**March Recycling Clips**

**Go big or go home on national recycling policy—March 31, 2021** The following is a guest piece by Kate Bailey, the policy and research director at Colorado recycling and zero waste organization Eco-Cycle and a founding member of the Alliance of Mission-Based Recyclers.

*..Education doesn’t work if products are not designed to be recycled, if the collection infrastructure cannot properly capture and process the materials, and if the markets do not exist to drive the use of those materials into recycled products. What we need now is radical sweeping change in policy and infrastructure, supported by recycling education, not led by it…*

<https://www.wastedive.com/news/go-big-national-recycling-policy-break-free-bailey/597600/?utm_source=Sailthru&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Issue:%202021-03-31%20Waste%20Dive:%20Recycling%20%5Bissue:33348%5D&utm_term=Waste%20Dive:%20Recycling>

**Can collectors call for recognition as essential recyclers--** By Chicago Crosby New York Daily News |

Mar 31, 2021 at 5:00 AM

*Last year, two dozen Sure We Can canners and allies formed the Canner Advocacy Task Force (CATF) to empower canners and advocate for our livelihoods, improve city and state recycling policies, and champion local solutions. We are hopeful that canners in New York City will achieve formal recognition by the city, and that the state will amend New York’s Bottle Bill. Increasing the redemption rate, which hasn’t changed since 1982, from five cents to ten cents, and expanding the types of containers included under the bill, are cost-effective ways to recognize the labor involved in recycling, divert more materials from our streets, landfills, and oceans, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. In Oregon, for instance, recycling rates increased from 64% to 90% in only two years after the redemption value increased from five cents to ten cents.*

<https://www.nydailynews.com/opinion/ny-oped-canners-are-part-of-recycling-20210331-dnr4abjfxre4jeg3oqkrky63ai-story.html>

**New Report Ranks U.S. States Based on Recycling Performance; Finds Data, Policy and Infrastructure Investment Critical to Improve Recycling Rates**

*First-of-its-kind analysis provides a benchmark to inform state-by-state policy and investment decisions, while nationwide polling shows strong support for measures to improve recycling rates and advance circular economy*

<https://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/new-report-ranks-us-states-based-on-recycling-performance-finds-data-policy-and-infrastructure-investment-critical-to-improve-recycling-rates-301258786.html>

**New Report Ranks U.S. States Based on Recycling Performance; Finds Data, Policy and Infrastructure Investment Critical to Improve Recycling Rates March 30, 2021**

Excerpt: *“ The study found the 10 states with the highest recycling rate for common containers and packaging materials (CCPM) excluding cardboard and boxboard in 2018 are: Maine(72%); Vermont(62%); Massachusetts(55%); Oregon(55%); Connecticut(52%); New York(51%); Minnesota(49%); Michigan(48%); New Jersey(46%); and Iowa(44%).”*

<https://wasteadvantagemag.com/new-report-ranks-u-s-states-based-on-recycling-performance-finds-data-policy-and-infrastructure-investment-critical-to-improve-recycling-rates/>

**Deposit return systems are a key part of solving the plastic paradox March 29**

The quantity and quality of feedstock must increase to support industry pledges and government initiatives to increase recycled content, writes Reloop's Elizabeth Balkan.

<https://www.wastedive.com/news/deposit-return-systems-solution-plastic-reloop/597277/>

**Legislators want study of glass recycling | News, Sports, Jobs - Observer Today March 29, 2021**

*Assemblyman Steve Englebright, D-East Setauket, and Sen. James Sanders, D-South Ozone Park, have introduced A.6033 and S.4094 directing the state DEC to study alternative municipal uses for recycled glass and to submit a report containing its findings along with legislative proposals as it deems necessary to implement its recommendations.*

*“New York has made recycling a top priority. These recycling efforts have been extremely successful however, buyer of recycled materials have recently reduced their intake of recycled glass. Unfortunately, without a buyer for these recycled materials, not only is recycling glass not economically feasible for many municipalities, it greatly contributes to the solid waste problem,” Englebright and Sanders said in their legislative justification. “Localities across the nation are exploring new uses for recycled glass, especially in light of the fact that many overseas buyers have reduced or eliminated their procurement of glass.”*

*Jamestown is one of those localities. The Board of Public Utilities stopped picking up glass earlier this year in part due to customers putting out much less glass than they had in the past, which meant it was costing more to pick up glass than it used to.*

<https://www.observertoday.com/news/local-region/2021/03/legislators-want-study-of-glass-recycling/>

