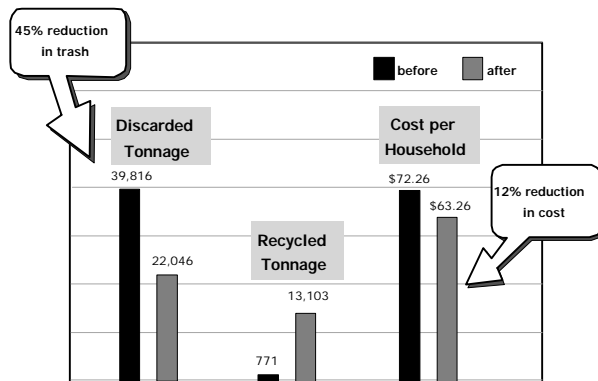


## ***EFFECT ON THE WASTE STREAM***

### **Q: How do we know PAYT will work to increase recycling and reduce trash volume?**

A: Numerous state, municipal, and Federal studies have actually measured discarded and recycled tonnages before and after implementation of PAYT. A study of seven communities in Massachusetts showed a 36% increase in recycling in the first year of PAYT. According to the EPA " The average waste reduction reported by pay-as-you-throw communities is between 25 and 45 per cent."

The Massachusetts DEP, the U.S. EPA, and numerous state solid waste agencies have concluded that PAYT is the single most effective action that a community can take to reduce trash volume and reduce solid waste management costs. PAYT is not an unproven experiment - it is a proven, prudent mechanism for achieving better municipal waste management.



***Figure 3 PAYT implementation in Worcester reduced discarded waste by 45%.***

### **Q: How much would PAYT reduce trash in Lexington?**

A: Based on experiences in other communities, the PAYTAC estimates that PAYT would reduce the total quantity of curbside waste by 14% and increase the recycling rate by 8%. The end result is that 23% less trash would be sent to the incinerator.