



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection

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Rebecca Tepper
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Bonnie Heiple
Commissioner

November 12, 2025

Katjana Ballantyne
Mayor
City of Somerville
93 Highland Avenue
Somerville, MA 02143

Dear Mayor Ballantyne:

Congratulations! It is my pleasure to inform you that the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) has awarded the City of Somerville Recycling Dividends Program funds under the Sustainable Materials Recovery Program. The City of Somerville has earned 7 points and will receive \$28,000. Your municipality has also been awarded \$5,000 in funding for Drop Off Equipment for a Paint Shed, as well as \$31,00 for a waste reduction project proposal for a Household Hazardous Waste Facility Upgrade.

The Sustainable Materials Recovery Program (SMRP) was created under 310 CMR 19.300-303 and the Green Communities Act, which directs a portion of the proceeds from the sale of Waste Energy Certificates to recycling programs approved by MassDEP. This year, we are awarding more than \$4.2 million in SMRP funding to 291 municipalities and regional groups.

Recycling programs play a vital role in limiting our dependence on landfills and incinerators, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and supporting economic activity in the Commonwealth. Recycling Dividend Program funds foster investment in local programs including recycling equipment, organics diversion, outreach and education, pilot programs, school recycling, toxics reduction, and more. Please refer to the [RDP Approved Expenses List](#) for more information. MassDEP has invested in developing nationally recognized tools to assist municipalities with reducing recycling contamination and improving public awareness of smart recycling practices.

We encourage you to utilize the [Recycling IQ Kit](#) and [Recycle Smart MA](#) website and to consult with your MassDEP [Municipal Assistance Coordinator](#) for assistance in implementing these best practices.

To accept your grant award, please sign and return the attached RDP Contract via email to Cathy Doodnauth at Cathy.Doodnauth@mass.gov before **January 15, 2026**. After we receive your signed RDP contract, funds will be sent to your community. Also see the enclosed Checklist for instructions related to the Drop Off Equipment grant, and the Waste Reduction Grant. The receipt of grant funds is contingent upon the grantee being able to certify that it will comply with the Massachusetts General Laws, including G.L. c. 40A, § 3A, the MBTA Communities Act. Compliance with the MBTA Communities Act is determined by the Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities.

Should you have any questions, please email Rachel Smith at Rachel.Smith@mass.gov. Thank you for your continued commitment to recycling and waste reduction in Massachusetts.

Sincerely,



Bonnie Heiple, Commissioner