



Tactics to Achieve EJ: Community Organizing, Legal Services, and Strong Coalitions

Harvard Extension School

April 22, 2014

Staci Rubin, Senior Attorney,
EJ Legal Services Director



ACE's Programs

- Environmental Justice Legal Services (EJLS)
- Roxbury Environmental Empowerment Project (REEP)
- T Riders Union (TRU)



REEP's Grow or Die Campaign



- Youth reclaim vacant lots to grow healthy and affordable food
- REEP continues to grow seedlings
- REEP transformed 6 long-term vacant lots into gardens for 62+ families

T Riders Union

TRU members are currently demanding three things from the MBTA:

1. more buses on the most crowded routes;
2. reliable on-time bus service; and
3. more bus service on nights and weekends.



EJ Legal Services



- Provide no cost legal representation to community groups working to improve their quality of life
- Manage pro bono network of public health professionals, attorneys, and more

ACE's Model: Community Organizing and Legal Assistance

DIESEL EMISSIONS REDUCTION ORDINANCE (DERO)



Tufts Mobile Air Pollution Monitoring Lab

PM_{2.5}
(10 s)
TSI AM510
Sidepak

Black Carbon
(60 s)
Magee AE-16
Aethalometer

pPAH
(8 s)
Ecochem
PAS2000

**PN Size
Distribution**
(135 s)
TSI SMPS
3080, 3085

PNC
(1 s)
TSI CPC
3775

Lat/Lon
(1 s)
Garmin
GPS V

NO, NO_x
(20 s)
Thermo 42i

CO
(10 s)
Thermo 48i-TLE

inlets



Chelsea Creek: Environmental Injustice



Too many environmental burdens in Chelsea and East Boston including:

- More than 123 million gallons of petroleum
- 100% of Logan Airport's Jet Fuel
- 70-80% of Region's heating oil
- Stores road salt for 250 cities/town in New England
- Hundreds of thousands of trucks
- Over 35 oil spills —amounting to more than 100,000 gallons of oil in the Creek.
- Chelsea and East Boston are the 3rd and 5th, respectively, most intensively environmental overburdened communities in Massachusetts.

Chelsea Creek Action Group: working to protect public safety



July 6, 2013 · Lac-Mégantic, Quebec · Train carrying crude oil derails and explodes
15 people killed , 40 still missing· 30 buildings destroyed
Could this happen in Massachusetts?

Chelsea Creek Action Group: working to protect public safety





Communities are fighting back: Blocking fossil fuel plants



Green Justice Coalition



Community, Utilities, & Government in one room

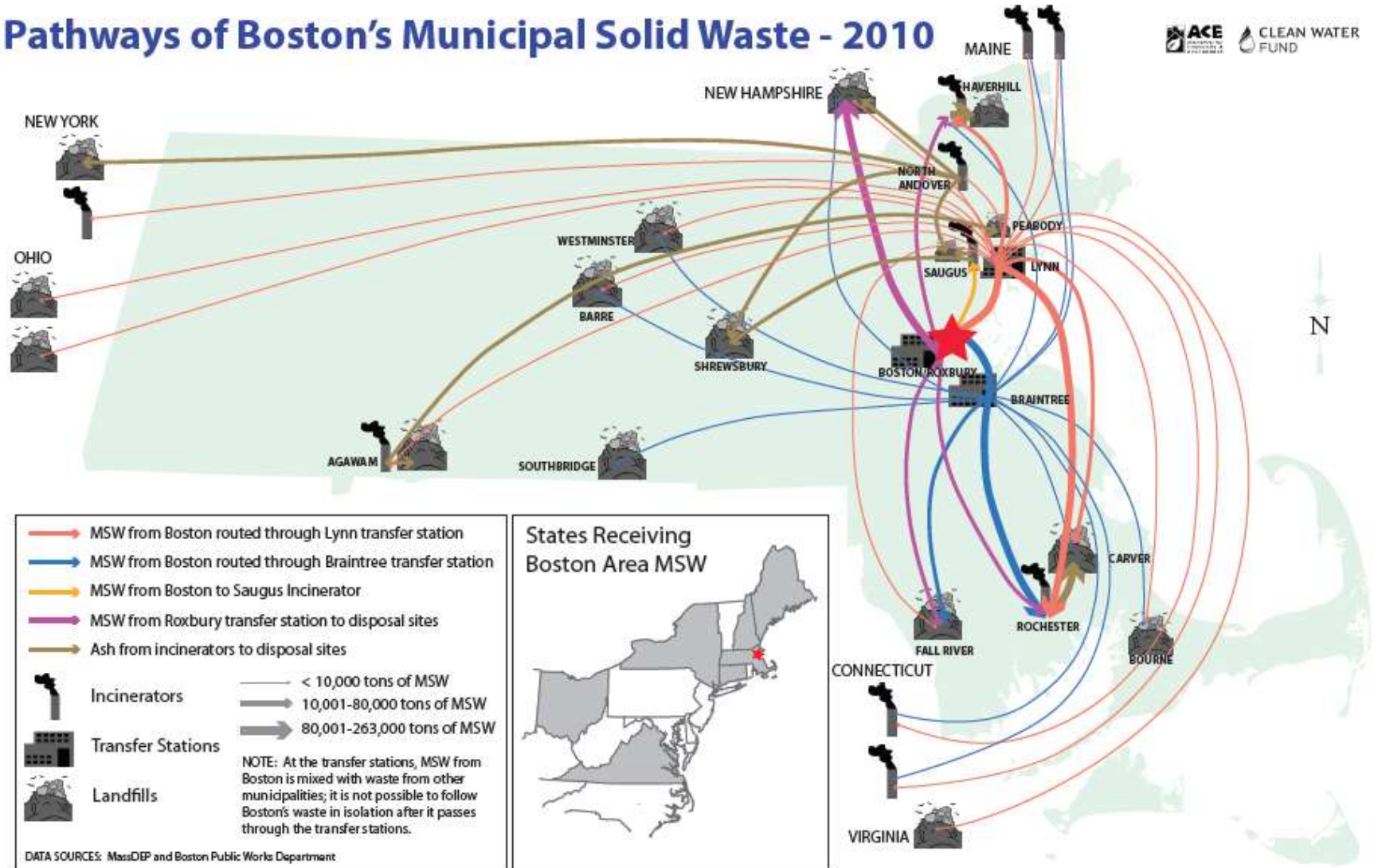


Pilot Program in Action



Pathways of Boston's MSW 2010

Pathways of Boston's Municipal Solid Waste - 2010



It's not WASTE until it's WASTED!



Data: Weighted averages from sample loads of in-state waste sent to six Massachusetts incinerators.

From: Municipal Waste Combustor Class II Recycling Program Waste Characterization Studies, February & March 2011, MassDEP

Info on Waste and Waste Reduction

MassDEP: www.mass.gov/dep/recycle/priosres.htm

Zero Waste International Alliance: tinyurl.com/6r3guzs

EPA WasteWise: www.epa.gov/osw/partnerships/wastewise/wrr/rm.htm

Let's REUSE, RECYCLE, and COMPOST our resources.



MA EJ Alliance & NE EJ Forum: building coalitions





Staci Rubin | Senior Attorney

2201 Washington Street,
Suite 302

Roxbury, MA 02119

Office: 617-442-3343 x236

Staci@ace-ej.org | www.ace-ej.org | [@AceEJ](https://www.facebook.com/AceEJ)