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Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs

# Department of Environmental Protection

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**REUSE AND DISPOSAL OF STREET SWEEPINGS**

**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

**POLICY # BAW-18-001**

**(SUPERSEDES POLICY # BWP-94-092)**

This Policy provides guidance to the regulated community about the Department of Environmental Protection's requirements, standards, and approvals for handling reuse or disposal of street sweepings. This Policy supersedes Department Policy BWP-94-092.

5/14/18

Date

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## 1. Policy Statement and Scope

This Policy explains MassDEP requirements for managing Street Sweepings. Street Sweepings are “solid waste” subject to the Massachusetts solid waste regulations. The options for managing Street Sweepings are as follows.

- Use the Street Sweepings in accordance with the preapproved uses described in Section 4 of this policy.
- Use the Street Sweepings for a beneficial use not included in the list of preapproved uses after obtaining a permit from MassDEP under the provisions of the solid waste regulations, 310 CMR 19.060, Beneficial Use of Solid Wastes.
- Dispose of Street Sweepings at a permitted solid waste landfill.

## 2. Applicability

This policy applies to the reuse or disposal of Street Sweepings that are generated in the ordinary and customary cleaning of roadways and parking lots. This policy does not apply to catch basin cleanings or Street Sweepings mixed with catch basin cleanings or any other type of wastes. The disposal and reuse of catch basin cleanings is discussed in the “Management of Catch Basin Cleanings” Fact Sheet issued by the MassDEP (<https://www.mass.gov/lists/massdep-solid-waste-policies-guidance-fact-sheets>).

This policy does not apply to the material generated as the result of the clean-up of an oil or hazardous material spill. However, Street Sweepings that are generated in the ordinary and customary maintenance of roadways and parking lots are not exempt from the Hazardous Waste Regulations, 310 CMR 30.000, and must be handled as hazardous waste when they exhibit any of the characteristics of a hazardous waste. If there is no evidence of unusual contamination, MassDEP does not require Street Sweepings to be routinely tested, but, as is the case with any waste, the generator has the ultimate responsibility for determining whether the waste is a hazardous waste.

Although Street Sweepings are not considered soil, they may be managed under Policy #COMM-97-001, “Reuse and Disposal of Contaminated Soil at Massachusetts Landfills”, in accordance with Section 5.5 of this policy.

### 3. Definitions

This section contains definitions of the important terms used in this Policy.

*Department or MassDEP* means the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection.

*Parking lots* mean publicly or privately owned paved areas that provide access for the general public to park their car while patronizing retail or service businesses. Parking lots also include the paved areas used by the employees at office parks and businesses.

*Private way* means the strip of land over and under a privately owned, paved road or highway.

*Public way* means the strip of land over and under a publicly owned, paved road or highway and includes the publicly owned land adjacent to the road or highway.

*Street Sweepings* means materials consisting primarily of sand and soil generated during the routine cleaning of roadways or parking lots but may also contain some leaves and other miscellaneous solid wastes collected during street sweeping. Street Sweepings do not include the material generated during the clean-up of a spill or material from other structures associated with a roadway such as catch basins.

*Urban center roads* mean local roads in central commercial and retail business districts and industrial and manufacturing areas.

### 4. Handling

#### 4.1 Collection of Street Sweepings

Although MassDEP does not regulate the collection of Street Sweepings, collection practices should be compatible with intended uses. Keeping sweepings from Urban Center Roads separate from sweepings from other areas will provide the generator of the Street Sweepings with the most options under this policy.

This policy does not cover sweepings known to be contaminated by spills, and such sweepings should be collected separately and kept segregated. Depending on the contamination and circumstances, the handling of contaminated sweepings may be governed by the Massachusetts Contingency Plan, 310 CMR 40.0000, the Massachusetts Hazardous Waste Regulations, 310 CMR 30.000, the Massachusetts Site Assignment Regulations for Solid Waste Facilities, 310 CMR 16.00 or the Massachusetts Solid Waste Management Facility Regulations, 310 CMR 19.000.

#### 4.2 Storage

Street Sweepings shall be temporarily stored prior to use, only when the following conditions are satisfied:

- Storage must be:
  - at the site where the sweepings are generated (e.g. at a parking area that was swept);
  - at a location, such as a Department of Public Works (DPW) yard, that is under the control of the governmental entity doing the sweeping or has contracted for the sweeping; or,

- at other locations with prior written approval from the appropriate MassDEP Regional Office.
- The Street Sweepings shall be protected from wind and rain to the extent necessary to prevent dust, erosion, and off-site migration;
- The Street Sweepings shall not be stored within the 100 foot buffer zone of a wetland or within wetland resource areas including bordering vegetative wetlands and riverfront areas;
- The Street Sweepings shall not be stored within 500 feet of a ground or surface drinking water supply;
- Storage of the Street Sweepings shall incorporate good management practice and result in no public nuisance; and
- Storage of the Street Sweepings must be temporary. Street Sweepings shall be used within one year of collection unless the MassDEP Regional Office where the Street Sweepings are stored grants a written extension. An extension may be granted when it is demonstrated that all storage conditions will continue to be satisfied and the stored Street Sweepings will be put to a specific identified use prior to the expiration of the extension period.

