

Resources: Bylaw proposal for town contracted waste collection, including universal curbside compost pick up (updated 2/2025)

Official Actions Taken Since 2018

Board of Health action:

10/14/2021 [ZWA First Presentation to BOH](#)

1/13/2022 [BoH motion and 6/10/2022 BoH letter to Town Council](#)

6/5/2025 BOH discusses update on Waste Hauler Proposal, agrees to continue support

8/7/2025 BOH sends letter urging action on the hauler proposal to the Town Manager

[BOH Refuse Collection and Mandatory Recycling Regulations](#)

ZWA [proposed amended redlined version of BoH regs.](#)

Town Council action:

8/15/2022 [bylaw proposal](#)

8/15/2022 [slide presentation to Town Council](#)

8/15/2022 [supporting memorandum](#)

8/15/2022 [video of Town Council meeting](#), starting at 4:09

8/15/2022 [referral to Town Services and Outreach Committee](#)

12/3/2022 [District 3 meeting presentation by ZWA](#)

1/9/2023 adoption of 2023 Town Manager goal to pursue proposal

2-3/2023 USA Hauling and Recycling individual meetings with Town Councilors with USA consultant Stan Rosenberg

12/23/2024 Waste hauler bylaw goals again added to Manager goals for 2024

9/9/2024 TSO hauler motion to recommend the Manager issue an RFP to haulers passes Council unanimously

11/2024 Council unanimously votes to fund a consultant to assist with the RFP with \$75,000

1/2025 Waste hauler bylaw goal again added to Manager goals for 2025

Energy and Climate Action Committee action:

11/2021 [motion to support proposal](#)

2/1/2021 [language in 2022 ECAC annual report](#)

2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026 [request to add proposal to Town Manager goals](#) (2023)

Town Manager/DEP action:

8/11/2020 [DEP technical assistance grant award letter](#) - best practices

6/24/2021 [DEP MAC Veronique Blanchard presents](#) results of first DEP technical assistance grant - First hour

11/10/2022 [DEP technical assistance grant award](#) - sample contract/RFP

8/2023 RFI

10/2023 receipt of RFI responses

3/28/2024 [summary of RFI responses](#) presented to TSO

2/2025 Manager meets with potential consultant for RFP

10/2025 Manager arranges with PVPC to be consultant for RFP

Town Services and Outreach Committee action:

10/4/2022 [TSO workplan](#)

3/2023 [Zero Waste Amherst presentation of survey results](#)

12/2023 carryover memo for newly elected Council

6/2024 Town Services and Outreach Committee unanimously votes to recommend the Town Manager issue an RFP to local haulers to ascertain program costs.

12/2025 meeting to hear update from town manager and from consultant PVPC

[Amherst Climate Action Adaptation and Resilience Plan](#)

6/2021 [Amherst Climate Action Adaptation and Resilience Plan pp.140-141](#)

Endorsers/Frequently Asked Questions

[District 3 ZWA presentation of hauler proposal](#), 12/3/2022

[See ZWA website.](#)

[ZWA fact sheet](#)

Studies, Reference Materials

Presentation on Zero Waste Options for the Town of Amherst, Veronique Blanchard, DEP, June 2021

[June 24, 2021 TSO meeting, with Veronique Blanchard presenting](#) - First hour

9 case studies, including

Smith College Capstone Project, Evaluating Solid Waste Hauling in Amherst, MA, Department of Environmental Science & Policy, Smith College, ENV 312: Sustainable Solutions

[Smith College Capstone Project, video presentation](#)

[Smith College Capstone project final report](#)

Changing to a town contract (including Pay-As-You-Throw)

DEP presentation, [Contracting for Solid Waste & Recycling Services](#)

DEP Solid Waste Seminar slides - Contracting for Solid Waste and Recycling Services, attached

[DEP sample municipal contract](#)

Potential haulers: USA Hauling and Recycling, Republic Services, Casella, Waste Management, Compost Cooperative, Triple T, Blue Earth Compost.

Including universal curbside compost pick up (Louisville, CO as model)

[Louisville bylaw](#)

[Louisville, Co contract with Republic](#)

[Louisville rates from website](#)

[Louisville financial data 1/2022](#) Basic info

[Louisville enterprise fund budget FY22](#) p. 200-201

[Louisville sample bill \(with water bill\)](#)

[MA DEP 2022 listing of sites receiving diverted food scraps](#)

[Martin's Farm Compost processing facility video](#)

Financials/Minimizing cost for the town

FY23 [solid waste enterprise budget](#), p. 230

[1/2022 DEP municipal solid waste and recycling survey](#)

[Comparison to other MA towns spreadsheet- in- progress](#) (ZWA, 11/2022)

[Draft list of how to minimize cost/staffing for town](#)

[DEP cart funding](#)

[DEP new PAYT curbside program funding](#)

Join a Sustainable Neighborhood Team to help do the outreach to your neighbors once the program is launched (and help with getting the word out about other climate related initiatives). [Sign up here.](#)

Media Coverage

11/11/2021- present [Amherst Bulletin](#)

See Amherst Indy for multiple stories

See Local and Green column in Amherst Bulletin for multiple stories

Hamilton, MA

5/11/2021 [Hamilton mandates food waste composting](#)

Lexington, MA

6/30/2022 [many-lexingtonians-want-to-bring-townwide-curbside-composting-to-lexington-what-could-that-look-like/](#)

<https://www.lexingtongreenteams.org/home/lexpickup>

Quincy, MA

11/30/2022 <https://www.patriotledger.com/story/news/2022/11/30/quincy-considers-curbside-drop-off-composting-to-reduce-food-waste-landfills/69682432007/>

7/2022 [Boston's new curbside composting program is here. The demand's been there for a long time.](#)

15 communities in CT

<https://www.biocycle.net/foodwaste-collection-connecticut/>

Louisville, CO

2/2019 [Louisville's new hauling program to include compost pickup across all pricing plans](#)

California

12/2021 [California goes to war with food waste. Composting is its next climate campaign.](#)

Washington State

3/2022 [New law in Washington State requires food and yard waste collection](#)

Vermont

7/2020 [Vermont just banned food waste in trash. Here's how it works.](#)