

March 12, 2018

You are currently receiving PS Updates on a quarterly basis. Enjoy what you've read? [PSI Full Members](#) and [Partners](#) receive more frequent updates, along with many other benefits.

The New PS Updates: What to Expect



Dear reader,

As you've probably noticed, we made a few changes to our Product Stewardship newsletter. You can expect the same great content, but in a more accessible and digestible manner. We've also gone mobile-friendly -- so you can access breaking news from anywhere, anytime.

I hope you enjoy the changes! Feel free to [reach out](#) with any feedback.
-- Megan Byers, Associate for Policy, Programs, and Outreach

Product Stewardship Updates

Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) EPR Bill Passes Vermont House Committee on Natural Resources, Fish, and Wildlife

Thanks to strong leadership by the Vermont Product Stewardship Council and thorough stakeholder meetings facilitated by the Department of Environmental Conservation, the Vermont House's environmental committee approved [H 560](#), an extended producer responsibility (EPR) bill for HHW. The Appropriations and Ways & Means Committees will assess the bill before it moves to the Senate. If passed, Vermont will be the first state with EPR for HHW.



Paint Stewardship in Colorado and New York

Colorado bill [SB 18-045](#), which sought to repeal the [architectural paint stewardship law](#) that enables PaintCare to successfully collect and recycle paint throughout the state, has been defeated.

New York bill [S 881](#), which would establish the nation's tenth paint stewardship program, has passed the state Senate unanimously. Its companion bill, [A 1038](#), has the Assembly votes needed to pass, but remains caught in the Environmental Conservation Committee.



CalRecycle Approves Carpet Annual Report Extension, Seeks \$3 Million in Penalties Against

CARE

The California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) approved an extension for submittal of [Carpet America Recovery Effort](#) (CARE)'s 2017 Annual Report, now due September 1.



Last year, CalRecycle requested [over \\$3 million in penalties from CARE](#) for failure to show meaningful continuous improvement in carpet recycling from 2013-2015, as required by California's Carpet Stewardship Law. However, the California Office of Administrative Hearings has [recommended](#) only \$1 million in penalties. CalRecycle must accept, reject, or modify the decision by May 23.

New York, Massachusetts, and Connecticut Advance Plastic Bag Solutions

In congruence with [recommendations](#) by the New York Plastic Bag Task Force, state legislators introduced [A 9953/S 7760](#), which would ban single-use plastic bags and require stores to charge a minimum 10 cent fee for paper and reusable bags. The fee must not exceed 25 cents per bag.



Meanwhile, [61 Massachusetts cities and towns](#) have passed bag laws to date -- more than 40 of which passed within the last 2 years -- with more expected this spring. A [statewide bag bill](#) is also in the works.

Live Green CT is integrating a regional solution for plastic bags into local communities through a new program called "Start in Your Own Front Yard," which will be launched at the [Regional Conference on Sustainable Development Community Forum](#) on April 25th.

European Union (EU) Ambassadors Approve Circular Economy Legislation with EPR at the Center

EU ambassadors [have endorsed](#) the Circular Economy Package, a set of legislation containing EPR provisions designed to increase recycling, reduce waste, and advance the circular economy. Next, the legislation faces a final vote in the European Parliament.



EPR Abroad: Colombia, China, Canada, and Singapore

The [Colombian](#) government has published an EPR decree that requires producers to collect electronic waste.



By 2021, [Singapore](#) will also implement an EPR scheme for e-waste.

[China](#) will require electric vehicle producers to collect and recycle old batteries.

The [City of Airdrie, Alberta](#) supports the City of Calgary's resolution asking the province to develop and implement EPR "as soon as possible".

Events & Webinars

- **ReThreadDC Launch Event** | District of Columbia Department of Energy and Environment | Wednesday, March 14 5pm – 7pm ET | [Register](#)
- **Global Recycling Day** | March 18 | [More Information](#)
- **An Introduction to Lithium Batteries and the Challenges that they Pose to the Waste and Recycling Industry** | U.S. EPA Sustainable Materials Management (SMM) Web Academy | Thursday, March 22 1pm - 2:30 pm ET | [Register](#)
- **Connecticut Regional Conference on Sustainable Development: Community Forum** | Live Green Connecticut | April 25 | [Register](#)
- **National Prescription Drug Take Back Day** | U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration | April 28 | [More Information](#)
- **Strive For Sustainability Solid Waste & Recycling Conference** | Federation of NY Solid Waste Associations | May 20-23, 2018 | [Register](#)

PSI in the News

- [Founder of FabScrap Discusses New York City Textile Recycling](#) | WWD | March 2
- [Little agreement on Conn. packaging EPR](#) | Plastics Recycling Update | February 2018
- [172 New Participants Enrolled in NY DEC's Pilot Drug Take-Back Program](#) | Waste Advantage | February 2018
- [DEC Announces 172 Pharmacies, Hospitals and Long-Term Care Facilities Participating in 2nd Round of State's Pilot Drug 'Take-Back' Program](#) | New York State Department of Environmental Conservation | February 2018
- [RGH participates in drug take back pilot program](#) | WXXI News | February 2018
- [Rochester General starts pilot drug take-back program](#) | Democrat & Chronicle | February 2018
- [Drug Take Back](#) | Rochester First | February 2018
- [RGH taking back unused prescriptions in new program](#) | WHAM | February 2018
- [Connecticut task force shies away from packaging EPR](#) | Waste Dive | February 2018

What We're Reading

- [Americans in Agreement: Recycling is Important and Should Be a Priority](#) | Waste Advantage | March 8
- ['Bye Bye Mattress' — a program that works](#) | Capitol Weekly | March 6
- [Oregonians must take reins in recycling effort](#) | Statesman Journal | March 6
- [Trending: The Future of Mobility Is Circular](#) | Sustainable Brands | March 6
- [Swept under the rug: toxics in European carpets threaten health, environment and circular economy](#) | European Public Health Alliance | March 5
- [Minister encouraged by community interest in reducing waste](#) | NZ Herald | March 3
- [Rx for Hudson: Expand medication drop-off sites, make manufacturers pay](#) | Lohud | March 1

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Contact Megan Byers, Associate for Policy, Programs, and Outreach, at megan@productstewardship.us or (617) 236-4866.

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