

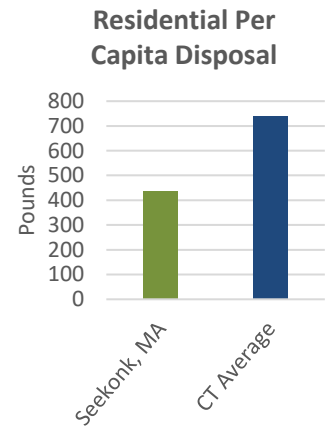
Case Study

Seekonk, MA SMART Program

Background

Save Money and Reduce Trash (SMART) Programs, referred to as Pay-As-You-Throw in Massachusetts, aim to encourage waste reduction using financial incentives. Seekonk, Massachusetts' SMART program covers household waste utilizing town-issued bags priced by volume inside automated curbside carts.

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|---------------------------|---|
| Population: | 15,244 |
| Households Served: | 5,000 |
| Services Provided: | Curbside bag program serves all residents up to 6 units and all apartment buildings |
| Program Duration: | January 1 st , 1992 – Present |



Highlights

- One of the first towns in MA to implement a SMART program.
- Residents generate 437 pounds of trash per capita.
- Automated curbside bags with carts began in 2014 along with single stream. The switch to single stream increased recycling by only 3%.

Program Description

- From 1992 to 2013, the town operated a weekly curbside pickup of trash in SMART bags and dual stream recycling in a tote.
- In 2014, the town switched from SMART bags at the curb to SMART bags inside of automated carts. The transition was successful. There was minimal fluctuation in per capita disposal (less than 2% increase).
- Official SMART bag prices:
 - \$6.20 for 10 small bags
 - \$10.10 for 10 large bags
- Serves all residential households including apartment buildings and condos with up to 6-units. There is an annual trash fee determined and implemented by the Board of Selectmen every year to cover all costs (excluding tipping fees) of operating the town's trash, recycling, and composting programs.
- Single stream recycling containers are provided for free and are picked up weekly.
- Collection service is provided by a contracted hauler. Enforcement is done by hauler with the support of the town.

Contact Information

Department of Public Works: (508) 336-7407

Website: <http://www.seekonk-ma.gov>