

PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP UPDATES

NEWS BRIEFS ON WORLDWIDE PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP INITIATIVES



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A MUSE ON THE NEWS

Check out the recent blog post from PSI's Chief Executive Officer and Founder, Scott Cassel:

The State of Maine has stood out as a leader in the [U.S. product stewardship movement](#), passing the country's first extended producer responsibility (EPR) laws on electronics, thermostats, fluorescent lamps, and comprehensive framework. It also passed laws on automobile switches and batteries... In a crushing turn for the product stewardship movement, Maine Governor [Paul LePage](#) sought to reverse these laws since taking office in 2011, threatening to nullify significant economic and environmental progress in the state.

To read more, see: [Maine is a Leader in Product Stewardship: It is Time to Move Forward – Not Back](#)

PSI UPCOMING WEBINARS

Don't miss the last two webinars in PSI's 12th Webinar Series!

- [How Incentives Change Consumer Behavior](#) - Wednesday, January 25, 2012, 1:30-3:00 PM ET
- [Exploring the Economic Growth, Environmental Protection, and Cost Savings that can be Achieved through Producer Responsibility](#) - Tuesday, January 31, 2012, 2:00-3:30 PM ET

Did you miss any of our previous conversations? You can still learn about packaging, mattresses, electronics, thermostats, and more by accessing past webinar recordings [here](#).

PRODUCT NEWS

MAINE ISSUES REPORT ON PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP PROGRAMS

The Maine Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) recently released a report, "[Implementing](#)

[Product Stewardship in Maine](#),” as required under the state’s product stewardship framework law. The report aims to evaluate the state’s product stewardship programs and make recommendations for product stewardship in the state. PSI, along with more than 150 Maine residents and other state and national organizations, submitted [comments](#) during the public comment period that ended January 16. PSI expressed support for rigorously applying metrics to evaluate stewardship programs, but found that many conclusions in the DEP report were based on a flawed analysis and inappropriate use of data. PSI also suggested that the LePage Administration collaborate with the American Coatings Association on paint legislation, and open up discussion with other important stakeholders, such as Maine’s local governments, businesses, and environmental groups. After releasing its report, ME DEP provided a [letter](#) clarifying some of the statements in the report.

EU SETS HIGHER WEEE COLLECTION TARGETS

The European Parliament has passed new rigorous e-waste collection targets under the WEEE (Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment) Directive, which has been in effect since 2003. The new regulations require member states to collect 65 to 85 percent of their electronic waste by 2019. The updated [law](#) requires manufacturers to recycle bulky items, like washing machines, and mandates that larger stores accept small e-waste items from consumers while not requiring a replacement purchase.

[Electronic waste: EU adopts new WEEE law](#)

BBC News

January 19, 2012

NWSMA RELEASES PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP POLICY

The National Solid Wastes Management Association (NSWMA) recently released its first [policy](#) on product stewardship. A central aspect of the policy is that a successful product stewardship system requires shared responsibility among manufacturers, retailers, government, consumers and the private and public sector recycling and solid waste industries. NSWMA’s recommendations for product stewardship programs include: designing legislation to be “cost-effective, innovative, efficient and result in enhanced environmental protection at no additional cost to taxpayers or consumers”; conducting lifecycle assessments before mandating product stewardship; and ensuring that programs exist in a competitive market without anti-trust immunity for product stewardship organizations.

[Solid Wastes Industry Announces New Policy on Product Stewardship](#)

Market Watch

January 9, 2012

BATTERY COLLECTION INCREASED IN 2011

[Call2Recycle](#), a PSI Sustaining Partner, recently announced a 13.1 percent increase in battery recycling in 2011 through its network of 30,000 retail, business, and municipal collection locations. Illinois, Pennsylvania, and Texas saw the highest growth, where municipalities outperformed retail and business collections with a 37 percent increase. In Canada, collections for rechargeable batteries grew by 17 percent, while collection grew by 157 percent for primary batteries. As of 2010, when Call2Recycle worked with PSI to develop a briefing document, Call2Recycle was estimating an overall rechargeable battery recycling rate of roughly 10% for North America.