**American Chemistry Council Welcomes Virginia's Enactment of Bipartisan Advanced Recycling Proposal into Law** - Waste Advantage Magazine

<https://wasteadvantagemag.com/american-chemistry-council-welcomes-virginias-enactment-of-bipartisan-advanced-recycling-proposal-into-law/>

**Why don’t pharmacies use recyclable pill bottles**? March 28, 2021
<https://www.mailtribune.com/okategoriserade/2021/03/28/why-dont-pharmacies-use-recyclable-pill-bottles/>

**'It's a pipe dream': Green groups blast plastic makers' recycling push**

*The groups argue that the Break Free from Plastics Pollution Act would undermine their recycling efforts and disrupt critical supply chains.*

*Groceries loaded in plastic bags are seen after a shopping trip. The legislation would cut production at the source by banning bags, straws, takeout containers and other items. | Gillian Flaccus/AP By* [***CATHERINE BOUDREAU***](https://www.politico.com/staff/catherine-boudreau) *03/25/2021 09:38 AM EDT*

*Legislation aimed at tackling America’s plastic waste has ignited a messaging war between makers of single-use products and environmental advocates. The American Chemistry Council on Tuesday lined up industry heavyweights Dow Chemicals Co., Bubble Wrap maker Sealed Air Corp., and others to argue that the Break Free from Plastics Pollution Act — which Sen. Jeff Merkley (D-Ore.) and Rep. Alan Lowenthal (D-Calif.) plan to reintroduce today — would undermine their recycling efforts and disrupt critical supply chains….*<https://www.politico.com/news/2021/03/25/green-groups-plastic-makers-recycling-push-477975>

**Roundup: How cities are bucking privatization, fighting contamination via smartphones** Waste Dive March 26, 2021

A Washington city explains ending its 15-year relationship with Waste Connections, Waste Pro plans to walk from contract troubles in Memphis and more local stories from around the country.

…*Privatization of local waste and recycling services has become increasingly common in recent decades. This month, two municipalities with populations of a little over 20,000 each took key steps toward bucking the trend.*

*Almost 15 years into a 20-year arrangement with Waste Connections, the city of* ***Port Angeles, Washington****, moved to cancel its contract at a March 16 council meeting. As soon as this fall, the city plans to take over operations of its transfer station, residential recycling collection routes, and other services – as well as negotiate new post-collection arrangements for processing and disposal….*

<https://www.wastedive.com/news/waste-roundup-port-angeles-memphis-recycling-contamination/597377/>

**Break Free From Plastic Pollution Act reintroduced, plastics industry ramps up opposition** | Waste Dive March 25, 2021
<https://www.wastedive.com/news/break-free-from-plastic-pollution-act-reintroduced/597338/>

**Tracking the future of US recycling policy in Congress**Spurred by market challenges, the Hill has seen a historic influx of big bills. Keep up on all the latest developments with our legislative tracker. **Updated March 25, 2021** <https://www.wastedive.com/news/tracking-the-future-of-us-recycling-policy-in-congress/570778/>

**Video Rally - Break Free From Plastic Pollution Act Introduction** – YouTube Merkley – March 25, 2021<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I5ZaxOKprRk>

**New Report on Reducing Contamination in Curbside Recycling Programs** - Waste Advantage Magazine
*A new report developed by SWANA’s Applied Research Foundation (ARF) addresses the issue of increased contamination in curbside recycling programs in recent years and its effect on costs and safety at material recovery facilities (MRFs). The ARF report, Reducing Contamination in Curbside Recycling Programs, identifies and addresses the key reasons why residents place contaminants in their recycling bins. A better understanding of what causes these recycling behaviors should enable recycling and sustainability program managers to develop and implement more effective anti-contamination programs that address the underlying reasons for curbside recycling contamination.*

*“This new ARF report provides useful and actionable information to recycling managers throughout the United States and Canada that can be used to reduce contamination and program costs,” stated David Biderman, SWANA’s Executive Director & CEO. “We hope local governments and companies take full advantage of the insights and analysis in the report.”…*<https://wasteadvantagemag.com/new-report-on-reducing-contamination-in-curbside-recycling-programs/>

**My Team Found 2,000 Plastic Bags Inside A Dead Camel** Bloomberg,March 24, 2021
<https://www.ndtv.com/opinion/plastic-waste-pollution-my-team-found-2-000-plastic-bags-inside-a-dead-camel-2397813?amp=1&akamai-rum=off>

