**April 2021 Recycling Clips**

**Dear Recycling, It’s not me, It’s you: Why it’s time for consumers to end their love affair with recycling** Calvin Lakhan, Ph.D | Apr 8, 2021 <https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/dear-recycling-its-me-you-why-time-consumers-end-love-lakhan-ph-d>

[**Putting the cart before the horse: Why your jurisdiction is not ready for EPR legislation (linkedin.com)**](https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/putting-cart-before-horse-why-your-jurisdiction-ready-lakhan-ph-d?trk=read_related_article-card_title) Published on March 30, 2021 [Calvin Lakhan, Ph.D](https://ca.linkedin.com/in/calvin-lakhan-ph-d-56329224?trk=author_mini-profile_title)[**Follow**](https://www.linkedin.com/login?session_redirect=https%3A%2F%2Fwww%2Elinkedin%2Ecom%2Fpulse%2Fputting-cart-before-horse-why-your-jurisdiction-ready-lakhan-ph-d&trk=author-info__follow-button)*Preface: The purpose of this article was to discuss some of the data requirements for developing effective EPR legislation. Feel free to skip to section 3 for my EPR data checklist.*

**Is ESG a Load of Garbage? Actually, Yes.** By [Brooke Sutherland](https://www.bloomberg.com/opinion/authors/AQ1oJ6PUBL8/brooke-sutherland) April 9, 2021, 12:11 PM PDT*Trash haulers such as Waste Management and Republic Services are doing a lot more for the environment than many may realize.* <https://www.bloomberg.com/opinion/articles/2021-04-09/trash-haulers-waste-management-republic-have-esg-credentials>

**Letters to the editor: Boost renewable energy; Lopez for Redmond schools; Improve recycling in southern Deschutes County** Apr 9, 2021  
 ….A proposal is being considered to divert excess fees into a fancy new public recycling center in Sunriver. Those fees are collected from the garbage service customers and should be used to subsidize home-based recycling. Unmonitored public centers, like Sunriver’s, allow for indiscriminate dumping, while home-based recycling promotes a cleaner and more marketable stream…..<https://www.bendbulletin.com/opinion/letters-to-the-editor-boost-renewable-energy-lopez-for-redmond-schools-improve-recycling-in-southern/article_137a7b3e-9892-11eb-b831-a7f6a403167f.html>

**Carpet Recycling Group Settles With CalRecycle for $1.175 Million By**[**Evan Symon**](https://californiaglobe.com/author/evan-symon/)**, April 1, 2021 2:16 am**

*CARE failed to increase carpet recycling in state for several years*

A five year long legal battle between the California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) and the non-profit carpet recycling group Carpet America Recovery Effort (CARE) ended on Tuesday with CARE s[ettling the case for $1.175 million dollars](https://resource-recycling.com/plastics/wp-content/uploads/sites/4/2021/03/NR2021-01-Carpet-Recycling-Organization-Settlement.pdf).

<https://californiaglobe.com/section-2/carpet-recycling-group-settles-with-calrecycle-for-1-175-million/>

[**Roundup: Local governments continue to fight illegal dumping, adapt curbside recycling**](https://r.xdref.com/?id=13CFh6Mb060704&from=delivery_20210412114306.23505970.22526@bounce.divenewsletter.com&to=bethvd@orra.net&url=https://link.wastedive.com/click/23505970.22526/aHR0cHM6Ly93d3cud2FzdGVkaXZlLmNvbS9uZXdzL3JvdW5kdXAtbG9jYWwtZ292ZXJubWVudHMtY29udGludWUtdG8tZmlnaHQtaWxsZWdhbC1kdW1waW5nLWFkYXB0LWN1cmJzaWQvNTk4MTM3Lw/5e90e2fd950d4d5e14625959B908fd7b5) **Waste Dive April 12, 2021  
C**atch up on the latest local waste and recycling headlines from New York, Los Angeles, Chicago and numerous other municipalities around the country.

[**Shell pilots technology to recycle plastic waste back into chemicals in Louisiana**](https://www.theadvocate.com/baton_rouge/news/business/article_19f0f1e8-0c82-11ea-9b22-9b98668fde0b.html#_blank)

The new recycling facility would process between 50 tons to 100 tons of plastic each day. It's another joint venture between AmSty and Norwegian plastic maker Agilyx Corporation which has developed advanced recycling technology at its Oregon pilot plant, known as Regenyx.

