



All-Star News

All State Agencies Recycle

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Maryland's Food Residual Diversion Law

During the 2021 legislative session [HB264](#), was passed. The bill requires certain food waste generators that produce 1 ton 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. Food diversion includes sending foods to donation, animal feed and composting.

The Waste Diversion Division is canvassing the state visiting facilities that are potentially mandated to divert under the Food Residual Diversion law. So far we have visited individual schools,

corrections, hotels, grocers, multi-purpose grocer/department stores and universities. By the time of this newsletter we will have expanded to visiting large sports arenas, convention centers, warehouse distribution facilities and food production facilities.

MDE, in conjunction with Towson University, hosted a Food Summit in March 2024 with a session on the Food Residual Diversion Law and with the aim of implementing new food policies in Maryland and overcoming challenges to diverting more food residuals from disposal. Visit MDE's web page to view the [presentations](#).

Please visit MDE's [Food Diversion web page](#) for additional information on who is affected by the Food Residual Diversion Law and how to divert food residuals.

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Eleven State Agencies Reach 30 Percent Recycling Rate in 2022

State government, as a whole, is required to recycle 30 percent of its waste. In 2022, eleven State agencies recycled at least 30 percent of their waste and six agencies recycled more than 40 percent. State government, as a whole, recycled 23.3 percent of the waste it generated.

The following State agencies reached a recycling rate of at least 30 percent in 2022:

- Comptroller of Maryland;
- Dept. of Transportation;
- Dept. of Veterans Affairs;
- Maryland Automobile Insurance Fund;
- Maryland Environmental Service;
- Maryland General Assembly;
- Maryland Public Broadcasting Commission;
- Maryland School for the Deaf;
- Maryland State Archives;
- Subsequent Injury Fund;
- University System of Maryland.

Results for all State Agencies are available on the Maryland State Agencies 2022 Recycling Rates Table.

Maryland State Agencies 2022 Recycling Rates

Agency Name	No. of Sites	No. of Sites Reporting	No. of People	Total MRA Recycling 2022 (tons)	2022 MRA Recycling Rate (%)
Baltimore City Community College	1	1	2,437	41.00	17.51
Comptroller of the Treasury	1	1	225	43.02	53.11
Department of Agriculture	2	2	222	8.75	12.32
Department of Assessments and Taxation	14	13	179	19.98	31.01
Department of Education	25	25	1,802	93.47	28.90
Department of General Services	26	26	8,598	313.08	18.35
Department of Health	18	17	6,853	414.91	8.21
Department of Human Resources	31	21	6,494	259.84	20.43
Department of Juvenile Services	12	12	1,919	368.12	23.11
Department of Labor	13	12	1,291	49.45	4.47
Department of Natural Resources	6	6	593	14.55	10.67
Department of the Environment	5	5	948	15.46	13.55
Department of Transportation	83	83	27,381	6369.99	34.48
Department of Veterans Affairs	7	7	929	297.49	39.03
Dept. of Housing and Community Development	3	3	404	39.00	26.01
Dept. of Public Safety and Correctional Services	28	28	25,717	548.77	3.72
Judiciary of Maryland	2	2	270	8.20	18.85
Maryland Automobile Insurance Fund	1	1	32	6.95	96.53
Maryland Department of Disabilities	1	1	29	0.11	1.39
Maryland Department of Planning	1	1	183	23.04	27.95
Maryland Environmental Service	3	3	245	6.29	60.39
Maryland Food Center Authority	1	1	1,024	644.75	17.31
Maryland General Assembly	1	1	852	76.90	41.10
Maryland Insurance Administration	1	1	954	8.31	24.72
Maryland Military Department	25	25	642	68.88	5.96
Maryland Public Broadcasting Commission	1	1	211	54.87	43.31
Maryland School for the Deaf	2	2	955	117.52	30.46
Maryland Stadium Authority	2	2	2,150	377.39	24.10
Maryland State Archives	1	1	64	3.65	31.88
Maryland State Police	32	20	2,299	328.22	27.88
Morgan State University	1	1	9,700	150.58	10.25
St. Mary's College of Maryland	1	1	1,929	255.20	19.29
Subsequent Injury Fund	1	1	17	4.29	70.10
University System of Maryland	17	14	139,729	7036.85	34.76
TOTAL	369	341	247,277	18,068.88	23.33