

Western Massachusetts Regional Recycling Program

Program Summary

The Western Massachusetts Regional Recycling Program comprises nearly 70 contracted communities with dual stream recycling programs delivering approximately 17,000 tons per year of recyclables to the Springfield Materials Recycling Facility (Springfield MRF) for processing and marketing. The Springfield MRF is owned by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) and operated by Waste Management Recycle America (WMRA). Member communities pay a fixed cost per ton for processing. The monthly value of processed recyclables is deducted from the per ton cost. Communities interested in joining the program are encouraged to contact MassDEP (see below).

Community Contracts/Financials

Member communities enter a standard contract to deliver recyclables to the Springfield MRF for processing and marketing. The current contract terminates on June 30, 2025. A five-year renewal term has been negotiated. Communities pay a fixed processing fee per ton (see table below) for each year of the contract and receive revenue from the sale of the processed recyclables. Revenue is calculated monthly based on the current Average Market Value (AMV) per ton of the processed recyclables (see table below). When the AMV is lower than the processing fee, the community receives 100% of the AMV. When the AMV is higher than the processing fee, the community receives 100% of the AMV up to the processing fee and 70% of the AMV that exceeds the processing fee. WMRA issues monthly invoices detailing both the processing fee and revenue share credit.

	Processing Fee/Ton	Average AMV/Ton	Average Billed Cost to Community per Ton
FY21	\$93.50	\$51.69	\$41.81
FY22	\$95.84	\$126.87	(\$21.72)
FY23	\$98.23	\$50.43	\$47.80
FY24	\$100.69	\$58.14	\$42.55
FY25	\$103.21	\$80.53 (July-Sept)	\$22.68

Acceptable Recyclable Materials

Containers: Metal cans, foil, plastic bottles/jars/tubs/jugs, clear plastic hinged containers (clamshells), clear plastic cups, clear plastic egg cartons, gable-top and aseptic cartons, and glass bottles and jars.

Paper: Clean papers, magazines/catalogs, greeting cards, gift wrap (excluding foils or metallic gift wraps), calendars, paperbacks and phone books (including covers), corrugated cardboard, paperboard, and clean pizza boxes.

Delivery of Recyclables

Member communities are required to deliver all recyclables collected on their behalf to the Springfield MRF at 84 Birnie Avenue in Springfield. Receiving hours are weekdays 7:00 am to 4:30 pm.

For More Information

Steve Ellis (MassDEP) at 413-265-8256 or steven.ellis@mass.gov

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