The partnership dates back to 2018 when the companies invested in the plant. A year later, Agilyx sent its first commercial truckload of recycled styrene monomer to AmSty at its Louisiana plant to go back into manufacturing plastic products. Regenyx has since recycled more than 1 million pounds of polystyrene into new materials.

The companies estimate that's the equivalent of keeping 37.5 million foam cups or 32.5 million food takeout containers out of the landfill.  The new facility, which does not yet have a timeline for construction, **will be a next-generation version of the pilot plant in Oregon**. The plastic feedstock would come from Agilyx's subsidiary, Cyclyx.   
<https://www.theadvocate.com/baton_rouge/news/business/article_bce78196-9971-11eb-b3a2-1f29524c6b50.html>

**Nordstrom Expands BEAUTYCYCLE to Canada --** Tue, April 6, 2021, 6:00 AM·  
*First major retailer in Canada to offer a recycling program of hard-to-recycle beauty packaging for all brands*

<https://www.yahoo.com/now/nordstrom-expands-beautycycle-canada-130000931.html?guce_referrer=aHR0cHM6Ly93d3cuZ29vZ2xlLmNvbS8&guce_referrer_sig=AQAAAD15OrlXtFcmGsrv4mvyd8dqssEkgacjNGGHx6S2QwRgORtEDNFhOYMmcALJ_bgRdHBaZF_pZKAboBNVHjcSLiIkuIJhNi_9YgwQzuFarHJ7FL0payBYy7aQ2t6fXiIyOCN8doRf7OjuidYUKS2r7gY30OhY9cnAg5d5EcEsM0G3>

**Oregon lawmakers seek to ban fake green labeling on non-recyclable plastic containers** April 6, 2021  
[https://www.oregonlive.com/politics/2021/04/oregon-lawmakers-seek-to-ban-fake-green-labeling-on-non-recyclable-plastic-containers.html](https://r.xdref.com/?id=1395ctLW022331&from=or2stay@comcast.net&to=bethvd@orra.net&url=https://www.oregonlive.com/politics/2021/04/oregon-lawmakers-seek-to-ban-fake-green-labeling-on-non-recyclable-plastic-containers.html)

**Starbucks launches 'Borrow A Cup' trial with reusable cups for Earth Month. Here's how it works – USA Today April 6, 2021***More than a year after* [*Starbucks stopped allowing consumers to bring in reusable cups*](https://www.usatoday.com/story/money/food/2020/03/04/coronavirus-starbucks-coffee-takes-steps-preparation/4959247002/) *in the early days of the* [*COVID-19 pandemic*](https://www.usatoday.com/news/coronavirus/)*, the coffee giant said Tuesday that it is looking to go greener. No, you can't bring your own cup back in yet, but Starbucks announced the Earth Month launch of the “Borrow A Cup” trial program in five Seattle stores. The program runs through May 31. The trial allows customers to order their beverage in a reusable cup for a $1 deposit. When they return the cups at a participating store's contactless kiosk, or at-home through a Seattle-area service called Ridwell, they'll get the $1 back and 10 rewards points through the* [*chain’s loyalty program*](https://www.usatoday.com/story/money/food/2020/07/21/free-starbucks-rewards-loyalty-program-update/5464282002/)*. The cups are then professionally cleaned and sterilized…*  
<https://www.usatoday.com/story/money/food/2021/04/06/starbucks-reusable-cup-trial-program-seattle-covid/7094778002/>

**Oregon Legislature considers bill creating right to repair electronics By Jake Thomas -** Salem Reporter April 7, 2021 at 3:46pm

*Proponents of the bill say it would cut down on electronic waste while making computers and other devices more accessible. But industry groups say the bill could harm consumer privacy and there are already ways to get devices repaired.* <https://www.salemreporter.com/posts/3978/oregon-legislature-considers-bill-creating-right-to-repair-electronics>

**U.S. Recycling: The Come Back is Better than Ever (Commentary)** Waste360 -- April 8, 2021  
Stagnant for 15 years and punched in the gut by China’s decision to stop importing any recycled materials from the US at the end of 2017, recycling rates have fallen for three years. Across the U.S., programs were cancelled and recycled materials sent to landfills and incinerators. The national recycling rate fell from 35% to 32%. In California, the country’s leading recycling state, rates fell from 50% in 2014 to 37% in 2019… <https://www.waste360.com/recycling/us-recycling-come-back-better-ever-commentary>

