

# COMMUNITY RESEARCH

## Checklist - revised

The following is a list of recommended research tasks for teams as they prepare for their 2022 Current Issue presentation. These are suggestions for ways to get good research breadth. Your own questions may take you deeper.

Teams who accomplish these tasks will be well-prepared to create a presentation responding to the Current Issue Problem. Teams that complete and submit this checklist can qualify for the Mass Envirothon 2022 Community Research Award.

**To submit: SCAN and EMAIL completed form by end of day Monday, May 9 to Will Snyder ([wsnyder@umass.edu](mailto:wsnyder@umass.edu))**

## Community RESEARCH Award

To qualify for the 2022 Mass Envirothon Community Research Award, your team must:

- Use the spaces below (plus additional sheets if you need them) to record your team's research
- The items below are the minimum required for the Community Research award.
- Submit this checklist with a completed signature sheet by end of day Monday, May 9, 2022.
- Be ready to talk with a reviewer to provide fuller explanation of your checklist answers.

TEAM NAME \_\_\_\_\_

**1. PEOPLE:** We interviewed (at least) THREE people concerned with waste reduction and waste management that affects our community.

- Your interactions should be through actual back and forth (with follow-up) conversations - in person, via zoom, or by email.
- You should interview at least THREE people.
- You may talk with one person about several of the topics below. It's up to you to decide whether you got enough from the interview to list that person under each of those topics.
- Be ready to explain how the three persons' perspectives on the issues differed or were similar.
- Check the line next to the topic(s) that your interviews touched on, and write the name, organizational affiliation, and email address for the person(s) who talked about the topic.

**A person with job responsibilities and/or extensive knowledge and experience . . .**

**. . . In our municipality**

- \_\_ implementing elements of the [2030 Solid Waste Master Plan](#)
- \_\_ educating the public about waste management
- \_\_ day-to-day collection/hands-on management of waste
- \_\_ the history of waste management sites and practices in our community

**. . . with these forms of waste**

- \_\_ the top (most preferred) levels of the [Food Recovery Hierarchy](#)
- \_\_ plastics

- plant and/or animal waste in forestry, urban/suburban landscaping, agriculture, or other areas of natural resource conservation
- repair and reuse (e.g. freecycling and right to repair)
- ... **advocating new ideas and approaches involving waste management and:**
  - sustainability/climate change
  - action for environmental justice
  - pending legislation at the Massachusetts State House
- ... **or another area of experience and expertise** (briefly describe their waste management connection)
- \_\_\_\_\_

**2. ORGANIZATIONS.** We found (at least **THREE**) **examples** of different levels of government and private organizations at work on waste management issues IN OUR COMMUNITY. Name the agency/organization and provide a phrase describing specific goals or projects they were working on.

- Federal agency
- State agency
- Municipal board concerned with aspects of waste management
- Nongovernmental Organization (NGO)
- Private business
- Another form of organization:

**3. PLACES:** We visited the following **TWO significant sites relevant to waste management**, past or present, in our community (Be able to show where these sites are using a map.)

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**4. ACTION.** We became familiar with local activities relating to Massachusetts' [2030 Solid Waste Master Plan](#). (Briefly explain a) the problem(s) being addressed and b) what remedies are being planned or implemented):

## 5. PUBLISHED INFORMATION.

- a. **MEDIA REPORTS.** We found these **TWO local news stories** this year with waste management implications for our community (Please list headline, media source, and date. Include a web link if possible):

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- b. **PUBLIC EDUCATION RESOURCES.** We visited and evaluated at least five websites and found these **THREE web pages** to be most useful for enlightening the general public about the importance and potential for achieving zero waste. (Provide URLs and a phrase on the value you found):

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

**6. PERSPECTIVES:** These **three resources already listed above** (people, organizations, places, published info) were **the most useful** in helping us gain a **multi-dimensional understanding** of the issue:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

**7. SUMMARY.** If someone in your community asked you why “Zero Waste” is an important issue for your community, how would you explain this in 2-3 sentences?

**8. RESEARCH STORY.** Write a short statement on **at least ONE** of the following:

\_\_\_ **KEY RESOURCE:** We found the following person and/or organization to be particularly important for our community research (provide name, title & organization if appropriate, and email address). How would you describe their perspective on the issue?

\_\_\_ **OBSERVATION:** We observed our community waste management systems up close, and this affected our thinking about the issue. Please describe:

\_\_\_ **SERENDIPITY:** We found this notable but unexpected resource in our research