**Malaysia to return U.S. plastic waste shipment under new U.N. rules** | Reuters March 24, 2021

*KUALA LUMPUR (Reuters) - Malaysia will return a container of plastic trash en route from the United States as it violates new U.N. rules governing hazardous waste, the environment ministry said on Wednesday, one of the first signs of the regulations being enforced.*

*Two years ago, more than 180 countries agreed to ban hard-to-recycle plastic waste trade in an attempt to stop rich countries dumping trash in the developing world, where it often ends up polluting the local environment and the ocean.*

*The new restrictions, which come under the Basel Convention, a United Nations treaty that polices the trade in hazardous waste, came into force in January….* <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-malaysia-environment-plastic-idUSKBN2BG0ZL>

**NWRA Announces Its Support for “The Recycle Act”** - Waste Advantage Magazine March 24, 2021

<https://wasteadvantagemag.com/nwra-announces-its-support-for-the-recycle-act-2/>

**U.S. Continues to Ship Illegal Plastic Waste to Developing Countries** March 18, 2021
Editor's note: This article has been updated with correspondence from the Basel Action Network and the Center for International Environmental Law The majority of the world is working together to reverse the massive [plastic pollution](https://www.ecowatch.com/tag/plastic-pollution) problem. But, the world's leading producer of [plastic waste](https://www.ecowatch.com/tag/plastic%20waste), the U.S., isn't on board and isn't following the rules….<https://www.ecowatch.com/amp/us-illegal-plastic-waste-2651126176>

[**California legislators take aim at plastics with new bill package, including contested producer responsibility plan**](https://r.xdref.com/?id=12HHl6bn032332&from=delivery_20210317134707.23242485.14928@bounce.divenewsletter.com&to=bethvd@orra.net&url=https://link.wastedive.com/click/23242485.14928/aHR0cHM6Ly93d3cud2FzdGVkaXZlLmNvbS9uZXdzL2NhbGlmb3JuaWEtcGxhc3RpY3MtcGFja2FnaW5nLXByb2R1Y2VyLXJlc3BvbnNpYmlsaXR5LXBhY2thZ2UtMjAyMS81OTY1Mzcv/5e90e2fd950d4d5e14625959B29de2d2d)By [Megan Quinn](https://www.wastedive.com/editors/mquinn/) March 11, 2021 Waste Dive Brief:

* California lawmakers have reintroduced [SB 54](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220SB54), a bill that would require all single-use disposable packaging, including food service packaging, to be recyclable or compostable by January 2032. The bill debuted as part of a unified Democrat-led package of almost a dozen other plastic waste-related bills [on March 9](https://sd26.senate.ca.gov/news/2021-03-09-ca-lawmakers-propose-package-new-laws-tackling-plastic-waste-reduction).
* As currently written, the bill leaves out a major part of previous versions, which had required single-use plastic packaging to have a 75% recycling or composting rate by 2032. Bill sponsors anticipate SB 54 will undergo more updates as the legislative session goes on.
* Other new bills aim to standardize recycling labeling on packaging, set minimum recycled content standards for thermoform packaging, and prohibit the state from counting exported plastic scrap in its recycling rate calculations if it is landfilled, burned or dumped.

**Agilyx and ExxonMobil’s Joint Venture to Supply Plastics Recycling Industry 3/16/2021***The new Cyclix entity will aim to provide needed supply chain transformation to enable advanced recycling on a large scale. Edited by* [*Lilli Manolis Sherman*](https://www.ptonline.com/blog/author/lilli-manolis-sherman) *Senior Editor --- A new joint venture which is focused on helping increase plastic waste recycling has been formed by* [*Agilyx Corp*](https://www.agilyx.com/)*., Tigard, Oregon, (a wholly-owned subsidiary of Norway’s Agilyx AS) and Houston-based* [*ExxonMobil*](https://www.ptonline.com/suppliers/EXXON)*. Named Cyclyx, the new entity will aggregate and pre-process plastic waste to meet the technical requirements of a wide range of recycling processes while ensuring reliable supply of feedstock to its customers. ExxonMobil holds a 25% equity interest in Cyclyx with Agilyx owning the remaining 75%.* <https://www.ptonline.com/news/agilyx-and-exxonmobils-joint-venture-to-supply-plastics-recycling-industry>

