeting is Tuesday, September 25, 2007 following the main SWAC meeting. Room TBA.



Solid Waste Management Advisory Subcommittee on Organics Recycling and Composting

Report to the Full Advisory Committee July 12, 2007

The Subcommittee on Organics Recycling and Composting has met three times since the establishment of the full advisory committee in March 2007.

There have been 19 different stakeholders and 4 DEP staff who have attended those meetings. We are not meeting as a subcommittee over the summer, and will reconvene in September with a longer working-lunch meeting.

Members have reviewed the strategies associated with organics recycling and, to date, offer the following recommendations to DEP:

Recommendation	Strategy Supported
Use an SEP to fund distribution of home composting bins	2-18; 5-1
Promote Food Banks as a source reduction strategy	2-5
Re-format the home composting and grasscycling videos into DVD format	5-1
Encourage CT compost facilities to register on www.findacomposter.com until we have our own statewide or regional on-line waste exchange	2-16; 2-17
Request that DEP develop a written policy that gives organics recycling facilities priority in the permitting process	2-14; 7-1
Request that organics be included in the RFP for the solid waste characterization study that the DEP intends to undertake. Organics data should include, at a minimum, 1) % organics disposed at/by specific disposal facilities and/or generators; 2) % organics disposed by generator type (commercial/institutional vs. residential), and 3)% disposed of organic waste type (food, soiled paper, yard trimmings, etc.) In other words, gather as much information on the source and type of disposed organics as possible to facilitate private and public development of organics recycling. The subcommittee would like the opportunity to review and comment on the RFP prior to public notice/solicitation.	6-7

SWAC Subcommittee on Organics Recycling and Composting

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