#### **4.3 Preparation Prior to Use**

Solid waste, such as paper, auto parts and other trash, shall be removed from all Street Sweepings prior to use. Solid waste screened from the Street Sweepings shall be disposed of at a permitted solid waste facility. Leaves, twigs and other organic matter should also be removed when good engineering practice indicates this is necessary to produce a material that is suitable for the intended use.

### **5. Approved Uses, Restrictions & Conditions-No Prior Approval Needed from MassDEP**

This policy allows Street Sweepings to be used in several applications. An approval from MassDEP is not required when the restrictions and conditions are adhered to as identified in this policy. However, Street Sweepings shall not be used unless prior approval is obtained from the owner of the location where the sweepings are to be used.

#### **5.1 Use at Landfills**

Street Sweepings may be used for daily cover at permitted lined solid waste landfills and need no prior MassDEP approval if the Street Sweepings satisfy the requirements for daily cover material specified at 310 CMR 19.130(15). A list of active permitted solid waste landfills can be found on the MassDEP website.

#### **5.2 Use as Fill in Public or Private Ways and Parking Lots**

Street Sweepings may be used for fill in public and private ways and parking lots without prior approval from MassDEP only when the following additional restrictions and conditions are observed:

- The Street Sweepings have not been collected from Urban Center Roads (see definition);
- Any collection, storage, or preparation for use of the Street Sweepings shall be in accordance with Sections 4.1 and 4.2 of this policy.
- The Street sweepings have been screened to remove all debris and solid waste and all debris/solid waste screened from the sweepings shall be disposed at a permitted solid waste facility (see Section 8);
- The Street Sweepings are kept above the level of the groundwater;
- The Street Sweepings are not used in designated "No Salt Areas";

- The Street Sweepings are not used within the 100 foot buffer zone of a wetland or within wetland resource areas including bordering vegetative wetlands and riverfront areas;
- The Street Sweepings are not used within 500 feet of a ground or surface drinking water supply;
- In public ways the Street Sweepings are used under the paved road surface or, except in residential areas, as fill along the side of the road within the public way;
- In private roadways or in residential areas the Street Sweepings are used only under the paved road surface; and
- In parking lots the Street Sweepings are used only under the paved parking surface.

### **5.3 Use As an Additive to Restricted Use Compost**

Street Sweepings may be used as an additive to compost without prior written approval from MassDEP only when the following additional restrictions and conditions are observed:

- The Street Sweepings have not been collected from Urban Center Roads (see definition);
- Any collection, storage, or preparation for use of the Street Sweepings shall be in accordance with Sections 4.1 and 4.2 of this policy.
- The Street Sweepings have been screened to remove all debris and solid waste and all debris and solid waste screened from the sweepings is disposed at a permitted solid waste facility (see Section 8);
- The compost is used only along public ways and parking lot areas;
- The compost is not used in residential areas;
- The compost is kept above the level of the groundwater;
- The compost is not used in designated "No Salt Areas";
- The compost is not used within the 100 foot buffer zone of a wetland or within wetland resource areas including bordering vegetative wetlands and riverfront areas; and
- The compost is not used within 500 feet of a ground or surface drinking water supply.

### **5.4 Reuse as Anti-Skid Material**

Street Sweepings may be used as a component to anti-skid material (e.g. street sanding material) without prior written approval from MassDEP only when the following additional restrictions and conditions are observed:

- The Street Sweepings have not been collected from Urban Center Roads (see definition);
- Any collection, storage, or preparation for use of the Street Sweepings shall be in accordance with Sections 4.1 and 4.2 of this policy;
- The Street Sweepings have been screened to remove all debris and solid waste and all debris and solid waste screened from the Street Sweepings is disposed at a permitted solid waste facility (see Sections 8);
- The anti-skid material/Street Sweepings are not used in designated "No Salt Areas";
- The anti-skid material/Street Sweepings are not used within the 100 foot buffer zone of a wetland or within wetland resource areas including bordering vegetative wetlands and riverfront areas; and
- The anti-skid material/Street Sweepings are not used within 500 feet of a ground or surface drinking water supply.

The use of Street Sweepings as anti-skid material in accordance with this policy is not a determination of the efficacy of the material for this purpose. Proper engineering review should be done to ensure the material works as intended.

### **5.5 Reuse at Landfills Regulated Under MassDEP Policy #COMM-97-001**

Street Sweepings may be reused at a permitted Massachusetts landfill and need no prior written MassDEP approval if the sweepings have been adequately characterized pursuant to the MassDEP Policy #COMM-97-001 and the Street Sweepings have been screened to remove debris and solid waste.