[Consumers Recycling More Batteries in 2011](#)

Call2Recycle Press Release

January 5, 2012

WHAT ARE PSI'S MEMBERS AND PARTNERS UP TO?

- ❖ PSI will be hosting a panel session at the 3rd Annual Massachusetts [Sustainable Economy Conference](#) on Monday, April 30, 2012 in Boston. The session, "Product Stewardship and Reducing Impacts along the Product Supply Chain," will be held from 10:15-11:15 a.m. at the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston. For more information and a session description, view the agenda [here](#).
- ❖ PSI Partners can now receive a 20% discount on membership with the [Global Product Stewardship Council](#) until September 2012. For more information, please contact Erin Linsky Graeber at erin@productstewardship.us or 617-236-4866.

LEGISLATION UPDATE

The chart below summarizes this session's active legislative activity on bills requiring extended producer responsibility (EPR).

For all 2012 product stewardship legislation, including links to bills, see [PSI's Active Legislation Map](#). For information about product stewardship laws, see [PSI's EPR Laws Map](#).

Bills	Status
Auto Switches – NY (A00862)	Referred to Environmental Conservation Committee
Batteries – CA (A03391)	Carried over to the 2012 session
Batteries (Rechargeable)– NY (A03391)	Enacting clause stricken
Batteries (Rechargeable)– WA (SB 6148)	Scheduled for public hearing in the Senate Committee on Environment (1-24-12)
Beverage Containers and Product Stewardship – VT (H-074 & S-021)	Carried over to the 2012 session
Carpet – NY (A08492)	Referred to Environmental Conservation Committee
Carpet – WA (SB 5110)	By resolution, reintroduced and retained in present status. Made eligible to be placed on second reading
Electronics – MA (H00232)	Referred to Senate Ways and Means Committee
Framework – MA (H02017)	Referred to Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture
Framework – NY (A06293)	Referred to Environmental Conservation Committee
Electronics – OH (SB 253)	Assigned to Agriculture, Environment & Natural Resources
Electronics – WA (SB 5824)	By resolution, reintroduced and retained in present status: Rules Committee relieved of further consideration. On motion, referred to Environment Committee

Lamps – MA (H00267)	Referred to Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture
Lamps – MA (H01163)	Referred to Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture
Lamps – NY (A04238)	Referred to Environmental Conservation
Lamps – NY (A06596)	Carried over to the 2012 session
Paint – NY (A00953)	Referred to Environmental Conservation Committee
Paint – VT (H 158)	Carried over to the 2012 session
Paint – VT (H 283)	Carried over to the 2012 session
Pharmaceuticals – NY (A04651)	Referred to Environmental Conservation Committee
Pharmaceuticals – NY (A00211)	Referred to Health Committee
Pharmaceuticals – WA (SB 5234)	By resolution, reintroduced and retained in present status. Placed on second reading by Rules Committee
Pharmaceuticals – WA (HB 1370)	By resolution, reintroduced and retained in present status. Public hearing in the House Committee on Environment
Phone Books (Opt-out) – NY (A04747)	Referred to Environmental Conservation Committee
Study Bill for Producer Responsibility - MA (H02003)	Referred to Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture
Sharps – ME (LD 1412 - LR 1325)	Carried over to the 2012 session
Sharps – WA (SB 5632)	By resolution, reintroduced and retained in present status. Committee relieved of further consideration. Due to Senate committee reorganization, referred to Environment Committee
Smoke Detectors – NY (A04330A)	Referred to Environmental Conservation Committee
Thermostats – MA (H00251)	Referred to Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture
Thermostats – NY (A03485)	Died in Senate
Thermostats – NY (S04345)	Referred to Environmental Conservation Committee

You are receiving this bi-weekly update because you are a Full Member or a Partner of PSI.

Have an article in mind that you think should be included in the next PSI News Update?

Send them to Erin Linsky Graeber at erin@productstewardship.us, or 617-236-4866

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