**Ron Gonen on 'waste profiteers,' transforming the recycling industry and getting serious about ESG WasteDive April 8, 2021**

*The Closed Loop Partners CEO and author of new book "The Waste-Free World" discusses how CPG companies, services providers, local governments and consumers must adapt to build a circular economy.*<https://www.wastedive.com/news/ron-gonen-waste-free-world-closed-loop-circular-economy/597976/>

**NWRA Calls on Congressmen Cárdenas and Bucshon to Support Incentives for Increased Private Sector Domestic Recycling Infrastructure** Waste AdvantageApril 7, 2021

*Congressmen Tony Cárdenas (D-CA) and Larry Buschon (R-IN) reintroduced the Realizing the Economic Opportunities and Values of Expanding Recycling (RECOVER) Act on April 5. The legislation, which mirrors the bill they introduced in late 2019, would provide federal assistance to state and local governments to improve their recycling programs and education efforts.*

*“The National Waste & Recycling Association (NWRA) supports efforts to increase domestic recycling infrastructure. The lack of sufficient capacity was highlighted by the shortages of manufacturing feedstock during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic last year,” stated NWRA President and CEO Darrell Smith. “However, as is the case with President Biden’s American Jobs Plan, the RECOVER Act does not address the key role that the private sector plays in this and, in fact, places it at a competitive disadvantage.”…*

<https://wasteadvantagemag.com/nwra-calls-on-congressmen-cardenas-and-bucshon-to-support-incentives-for-increased-private-sector-domestic-recycling-infrastructure/>

**NERC conference explores EPR, refillable bottle and circular economy possibilities April 7, 2021**

Panelists at the Northeast Recycling Council event covered how lessons from Canada and Europe could help improve U.S. recycling systems while also debating the merits of chemical recycling.

**Jules Bailey**…*Oregon will have to contend with several other obstacles that could limit the growth or success of the refillables program, such as the trend of beer packaging moving toward aluminum cans and away from glass, he said. Adding wine to Oregon’s bottle bill could also open doors to expand the refillable program further…*

**CANADA EPR** -- …*Peter Hargreave, President of Policy Integrity, said Canada has learned from the country’s original EPR plan in British Columbia, known as a “full responsibility” model, in which producers take care of both the cost and the operational responsibility for end-of-life management. British Columbia was the first province to establish that model, and both Ontario and Quebec are planning to move to similar models in the coming years, he said.*

*Four provinces use shared responsibility models, in which producers pay a percentage of the cost, starting at about 50%, to municipalities to collect recycled materials, he said. Years ago, “everybody bought into the shared responsibility model because, at that time, producers saw it as an opportunity to remove or not have to pay the full bill and municipalities saw it as a way to be sustainable,” said Hargreave. Today, provinces with such a model are seeing operational costs increase but efficiency and revenues plateau or decline, he noted…*<https://www.wastedive.com/news/nerc-epr-refillable-circular-economy-chemical-recycling/597968/?utm_source=Sailthru&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Issue:%202021-04-07%20Waste%20Dive:%20Recycling%20%5Bissue:33463%5D&utm_term=Waste%20Dive:%20Recycling>

**Cardboard prices reach record high amid e-commerce demand April 7, 2021**

* The price of cardboard reached a record high in February, according to the [Producer Price Index for corrugated and solid fiber box manufacturing](https://fred.stlouisfed.org/series/PCU322211322211P) from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). The rising prices indicate e-commerce demand is leading to higher costs for packaging materials.
* The index has increased more than 4% since December 2020 and is up the same amount year-over-year, [according to the BLS figures](https://fred.stlouisfed.org/series/PCU322211322211P).
* Corrugated industry shipments were up 3.4% year-over-year in 2020 to reach a total 407 billion square feet, according to figures emailed by the Fibre Box Association.