**Stewardship Program Improving Recycling of Household Paint Products Clears Assembly Committee**March 15, 2021, 6:34 pm *Stanley, Lopez & Kennedy Bill to Establish Paint Stewardship Program Improving Recycling of Household Paint Products Clears Assembly Committee -- Measure to Boost Recycling and Lessen Environmental Impact of Paints*<https://www.insidernj.com/press-release/stanley-lopez-kennedy-bill-establish-paint-stewardship-program-improving-recycling-household-paint-products-clears-assembly-committee/>

**Plastics – What’s recyclable, what becomes trash -- and why** NPR March 13, 2021
<https://apps.npr.org/plastics-recycling/>

**Connecticut Bill to Ban Foam Takeout Containers in 2023 Advances** March 16, 2021
<https://wasteadvantagemag.com/connecticut-bill-to-ban-foam-takeout-containers-in-2023-advances/>

**Smithfield Foods Announces New Recyclable Packaging and Plastic Reduction Commitments** March 16, 2021 *Smithfield Foods, Inc. announced bold new commitments it will implement across its portfolio by 2030: to achieve consumer packaging that is 90% recyclable, reusable or industrially compostable and to halve use of virgin petroleum-based plastic. To meet these goals, the company has established an internal cross-functional team to investigate and explore new strategic packaging and plastic-use reduction options. Among the team’s current efforts is the identification and testing of replacements for products currently packaged using polystyrene (PS) trays.*<https://wasteadvantagemag.com/smithfield-foods-announces-new-recyclable-packaging-and-plastic-reduction-commitments/>

**Snohomish recycling project sees community-wide support**Through Bags-to-Benches, discarded recycled plastic is turned into spots to sit and ponder. by [Ellen Dennis](https://www.heraldnet.com/author/ellen-dennis/) Monday, March 15, 2021 <https://www.heraldnet.com/news/snohomish-recycling-project-sees-community-wide-support/>

**US plastic waste exports in violation of new UN rules***Recent customs data obtained by the Basel Action Network (BAN) reveals that US exporters, global shipping lines, and the US government are all violating the new 2021global rules established by the Basel Convention to prevent indiscriminate dumping and pollution arising from the plastic waste trade in developing countries.* <https://www.recycling-magazine.com/2021/03/11/us-plastic-waste-exports-in-violation-of-new-un-rules/>

**Madison to certify 'master recyclers' in effort to reduce waste, spread message**

[Chris Hubbuch | Wisconsin State Journal](https://madison.com/users/profile/Chris%20Hubbuch) Mar 13, 2021

<https://madison.com/wsj/news/local/environment/madison-to-certify-master-recyclers-in-effort-to-reduce-waste-spread-message/article_637d532d-4e1f-5695-b6ea-a1719ae1328a.html>

**Garbage bags, minimum recycled content mandates could help drive demand for recycled plastic film** March 12, 2021 *In the search for better end markets for recycled plastic film, trash bags could be an ideal candidate — but only if recycled content laws and public demand also play a role, some experts say.* <https://www.wastedive.com/news/garbage-bags-minimum-recycled-content-mandates-drive-demand-recycled-plastic-film-markets/596617/>

**Solvent Distillation Units Market Segmentation Application, Technology & Market Analysis Research Report To 2025** By [Kumar](https://neighborwebsj.com/author/kumar/) [March 11, 2021](https://neighborwebsj.com/news/4559423/solvent-distillation-units-market-segmentation-application-technology-market-analysis-research-report-to-2025/)
[https://neighborwebsj.com/news/4559423/solvent-distillation-units-market-segmentation-application-technology-market-analysis-research-report-to- 2025/](https://neighborwebsj.com/news/4559423/solvent-distillation-units-market-segmentation-application-technology-market-analysis-research-report-to-%202025/)

**Covestro and Mattress Recycling Council host "Rebond Rebound" Event** PRNewsWire March 11, 2021-- *Rebond Rebound event aims to expand the circular economy opportunities for rebond polyurethane foam* <https://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/covestro-and-mattress-recycling-council-host-rebond-rebound-event-301245690.html>

**Atlantic Packaging Joins the Alliance to End Plastic Waste** Waste Advantage March 12, 2021
*Atlantic Packaging announces that they have joined the Alliance to End Plastic Waste, a non-profit organization committed to ending plastic waste in the environment. In their capacity as an Alliance member, Atlantic will be collaborating with over 80 member companies, project partners, allies and supporters around the world to address this global issue.*

