

September 21, 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.



### 'Clean tax cuts' and the global free market for plastic solutions

[The first publication](#) on financial incentives to drive down costs for product stewardship and extended producer responsibility (EPR) was recently published in GreenBiz. It was co-authored by Scott Cassel, CEO and Founder of the Product Stewardship Institute (PSI); Doug Woodring, Founder/Managing Director of the Ocean Recovery Alliance and the Plasticity Forum; and Rod Richardson, President of the Grace Richardson Fund.

## Product Stewardship Updates

### Register Now -- Global Best Practices: Packaging EPR's Role in Advancing the Circular Economy

PSI's next webinar on October 31 will explain how successful packaging EPR systems work and the benefits they can deliver. [Register now!](#)

Speakers include:

- Scott Cassel, CEO, Product Stewardship Institute (moderator)
- Joachim Quoden, Managing Director, Extended Producer Responsibility Alliance (European packaging stewardship association)
- John Coyne, Vice President, Unilever Canada and Executive Chairman, Canadian Stewardship Services Alliance (Canadian packaging stewardship association)
- Johan Goossens, Director of Finance & Communication, Fost Plus (Belgian packaging stewardship organization)



### Missouri Product Stewardship Council (MO PSC) Kicks off at State Recycling Conference

Last week, PSI's Scott Cassel spoke at the Missouri Recycling Association (MORA)'s annual conference to kick off the new MO PSC. PSI will facilitate monthly calls, help the group form an effective organizational structure, and provide ongoing technical assistance. The group will start by identifying its top product stewardship priorities, which may include paint, mattresses, and packaging. St. Louis-Jefferson Solid Waste Management District provided grant funding for the Council.

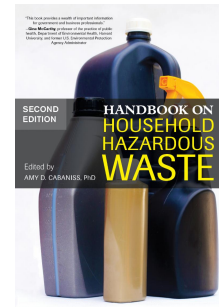


*Image, left to right: Dave Berger, St. Louis-Jefferson SWMD; Scott Cassel, PSI; Lisa McDaniel, Mid-America Regional Council; Angie Gehlert, MORA.*

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## Household Hazardous Waste Handbook, Second Edition Published with a Chapter by Scott Cassel

Much has changed since the first HHW Handbook was published in 2008. The Second Edition, published by Bernan Press and edited by Amy Cabaniss, reflects advances in HHW collection and management over the past decade. PSI's Scott Cassel contributed an extensive chapter, which covers a range of product stewardship topics and innovations, including new trends in legislation and the pros/cons of different financing mechanisms for take-back programs. [Get your copy](#) today.



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## New Study: Needle Stick Injury Rate is 3.9 per 100 MRF Picking Line Workers

The Environmental Research & Education Foundation and the Solid Waste Association of North America, released the results of [a study of needlestick injuries](#) at U.S. recycling facilities, estimating an annual cost of \$2.25 million for patient treatment and monitoring. The study confirms that sharps are a common contaminant in the residential waste stream and a threat to the physical and psychological health of waste industry workers.



PSI promotes safe sharps disposal via take-back programs where available, and containerized trash disposal as a last resort in states where this is permitted.

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## Plethora of Plastic Bans Prompt India's Plastics Industry to Consider Supporting EPR

India is currently implementing a 2016 [EPR law on plastic packaging](#). Industry opinion on EPR [is divided](#). Some companies believe it is government's responsibility to build waste collection. Others, however, believe that EPR discussions are long overdue. More than 20 Indian states and territories now restrict plastic products, which is generating packaging industry interest in a coordinated, more efficient, EPR system.



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## CA Dept. of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) Disapproves Mattress Recycling Council (MRC)'s 2017 Annual Report

MRC must submit a revised report by October 22. This is the second consecutive year that MRC's [2017 Annual Report](#) provided insufficient detail to determine if requirements have been met and sufficient progress made in achieving program goals. Deficiencies identified by [CalRecycle](#) included, but were not limited to:

- Overall program convenience
- Illegal dumping
- Uses for recycled materials
- Research and development
- MRC-contracted recyclers recycling by weight target



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## Safe Disposal of Kitchen Appliances Boosts

## Environmental Health

In the U.S., [70 percent](#) of used refrigerators and freezers are put on the curb, where they may not be collected. These appliances contain refrigerants that, if improperly managed, can deplete the ozone layer, contribute to climate change, and pose hazards due to polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), mercury, and oils. [New York City](#) has the only EPR law in the U.S. to sustainably fund proper management of these products, for which PSI provided implementation support.



