# Greater New Bedford Regional Refuse Management District

Marissa Perez-Dormitzer, District Recycling Coordinator

Serving the City of New Bedford & the Town of Dartmouth total population served: approximately 130,000



## Where Are We Located?



### What Do We Do?

- 1. Own and operate the Crapo Hill landfill
  - Opened in 1995
  - Expected to last another 10-14 years
- 2. Public Outreach, Program Planning, & Grants

### **District's Priorities**

Extend the life of the landfill

Improve the quality of the recyclables (most common contaminants are plastic bags, case wrap, & bagged recyclables)

## **What Is Contamination?**





### Implementing the IQ Kit

- New Bedford & Dartmouth applied to MassDEP for the IQ Kit grant in 2017 and 2018
- MassDEP awarded up to \$15,000 for each community in 2017 and up to \$40,000 in 2018.

## Steps to Implement the IQ Kit

### 1. Kick off meeting

- MassDEP
- The Recycling Partnership
- City/Town
- MRF
- Hauler

# 2. Created Customized Designs

Worked with The Recycling Partnership and Tiger Press on the design and printing





#### NOT IN YOUR RECYCLING CART NO EN SU CARRO DE RECICLAJE

These don't belong in your recycling cart.
If these items are found in your cart again,
you could receive a fine.

Esto no pertenece al contenedor de reciclaje. Si estos artículos son encontrados nuevamente en su contenedor, podría recibir una multa.



Do not Bag Recyclables (no garbage) No Ponga en Bolsas el Pecirlaia No Basura



No Clothing or Linens (drop-off only) No Ropa o Ropa de Cama



No Bags (return to retail)



No Food or Liquid (empty all containers)



(wood, plastic, furniture, or metal)

No objetos grandes



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Questions about your curbside recycling service? CALL (508) 961-3008

### THANK YOU! iGRACIAS!

#### RECYCLE THESE/RECICLE ESTOS:

#### PLASTIC CONTAINERS

Contenedores de plástico

Kitchen, Laundry, Bath: Bottles and Jugs







empty and replace car

CANS

CARTONS





empty and rinse



empty and



replace cap empt

### PAPER

Mail, Boxes, and Cardboard







flatten boxes



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This project is funded in part by a grant from the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection

### 2. Created Designs - Postcards





## 3. Made a Plan for Cart Checking (8 weeks)

| New Bedford  | Dartmouth  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|--|
| June and July  | August through November                            |  |  |  |
| Tuesdays and Fridays   | Tuesdays, Wednesdays, & Thursdays every other week |  |  |  |
| 1,161 households   | 711 households                                     |  |  |  |
| 2.81 average households per address                                | 1.10 average households per address                |  |  |  |
| 6 cart checkers plus a spare                                       | 4 cart checkers                                    |  |  |  |
| Egregious recycling carts left as trash; enforcement weeks 3 and 7 | Left egregious recycling carts behind              |  |  |  |

## 4. Identified & Trained Cart Checkers



## **Odd Things We Saw**

| Fake<br>mustaches   | hair         | dryer   |
|---------------------|--------------|---|
| bags of dog<br>poop | toilet seats | diapers                                       |
| toothpaste<br>tubes | nail polish  | gallon jug of<br>ant killer full<br>of liquid |

## **Collecting Data**

|        |             |                | We                   | ek | 1: | 6/ | 6/1      | 7               |            |               |
|--------|-------------|----------------|----------------------|----|----|----|----------|-----------------|------------|---------------|
| HOUSE# | STREET NAME | Total<br>Units | NO RECYC CART<br>OUT | #1 | #2 | #3 | OOPS TAG | PLASTIC BAG TAG | THANKS TAG | LEFT AS TRASH |
| 11     | ADAMS ST    | 3              |                      |    | 1  |    |          | 1               |            |               |

## **Cart Scoring**

Score of three = perfect or almost perfect



Score of 2 = effort made but some confusion about what is and is not recyclable





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No Clothing or Linens (drop-off only) No Ropa o Ropa de Cama



No Bags (return to retail)



No Food or Liquid (empty all containers) Ningün Alimento o Liquido



No Big Items (wood, plastic, furniture, or metal) No objetos grandes



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Score of 1 = no effort, commingling of trash and recyclables