*The Alliance’s mission is to develop, accelerate and deploy innovative and impactful solutions, engage communities around the world, and to catalyze investments. The Alliance’s members represent the full range of the plastic value chain and are united in their drive and vision to end plastic waste in the environment. As a specialist in end-of-line packaging systems and materials as well as converted paperboard and corrugated solutions, Atlantic is connected up and down the supply chain and is well-positioned to help influence change….*<https://wasteadvantagemag.com/atlantic-packaging-joins-the-alliance-to-end-plastic-waste/>

**Garbage bags, minimum recycled content mandates could help drive demand for recycled plastic film** | Waste Dive March 12, 2021<https://www.wastedive.com/news/garbage-bags-minimum-recycled-content-mandates-drive-demand-recycled-plastic-film-markets/596617/>

**New Department of Ecology Program in State of Washington Gives One-Time Grants to Build Local Recycling Markets** Waste Advantage March 11, 2021
*As some local governments in Washington consider steps to reduce the rising cost of their recycling programs, we’ve signaled our intent to increase the value of recycled commodities by investing a half-million dollars in local communities. Ecology’s Recycling Development Center awarded a total of $504,073 to 10 local governments and one university to help develop and grow markets for recycled materials. The Center was established by the Washington State Legislature in 2019 to strengthen existing markets for recyclable materials….*<https://wasteadvantagemag.com/new-department-of-ecology-program-in-state-of-washington-gives-one-time-grants-to-build-local-recycling-markets/>

**California legislators take aim at plastics with new bill package, including contested producer responsibility plan** Waste Dive March 11, 2021
<https://www.wastedive.com/news/california-plastics-packaging-producer-responsibility-package-2021/596537/>

**Meet the Philly Start-Up That Will Recycle (Almost) All of Your Junk** March 9, 2021
*From cutting boards to curtains to K-cups, Rabbit Recycling is here to make you feel a little bit better about all the stuff you need to throw out.*
[https://www.phillymag.com/be-well-philly/2021/03/09/meet-the-philly-start-up-that-will-recycle-almost-all-of-your-junk/](https://r.xdref.com/?id=12BFpav0040537&from=vargasduncanb@gmail.com&to=bethvd@orra.net&url=https://www.phillymag.com/be-well-philly/2021/03/09/meet-the-philly-start-up-that-will-recycle-almost-all-of-your-junk/)

**The US Produces Nearly 5 Pounds of Trash Per Day Per Person** March 1, 2021
*At 4.9 pounds of trash per person, per day, the U.S. is the most wasteful country on the planet. Of the 292.4 million tons of refuse Americans generated in 2018, half was buried in landfills while another 32% was recycled or composted, according to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The rest was burned (the preferred term being “combusted”) to generate electricity.*

*Over the past three decades, the rate of U.S. recycling and composting has more than doubled. During that same period, however, the number of available landfills shrunk by about 74%....*<https://www.thestreet.com/.amp-mishtalk/mishtalk/economics/the-us-produces-nearly-5-pounds-of-trash-per-day-per-person>

