

PAYT

BULLETIN



What's Inside

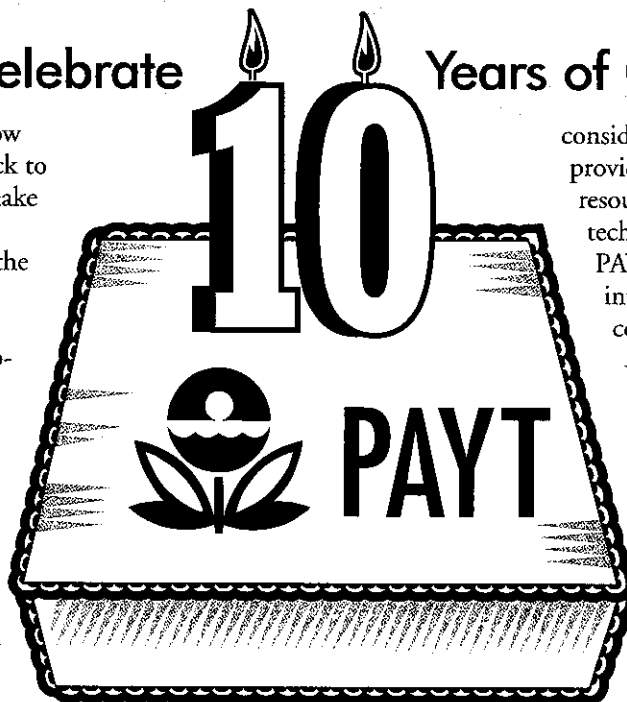
- New PAYT Program in Massachusetts
- Call for News

EPA and PAYT Celebrate

Years of Growth and Success

The origins of pay-as-you-throw (PAYT) programs stretch back to the 1920s, a fact that may make a mere 10-year PAYT anniversary seem almost insignificant. Yet, in the 10 years that have elapsed since 1993—the first year of EPA's involvement with PAYT—the popularity of rate-based systems for waste disposal has grown at the highest rate in its nearly 80-year history, and shows no signs of slowing down. Now, EPA's PAYT program is celebrating 10 years of increasing success. Since the beginning of EPA's involvement, PAYT has expanded rapidly—from 1,800 communities in 1980 to more than 6,000 today, with more and more communities adopting PAYT every year.

In 1993, EPA acted on a vision to expand on the efforts of progressive communities throughout the country that had implemented rate-based models for waste disposal to encourage source reduction and increase recycling rates. Since then, in an effort to serve, inform, and encourage communities



considering PAYT programs, EPA has provided an ever-increasing menu of resources, information, workshops, and technical assistance that has expanded PAYT's profile both nationally and internationally, and guided numerous communities to PAYT success.

With a decade of experience and results under its belt, EPA's PAYT initiative is ready for the challenges of the next 10 years. Foremost among these challenges is the implementation of PAYT in America's big cities.

Urban centers face several unique challenges compared to small- and medium-sized communities. Large cities feature a higher proportion of high-volume, multi-family housing with collective waste disposal systems, rendering it difficult to determine the amount of waste each household disposes of, a critical data point in PAYT implementation. Additionally, the health hazards posed by not collecting trash due to nonpayment in a

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Online PAYT Materials—Plentiful and Practical!

From Indonesia to Argentina, countries all over the world are beginning to experiment with various forms of PAYT and are utilizing the valuable and easy-to-follow resources offered by EPA. And how are they obtaining PAYT information? Online, of course! That's why EPA has decided to focus on making all PAYT

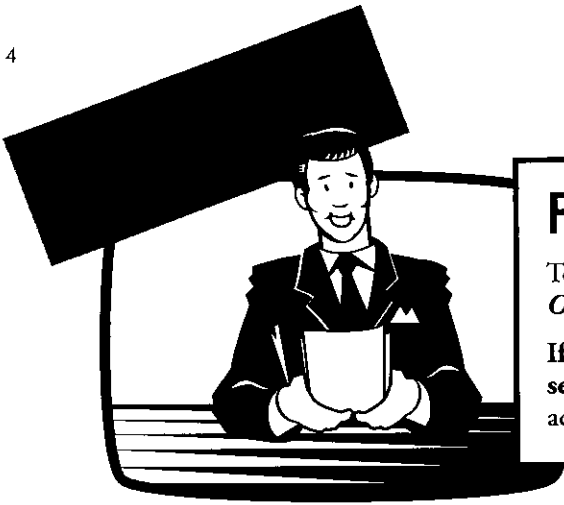
materials available in an online-only format, including the *PAYT Bulletin*, beginning in 2004. Hard copies of select tools and resources are still available free of charge for interested parties, however EPA will transition its material ordering process from its telephone hotline to its Web site <www.epa.gov/payt>. This comprehen-

sive online transition will save energy, trees, and money, and make PAYT materials more accessible.

A Wealth of Resources

The vast array of online PAYT materials is designed to help guide municipalities through every step of a PAYT

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Pay-As-You-Throw Goes ONLINE

To save trees, energy, and money, *the PAYT Bulletin will be published ONLINE only*, beginning in 2004.

If you would like to continue receiving the *Bulletin* in its online format, please send an email to payt@erg.com with your name, affiliation, address, and email address. We will include you in our electronic address book.

SPREAD the Word!

Now that you are aware of the economic, environmental, and equity benefits of PAYT, spread the word to your neighbors and peers! Thanks to those communities who led by example in the past, more and more communities are embracing PAYT each day. **Be a leader and an advocate in your regional area or state by recommending names of colleagues who might be interested in learning more about PAYT.** We'll add them to our mailing list to receive the free *PAYT Bulletin*.

Please send us an email at payt@erg.com with the recommended name(s), affiliation/community, title, and email address, as well as (optional) mailing address and phone number. Please let us know who you are too! The more communities that initiate PAYT, the more waste is reduced, the more energy and resources are saved, the more pollution is prevented, including greenhouse gases. As the old saying goes, **"Think globally, act locally."**

We Want to Promote YOU!

EPA would like to promote YOU and your PAYT successes and experiences.

We are interested in information on new programs, program expansions, lessons learned, challenges overcome, advice, changes, trends, new documents or reports, community reactions, or any other aspect of your PAYT experiences that could be useful to others.

Please send us an email at payt@erg.com with your name, affiliation/community, address, phone number, email address, and a brief synopsis of your news. We will contact you for more information and include you in our online *Bulletin* and/or other informational materials about PAYT. One of the benefits of being part of a progressive, conservation-minded municipal program is the recognition you receive. Don't pass up this opportunity!



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