<https://www.wastedive.com/news/cardboard-prices-ecommerce-corrugated-box-paper/597982/?utm_source=Sailthru&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Issue:%202021-04-07%20Waste%20Dive:%20Recycling%20%5Bissue:33463%5D&utm_term=Waste%20Dive:%20Recycling>

**Readers respond: Bottle deposit program needs changes**

Updated Apr 06, 6:30 AM; Posted Apr 06, 6:30 AM

*…Bottle Redemption Centers are so few, the recycling machines are prone to mechanical failure and the coronavirus has made them even less inviting places to be. Most consumers have little choice but to store their empty cans and bottles, which deprives them of the deposit money they are entitled to. Even more egregious is the “green bag” program which requires consumers to purchase bags and pay a processing fee.*

*Not only do the green bags have to be purchased, but the program charges a processing fee, there is a limit to how many green bags can be deposited at any one time and the cash back is not immediate.*

***The Oregon Beverage Recycling Cooperative is not complaining. The co-op is being enriched by millions of dollars that rightfully belong to consumers and unless the bottle bill can be restored to what it was in the beginning – i.e., more consumer friendly and fair – it should be abolished.***<https://www.oregonlive.com/opinion/2021/04/readers-respond-bottle-deposit-program-needs-changes.html>

**Paint a ‘happy little tree’ or your backyard fence with Washington’s new recycling program  By Courtney Flatt** (Northwest News Network)April 6, 2021 6:22 a.m. **Updated:** April 6, 2021 6:22 a.m. <https://www.opb.org/article/2021/04/06/paint-a-happy-little-tree-or-your-backyard-fence-with-washington-s-new-recycling-program/>

**Break Free From Plastic Pollution Act reintroduced, plastics industry ramps up opposition** | Waste Dive <https://www.wastedive.com/news/break-free-from-plastic-pollution-act-reintroduced/597338/>

**Tracking the future of US recycling policy in Congress** | Waste Dive <https://www.wastedive.com/news/tracking-the-future-of-us-recycling-policy-in-congress/570778/>

**Ridwell -- Starbucks trying reusable cups to cut down on waste while teaming with Seattle recycling startup By Kurt Schlosser** on April 6, 2021 at 9:52 am<https://www.geekwire.com/2021/starbucks-trying-reusable-cups-cut-waste-teaming-seattle-recycling-startup/amp/>

**Waste Management Ousted From Chicago’s Recycling Program -** By Madison Hopkins Apr 6, 2021 5:00 PM  
*The company lost the city’s Blue Cart contract after a BGA investigation revealed how the company charged the city twice for processing materials in recycling bins.* [https://www.bettergov.org/news/waste-management-ousted-from-chicago-s-recycling-program/](https://r.xdref.com/?id=1375cEjJ047406&from=or2stay@comcast.net&to=bethvd@orra.net&url=https://www.bettergov.org/news/waste-management-ousted-from-chicago-s-recycling-program/)

**Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control Launches “Recyclopedia” to Increase Recycling -** Waste Advantage Magazine <https://wasteadvantagemag.com/delaware-department-of-natural-resources-and-environmental-control-launches-recyclopedia-to-increase-recycling/>

**Clean Earth Launches FullCircle Advanced Waste Lifecycle Program Focusing on Zero Waste Solution** - Waste Advantage Magazine <https://wasteadvantagemag.com/clean-earth-launches-fullcircle-advanced-waste-lifecycle-program-focusing-on-zero-waste-solution/>

**Paint Recycling Program Launches in Washington State** April 01, 2021 09:00 AM Eastern Daylight Time Ten years in the making, the new program makes it easy and safe to recycle leftover paint   
*SEATTLE--(*[*BUSINESS WIRE*](https://www.businesswire.com/)*)--A new paint recycling program beginning today in the state of Washington allows households and businesses to recycle leftover paint, stain, and varnish conveniently and sustainably. The program is operated by* [*PaintCare*](https://cts.businesswire.com/ct/CT?id=smartlink&url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.paintcare.org&esheet=52405341&newsitemid=20210401005338&lan=en-US&anchor=PaintCare&index=1&md5=86b3373125bb4c37e983944fe4f2febc)*, a nonprofit organization created by the paint industry through the American Coatings Association (ACA) to manage leftover paint in states that have enacted paint stewardship laws. PaintCare will provide more than 200 drop-off sites across Washington, which include paint retail stores and locally managed government facilities.* <https://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20210401005338/en/Paint-Recycling-Program-Launches-in-Washington-State>

**Metro Recycling Mkt April 1 2021 Report:**

