States Leading the Way
Materials Management

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October 30, 2019
Overview

- EPR Programs
- Food Waste
- Recycling
- Single Use Products
- Zero Waste/Materials Management
Target materials in the wastestream

- Toxic
- Hard to manage
- Large volumes
EPR  Shared Responsibility

Manufacturers
Retailers
Consumers
Government
118 EPR Programs in 33 States and D.C.
Benefits of EPR

- Increases in convenient collection and diversion
- Shifts some costs
- Incentivizes manufacturer in product design
Mercury Added Products
24 States

EPR for Used Electronics
Wasted Food and Food Waste
US MSW Landfilled Food Waste Increased To 22%

from EPA website
Hierarchy
Mandatory Food Diversion Programs

- Connecticut
- Massachusetts
- Vermont
- Rhode Island
- California
Benefits of Mandatory Programs

- Increases food donations
  - Helps people
  - Decreases disposal costs for generators
  - Tax benefits for donors

- Incentive to invest in infrastructure and services

- Diverts organics from landfill

- Decreases GHGe
Closing the loop on the food system

Schools, Businesses, & Institutions → Hauler → Farmer/Composter
Recycling
State Recycling Responses

- Conduct statewide contamination mitigation campaigns (16 states)
- Work with local gov. to address recycling concerns (13 states)
- Conduct market research (11 states)
- Develop incentives for recycling businesses and other market development activities (9 states)
- Sword and other related concerns (9 states)
Recycle like you live here: VTrecycles.com

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xzZ2fu38NTs&list=PLb5jIRjo4Vi9K_60xb8nvmALZ74tElhHs
How much plastic single-use products are disposed?

BBC Link:

Single-Use Products

Why Mandatory Programs?

• Volume is increasing

• Environmental/Health Impacts

• Voluntary efforts not working
SUPs
Ban Laws:
Plastic Bags
Plastic Straws
Expanded Polystyrene
States Considering Additional Legislation or Study of SUPs

- Maine
- Washington
- Vermont
- California
Zero Waste
or Materials Management Initiatives

- Oregon
  - Reduction, GHGe, LCAs
- California
  - Goals to reduce waste and GHG emission
  - Circular economy bill (pending)
- Guam: Working on new initiative
- State plans: many incorporate
• States cannot go it alone

• Depend on partners, especially EPA
  • Goal Setting
  • Research
  • Tools
More to Come

Stay Tuned

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