(wood, plastic, furniture, or metal)
No objetos grandes



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# Outreach New Bedford

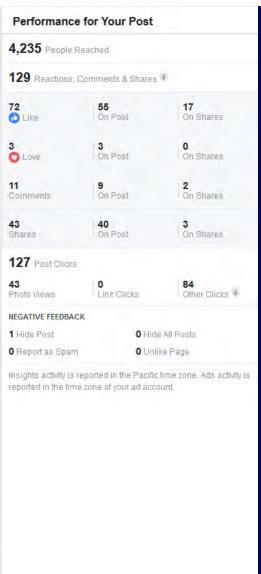
- MarketBasket sign
- Bus signs
- Vehicle magnets



## New Bedford

## Social Media





# Outreach Dartmouth

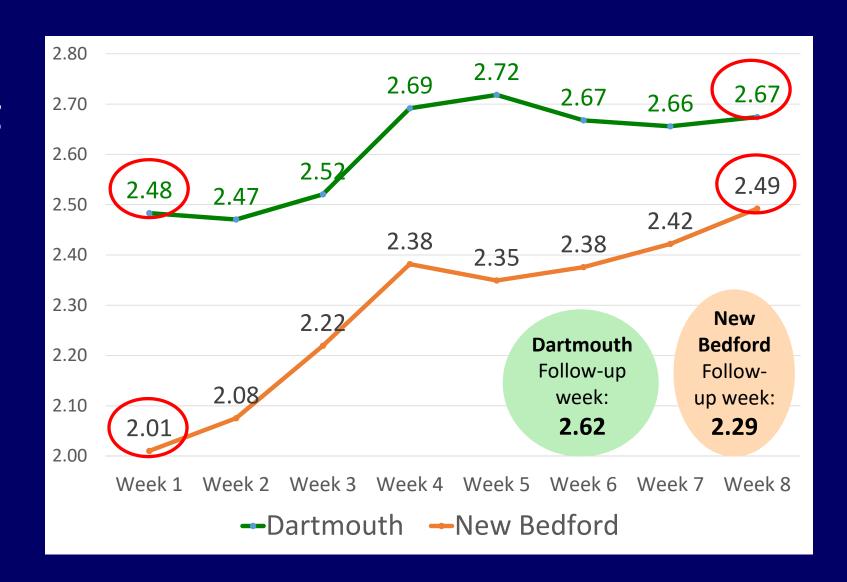
## A-Frame signs Displayed at:

- Shaws
- Stop & Shop
- DPW
- Transfer Station
- Fire station

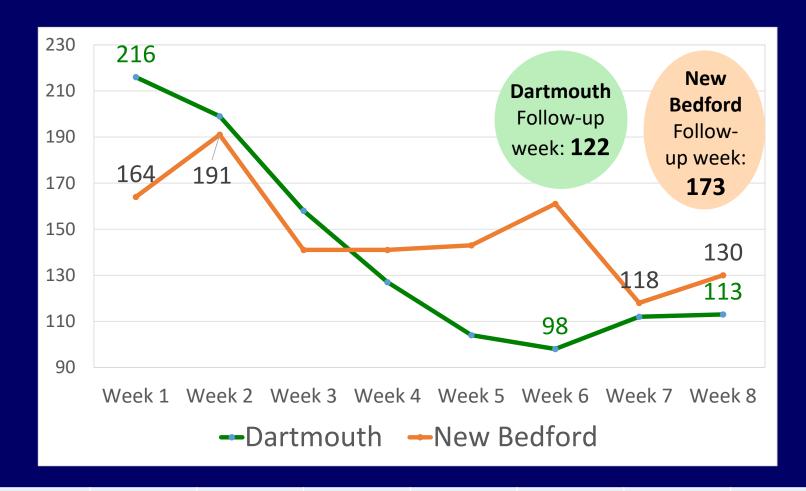
## Retractable Banner



## Average Recycling Cart Scores



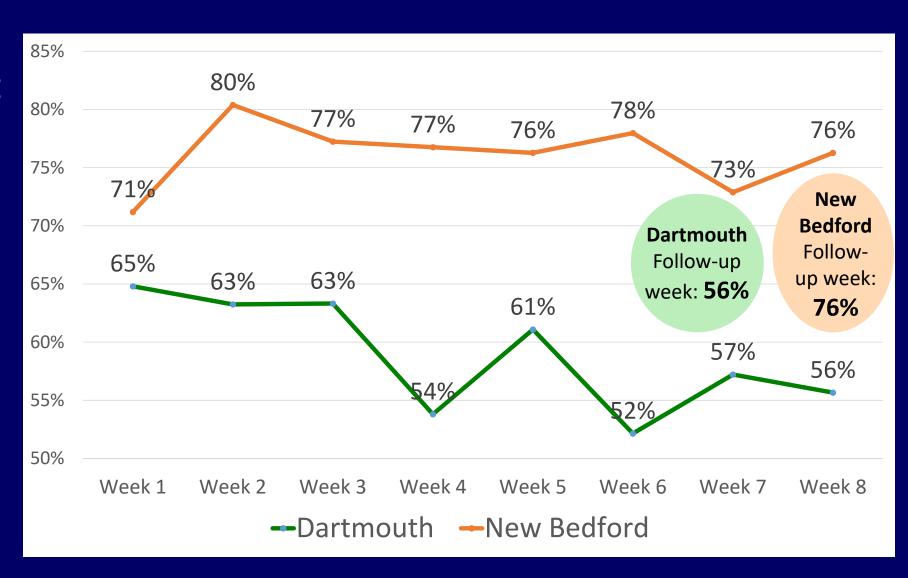




## Tagging Rate

| Dartmouth   | 33% | 31% | 24% | 20% | 16% | 15% | 17% | 18% |
|-------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| New Bedford | 40% | 46% | 34% | 34% | 35% | 39% | 29% | 31% |

# Set out Rates



### **Getting Support from Top Officials**

### **New Bedford**

 Not interested in leaving carts behind, although this is discouraged by DEP

### **Dartmouth**

Already leaving carts behind

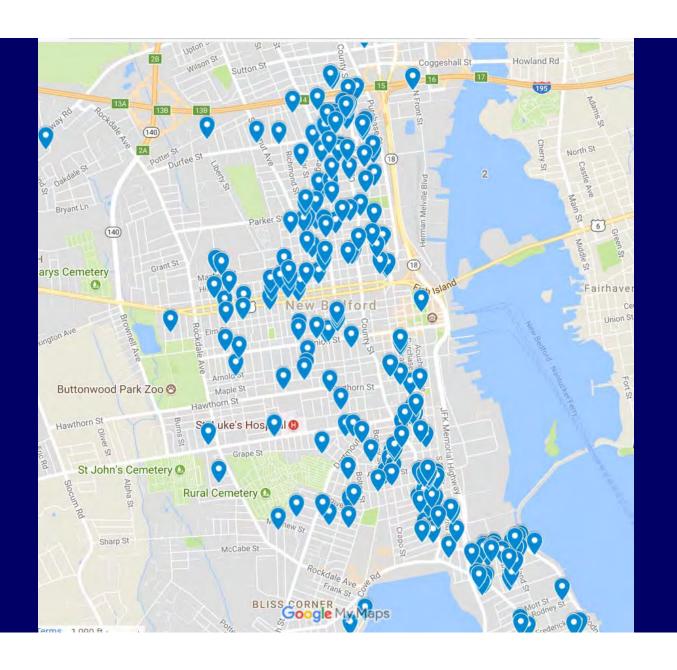
### Hiring temporary workers

We will partner one City/District staff with a temp

### Cover more households

- 4 teams of cart checkers (last year we had 3 teams)
- Check carts for 3 hours (last year we checked carts for 1.5-2.5 hours)

Mapped areas



### Focus efforts on working with landlords

- Mail letter to landlords
- Present at landlord association meeting
- Bilingual flyer
- 11" x 17" Posters
- Reusable bags
- Decals with "no plastic bags" message
- Try to call landlords of properties receiving a score of one each week

- Add in "why"
- Add more personal interactions
  - ESOL/GED classes 12 presentations, 275 students
  - Jack Golden shows at schools in cart checking areas
  - Offer to meet with or call tenants

- Use an app to track data
- Vehicle magnets on both sides of 30 City vehicles
- 2 livestream videos on New Bedford Guide's Facebook page
- Revamp website



# Greater New Bedford Regional Refuse Management District www.gnbrrmdistrict.org



### **Contact Information**

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