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Textile Recycling Pilot Program

MARLBOROUGH, MA – Mayor Arthur Vigeant and Marlborough Department of Public Works are pleased to announce that the City will be participating in a textile recycling pilot program. This program will be in conjunction with Planet Aid contracted by the state to facilitate keeping textiles out of landfills. Their signature yellow bin will be placed in the Department of Public Works parking lot at 135 Neil Street.

Items that you may donate include shirts, pants, jackets, suits, gloves, socks, undergarments, handbags, and backpacks in any style, age or condition. Household textiles include curtains, drapes, sheets, blankets, comforters, towels, linens, pillows and rugs. Footwear can include shoes, sandals, sneakers, cleats, boots, flip-flops and slippers. The bin will be closely monitored and emptied regularly. *Wet or moldy and items contaminated with hazardous materials are not allowed.*

According to the Mass DEP, every year Massachusetts residents throw away about 230,000 tons of usable textiles. Ninety-five percent of this material can be reused as clothing or re-purposed into other materials like rags or cloths.

Why should you recycle your ripped or unused textiles? There are many benefits to textile recycling including decreasing the amount of trash we bury in landfills or burn in municipal waste combustors that reduces disposal costs for local governments. Many donated textiles are sold as second-hand apparel either through charitable organizations or for-profit exporters. Organizations such as Goodwill and Salvation Army operate retail stores where donated clothes and household items are sold.

For more information, please contact the Mayor's at 508-460-3770.

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