

## **All-Star News**

All State Agencies Recycle

**David Mrgich, Chief**Waste Diversion Division

Maryland Department of the Environment Land and Materials Administration Christy Bujnovszky
Recycling Unit

## Maryland's Food Waste Diversion Bill

During the 2021 legislative session HB264, Organics Recycling and Waste Diversion—Food Residuals was passed. Beginning on January 1, 2023, the bill requires certain food waste generators that produce 2 tons of food residuals a week and within 30 miles of a composting facility to either reduce, divert to food rescue organizations, farms for animal feed operations, or compost or anaerobically digest the residuals.

The Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) is working to implement the provisions of the law including providing outreach and education to persons subject



to the law. Persons subject to the law have options for their waste diversion including: reduction, donating servable foods, managing food on-site, divert to agricultural use, and/or divert to an organics recycling facility (compost or anaerobic digestion).

Increasing participation in food residual diversion, has the potential to improve organic recycling capacity throughout the state. Reducing the amount of food waste in our landfills is a major strategy to address climate change by reducing the amount of methane released into the atmosphere and extend the life of landfills.

To sign up for more information and to participate in discussions go to <a href="http://bit.ly/MDEFoodWasteSignup">http://bit.ly/MDEFoodWasteSignup</a>, or contact Shannon McDonald or Tim Kerr by phone at 410-537-3314 or at <a href="mailto:shannon.mcdonald@maryland.gov">shannon.mcdonald@maryland.gov</a>, timothy.kerr2@maryland.gov, respectively.

## Eleven State Agencies Reach 30 Percent Recycling Rate in 2020

State government, as a whole, is required to recycle 30 percent of its waste. In 2020, eleven State agencies recycled at least 30 percent of their waste and eight agencies recycled more than 40 percent. State government, as a whole, recycled 23.5 percent of the waste it generated. The following State agencies reached a recycling rate of at least 30 percent in 2020:

- Comptroller of Maryland;
- Dept. of Education;
- Dept. Of Environment;
- Dept. of Planning;
- Dept. of Transportation;
- Maryland Automobile Insurance Fund;
- Maryland Environmental Service;
- Maryland State Archives;
- Maryland State Police;
- Subsequent Injury Fund;
- University System of Maryland.

Results for all State Agencies are available on the Maryland State Agencies 2020 Recycling Rates Table.

## Maryland State Agencies 2020 Recycling Rates

| Agency Name                                      | No.<br>of<br>Sites | No. of<br>Sites<br>Reporting | No. of<br>People | Total MRA<br>Recycling<br>2020<br>(tons) | 2020 MRA<br>Recycling<br>Rate (%) |
|--|--------------------|------------------------------|------------------|--|-----------------------------------|
| Baltimore City Community College                 | 1                  | 0                            | 0                | 0  | 0                                 |
| Comptroller of the Treasury                      | 1                  | 1                            | 186              | 72.25                                    | 90.0                              |
| Department of Agriculture                        | 2                  | 2                            | 222              | 5.30                                     | 8.44                              |
| Department of Assessments and Taxation           | 24                 | 13                           | 176              | 9.20                                     | 15.39                             |
| Department of Budget and Management              | 1                  | 0                            | 0                | 0  | 0                                 |
| Department of Education                          | 29                 | 10                           | 1,986            | 69.71                                    | 63.28                             |
| Department of General Services                   | 25                 | 25                           | 8,598            | 154.31                                   | 10.10                             |
| Department of Health                             | 23                 | 9                            | 6,730            | 160.13                                   | 3.83                              |
| Department of Human Resources                    | 60                 | 19                           | 6,404            | 203.43                                   | 21.37                             |
| Department of Juvenile Services                  | 15                 | 0                            | 0                | 0  | 0                                 |
| Department of Labor                              | 20                 | 8                            | 1,264            | 44.26                                    | 10.09                             |
| Department of Natural Resources                  | 6                  | 4                            | 621              | 14.91                                    | 12.87                             |
| Department of the Environment                    | 5                  | 5                            | 963              | 37.08                                    | 32.00                             |
| Department of Transportation                     | 83                 | 83                           | 27,377           | 7,131.90                                 | 40.63                             |
| Department of Veterans Affairs                   | 7                  | 7                            | 929              | 436.87                                   | 25.93                             |
| Dept. of Housing and Community Development       | 3                  | 3                            | 366              | 57.76                                    | 28.37                             |
| Dept. of Public Safety and Correctional Services | 37                 | 12                           | 7,970            | 602.82                                   | 5.04                              |
| Judiciary of Maryland                            | 2                  | 0                            | 0                | 0  | 0                                 |
| Maryland Automobile Insurance Fund               | 1                  | 1                            | 32               | 108.69                                   | 56.64                             |
| Maryland Department of Disabilities              | 1                  | 1                            | 33               | 0.11                                     | 6.11                              |
| Maryland Department of Planning                  | 1                  | 1                            | 185              | 64.34                                    | 63.87                             |
| Maryland Environmental Service                   | 3                  | 2                            | 245              | 5.18                                     | 52.06                             |
| Maryland Food Center Authority                   | 1                  | 1                            | 1,026            | 388.79                                   | 6.32                              |
| Maryland General Assembly                        | 1                  | 0                            | 0                | 0  | 0                                 |
| Maryland Insurance Administration                | 1                  | 0                            | 0                | 0  | 0                                 |
| Maryland Military Department                     | 22                 | 22                           | 555              | 66.78                                    | 7.92                              |
| Maryland Public Broadcasting Commission          | 1                  | 1                            | 140              | 37.75                                    | 27.17                             |
| Maryland School for the Deaf                     | 2                  | 2                            | 1,005            | 120.18                                   | 29.56                             |
| Maryland Stadium Authority                       | 2                  | 2                            | 1,000            | 164.10                                   | 29.40                             |
| Maryland State Archives                          | 1                  | 1                            | 73               | 3.64                                     | 31.82                             |
| Maryland State Police                            | 38                 | 29                           | 2,313            | 856.34                                   | 42.58                             |
| Morgan State University                          | 1                  | 1                            | 9,700            | 544.88                                   | 8.91                              |
| St. Mary's College of Maryland                   | 1                  | 1                            | 1,929            | 266.60                                   | 15.96                             |
| Subsequent Injury Fund                           | 1                  | 1                            | 16               | 3.30                                     | 53.92                             |
| University System of Maryland                    | 19                 | 13                           | 146,183          | 4,749.96                                 | 38.48                             |
| TOTAL  | 441                | 280                          | 228,227          | 16,380.57                                | 23.51                             |