In other countries, appliances containing refrigerants are covered by EPR laws for electronics. British Columbia recently [approved](#) Major Appliance Recycling Roundtable's amended Stewardship Plan, which commits to new performance and consumer awareness targets as required to provide continuous improvement to the program.

## New! Partner Spotlight

This spotlight is a new benefit to PSI's Members and Partners. From time to time, PSI will feature new Partners and key news, services, and accomplishments by our existing Partners that will benefit the product stewardship network. Have an update to share? [Let us know!](#)



### Sustaining Partner

[Recycling Technology Solutions \(RTS\)](#) was formed as a public benefit corporation to provide software applications that improve management and tracking of recyclable products. RTS develops the technology approaches and solutions that facilitate closed loop waste processing. RTS recently launched a tire recycling application that creates an information network between Stewardships, Collectors, Haulers and Processors and can be configured to meet all state legislative requirements. Corporations have the ability to understand their contribution to closed loop waste processing allowing them to demonstrate their success and Corporate Social Responsibility.

### Reciprocal Partner

[Stewardship Italia](#) is an Italian nonprofit dedicated to building a culture of stewardship to improve human well-being and protect the environment. The organization seeks to enhance public knowledge and promote stewardship principles at the company, sector, and government policy levels. "[Stewardship: Policies and practices for an ethical management of resources](#)," authored by Annalisa Casino of Stewardship Italia, is now available in English. Watch for her next book, "Stewardship: the new sustainability," to be released September 2019.

## Events & Webinars

- **Free webinar recording:** [Lessons Learned from Hospital Drug Take-Back Programs](#) | Product Stewardship Institute | September 5 | 2:30pm – 4:00pm ET | [Download](#)
- **Free webinar:** [Global Best Practices: Packaging EPR's Role in Advancing the Circular Economy](#) | Product Stewardship Institute | October 31 | 11:00am – 12:30pm ET | [Register](#)
- **Upcoming webinar:** [Global Best Practices in Medical Sharps EPR](#) | Product Stewardship Institute | November | Date & Time TBD | Registration coming soon
- **Upcoming webinar:** [Paint Stewardship 101](#) | Product Stewardship Institute | November | Date & Time TBD | Registration coming soon

- **2018 Oklahoma Recycling Conference** | Oklahoma Recycling Association | September 20 |

Stillwater, OK | [Register](#)

- **Resource Recycling Conference** | Resource Recycling | October 22-24 | St. Louis, MO | [Register](#)
- **Annual Recycling Conference** | New York State Association for Reduction, Reuse and Recycling | November 7-8 | Cooperstown, NY | [Learn more](#)

## PSI in the News

- ['Clean tax cuts' and the global free market for plastic solutions](#) | GreenBiz | August 28
- [Eileen Fisher wants those clothes back when you're done](#) | Washington Post | August 31
- [Food giants back US consumers in battle for meaningful food labelling](#) | Ethical Corporation | September 3
- [I'm tired of seeing discarded mattresses along the roadways](#) | The Laconia Daily Sun | September 14

## What We're Reading

- [Recycling requirement takes effect in Hong Kong](#) | Resource Recycling | August 16
- [Survey: One-third of US consumers favor a tax on plastic food packaging](#) | Food Dive | August 23
- [Province renews commitment to Manitoba Medications Return Program](#) | mySteinbach | August 23
- [Stewardship agreement for tired tyres gaining traction](#) | NZ Herald | August 25
- [The Impact of Material Mismanagement \(What LCA Doesn't See\)](#) | Environmental Leader | August 31
- [What Chinese import policies mean for all 50 states](#) | Waste Dive | Updated August 31
- [Circularity in our solar energy system](#) | GreenBiz | September 5
- [Tire dump to be local focus of river cleanup](#) | Brattleboro Reformer | September 9

Like what you've read? Want to receive bi-weekly Product Stewardship Updates and Legislative Updates in your inbox? Contact Megan Byers, Associate for Policy, Programs, and Outreach, at [megan@productstewardship.us](mailto:megan@productstewardship.us) or (617) 236-4866.

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