All screened debris and solid waste removed from Street Sweepings shall be disposed of at a permitted solid waste facility. Street Sweepings for use at the landfill may contain only incidental, randomly dispersed, de minimis quantities of ash and/or Solid Waste as defined in 310 CMR 16.000 and 310 CMR 19.000, which collectively shall comprise less than 1% by volume of the Street Sweeping materials, as determined by visual inspections. Any Street Sweeping materials approved and brought onto the landfill property for use at the landfill shall contain no more than 5% (by volume) of Asphalt Pavement, Brick, and Concrete (“ABC”) material (as defined in 310 CMR 19.000), as determined by visual inspection. Any such material must measure less than 6 inches in any dimension.

Persons who wish to send Street Sweepings to a landfill must comply with MassDEP Policy #COMM-97-001 which requires sampling of the Street Sweepings to demonstrate that the Street Sweepings meet the standards listed in the Policy.

### **5.6 Use at Reclamation Soil Facilities Regulated Under MassDEP Policy # COMM-15-01**

Street Sweepings may be used for fill at a permitted Reclamation Soil Facility (the Facility) and need no prior written MassDEP approval if the Street Sweepings have been adequately characterized pursuant to the Facility-specific Soil/Fill Management Plan and the Street Sweepings have been screened to remove debris and solid waste.

All screened debris and solid waste removed from Street Sweepings shall be disposed of at a permitted solid waste facility. Street Sweepings for use at the Facility may contain only incidental, randomly dispersed, de minimis quantities of ash and/or Solid Waste as defined in 310 CMR 16.000 and 310 CMR 19.000, which collectively shall comprise less than 1% by volume of the Street Sweeping materials, as determined by visual inspections. Any Street Sweeping materials approved and brought onto the property for use at the Facility shall contain no more than 5% (by volume) of ABC material, as determined by visual inspection. Any such material must measure less than 6 inches in any dimension.

Pursuant to Policy # COMM-15-01, persons who wish to send Street Sweepings to a Facility must sample and analyze the Street Sweepings as required by the Facility’s Soil/Fill Management Plan and demonstrate that the Street Sweepings meets the Facility’s acceptance criteria. Unless specifically addressed in a Facility’s Soil/Fill Management Plan, a minimum sampling frequency of 1 sample per 100 cubic yards is required for characterization of Street Sweepings originating from Urban Center Roads. Street Sweepings originating from non-Urban Center Roads may be sampled at a minimum of 1 sample per 500 cubic yards. Regardless of its point of origin, if the total quantity of Street Sweepings is less than 100 cubic yards, a minimum of one composite sample is required for characterization of the material. A list of active permitted Reclamation Soil facilities may be found at <https://www.mass.gov/soil-transport-re-use-and-disposal>.

## **6. Approved Use, Restrictions & Conditions- Prior Approval Needed from MassDEP**

This policy allows Street Sweepings to be used in several applications. Prior written approval from MassDEP is required when using the Street Sweepings as identified in this section of the policy. In addition, Street Sweepings shall not be used at a location until prior written approval is obtained from the owner of the location where the Street Sweepings are to be used.

### **6.1 Use as a Bulking Agent for Wastewater Sludge or Septage Disposal**

Street Sweepings may be used as a bulking material for wastewater treatment plant sludge or septage when the mixed material will be disposed in a permitted lined or unlined sludge or septage landfill in compliance with MGL Chapter 21, Sections 26-53 and MGL Chapter 83 Sections 6 & 7 provided that the appropriate MassDEP Regional Office's Bureau of Water Resources has granted prior written approval.

## **7. Other Uses**

Any use not approved in this policy requires a MassDEP permit under the Beneficial Use provisions of the Solid Waste Management Facility Regulations at 310 CMR 19.060. A "Beneficial Use Determination" (BUD) can be issued only after the submission of an application characterizing the waste and describing the proposed beneficial use.

## **8. Disposal**

While the beneficial use of Street Sweepings is strongly encouraged, MassDEP does not prohibit the disposal of Street Sweepings. Street Sweepings may be disposed in permitted solid waste landfills without prior approval from the Department.

## **9. Record Keeping**

Any entity using Street Sweeping for any use listed under sections 5.3 or 5.4 shall keep records for a period of three years of the source of the sweepings, the location of use and the amount of sweepings used.



## **10. Additional Information**

For additional copies of this policy, permit application forms or other MassDEP documents, call any MassDEP Regional Office and ask for the Service Center or visit <http://www.mass.gov/dep>. The permit application numbers for Beneficial Use Determinations are BWP SW 39, 40, 41 and 42.

Copies of all Massachusetts regulations, including the solid waste regulations, are available at the MassDEP website and may also be purchased from the State House Bookstore at 617-727-2834. The solid waste regulations are:

- 310 CMR 16.000, Site Assignment Regulations for Solid Waste Facilities: and,
- 310 CMR 19.000, Solid Waste Management Facility Regulations.

If you have technical questions about the policy, please call any MassDEP Regional Office and ask to speak with a staff member in the solid waste program