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**NORTHEAST RESOURCE  
RECOVERY ASSOCIATION**



# PRESS RELEASE

## **Town of Wellesley (MA) Recognized for Recycling Facility of the Year**

EPSOM, NH The Northeast Resource Recovery Association (NRRRA) honored the town of Wellesley, Massachusetts with the Recycling Facility of the Year Award on Monday, May 16, 2016 at NRRRA's Annual Conference and Expo held at The Radisson Hotel in Nashua, NH.

The town of Wellesley, Massachusetts has an 88-acre recycling and disposal facility (RDF) that is open 6 days a week. The solid waste management strategy is the 3 Rs Diversion Method: Reduce, Reuse or Recycling.

To encourage trash reduction, the Wellesley RDF promotes a junk mail reduction kit provided by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection, as well as a guide to what products are non-toxic.

To promote reuse, the RDF offers a "Take-It-or-Leave-It" area. This area was closed in July 2005, but a group of 50 volunteers now allows for this to be open again. There is also an Earth Products Area which allows residents to drop brush and grass clippings, and then provides small amounts of screened compost for residents at no charge, or larger amounts for a nominal fee.

The facility's recyclable materials are inspected and sorted on a quality control conveyor to ensure materials get the most revenue. Overall, the facility has brought in \$395k in revenue, but most importantly has avoided \$924k in disposal fees due to its 3R method.

"Wellesley's successful program is a gold standard operation that is the result of years of effort with everyone pulling in the same direction," said Michael Durfor, Executive Director, NRRRA.

Gordon Martin, the recently retired superintendent of the Wellesley Disposal & Recycling Facility was on hand to help present the award to the newly hired superintendent, Jeff Azano-Brown, who accepted the award on behalf of the town of Wellesley, MA.

### **About Northeast Resource Recovery Association (NRRRA)**

Founded in 1981, NRRRA provides a clearinghouse for current, up-to-date information and a source of technical and marketing assistance in the general areas of waste reduction and recycling. NRRRA is a member driven organization made up of over 400 municipalities, individuals, and businesses in New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut and Southern Maine. NRRRA is a non-profit 501(c) organization. NRRRA's School Club assists schools in implementing, maintaining and improving recycling programs. To learn more visit [www.nrra.net](http://www.nrra.net).

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Gordon Martin (R), Jeff Azano-Brown (L)