Check out this week's [Waste360 NothingWasted! podcast](https://www.waste360.com/nothingwasted-podcast?utm_campaign=WST00WAT_PODCASTALEXANDER_KBS_03042021&utm_emailname=WST00WAT_PODCASTALEXANDER_KBS_03042021&utm_medium=email&utm_source=Eloqua&utm_MDMContactID=9611bb2c-92a8-43cf-922c-15fe4cff79bb&utm_campaigntype=Visitor%20Promotion&utm_sub=Let%27s%20talk%20plastics%20with%20the%20APR&eM=66c53cb8aef93a6bdead778a31f1fd223ad21cdf8fc0affc32de40c69b9ec135&eventSeriesCode=ES_WASTE36&eventEditionCode=WST00WAT&sessionCode=NULL&elqTrackId=f58c9fe33100485089250bf8038656c0&elq=5870858a709043e8b7f588b3abaffd37&elqaid=44746&elqat=1&elqCampaignId=26520) – where we talk with Steve Alexander, President of The Association of Plastics Recyclers (APR). March 2021
Learn more in this [article](https://www.waste360.com/nothingwasted-podcast?utm_campaign=WST00WAT_PODCASTALEXANDER_KBS_03042021&utm_emailname=WST00WAT_PODCASTALEXANDER_KBS_03042021&utm_medium=email&utm_source=Eloqua&utm_MDMContactID=9611bb2c-92a8-43cf-922c-15fe4cff79bb&utm_campaigntype=Visitor%20Promotion&utm_sub=Let%27s%20talk%20plastics%20with%20the%20APR&eM=66c53cb8aef93a6bdead778a31f1fd223ad21cdf8fc0affc32de40c69b9ec135&eventSeriesCode=ES_WASTE36&eventEditionCode=WST00WAT&sessionCode=NULL&elqTrackId=5dcda0cac6c543aaba0016567dec6e5c&elq=5870858a709043e8b7f588b3abaffd37&elqaid=44746&elqat=1&elqCampaignId=26520) — or listen to the full NothingWasted! episode [now](https://www.waste360.com/nothingwasted-podcast?utm_campaign=WST00WAT_PODCASTALEXANDER_KBS_03042021&utm_emailname=WST00WAT_PODCASTALEXANDER_KBS_03042021&utm_medium=email&utm_source=Eloqua&utm_MDMContactID=9611bb2c-92a8-43cf-922c-15fe4cff79bb&utm_campaigntype=Visitor%20Promotion&utm_sub=Let%27s%20talk%20plastics%20with%20the%20APR&eM=66c53cb8aef93a6bdead778a31f1fd223ad21cdf8fc0affc32de40c69b9ec135&eventSeriesCode=ES_WASTE36&eventEditionCode=WST00WAT&sessionCode=NULL&elqTrackId=6adfe855c49e40a49032746948dfdb96&elq=5870858a709043e8b7f588b3abaffd37&elqaid=44746&elqat=1&elqCampaignId=26520).
<http://app.marketing.informaexhibitions.com/e/es?s=2135709717&e=695333&elqTrackId=c1bd00c7f42a420486cb916c4b5ebfef&elq=5870858a709043e8b7f588b3abaffd37&elqaid=44746&elqat=1>

**Oregon City asks Metro to keep waste facility in town** Raymond Rendleman, March 05 2021*Rachel Lyles Smit: ‘I do think that location works fairly well where it’s at, even though it is over capacity.’*<https://pamplinmedia.com/pt/9-news/500223-400925-oregon-city-asks-metro-to-keep-waste-facility-in-town>

**RecycleCT Foundation Studies Economic Benefits of Recycling in Connecticut** March 5, 2021*The RecycleCT Foundation (RecycleCT) announces the publication of the Connecticut Recycling Economic Information (REI) Study, which documents the economic contributions of residential recycling in the state. The recycling industry creates local jobs, contributes to the state’s tax revenue and total economic output, while providing manufacturers with the raw material needed to make new products. RecycleCT hired Resource Recycling Systems (RRS) to conduct a state-specific economic benefits study of the impact of residential blue bin recycling, bottle deposit container collection, and residentially-focused stewardship programs including electronics, mattresses, and paint recycling….*<https://wasteadvantagemag.com/recyclect-foundation-studies-economic-benefits-of-recycling-in-connecticut/>

**Arlington Sparkles with 5 Million Pounds of Recycled Glass and New Income Stream** March 4, 2021 | News Release*…The County now receives $15 per ton for glass collected as the result of a new hauling and commodity contract with a Pennsylvania recycler. Collection bins in Arlington hit the* [*first million mark*](https://newsroom.arlingtonva.us/release/glass-recycling-1-million-pounds-and-counting/) *(500 tons) for glass jars and bottles eight months after the program started in April 2019, then doubled that haul only four months later. Five* [*drop-off sites*](https://recycling.arlingtonva.us/recycling-drop-centers/) *are spread evenly across the County, meaning a glass recycling bin is only 2.25 miles from any Arlington home….*<https://newsroom.arlingtonva.us/release/arlington-reaches-5-million-pounds-of-recycled-glass/>

Opinion [Styrofoam, recycling, ban] **What it takes to recycle Styrofoam in Seattle** – Cross Cut by Samantha Allen / March 5, 2021 *A city proud of its sustainability should be ashamed of how many tons of the stuff end up in the landfill every year. …Apart from scheduling a special pickup, options are spotty: Seattle Lighting, which acts a collection point for EPS blocks, temporarily stopped accepting EPS blocks because of COVID-19, but its stores  “do plan to be a part of the program when it is up and running again,” employee Nancy Pike assures me. Recology King County also runs* [*special events*](https://fb.me/e/23XyQH8SB) *where you can drop off rigid foam blocks, but those are intermittent. And for a monthly fee, the recycling collection company Ridwell* [*will pick up you*](https://www.ridwell.com/what-we-take/styrofoam)*r foam blocks. Caroline Stanford, vice president of marketing, says Ridwell collected over 850,000 gallons of the material from the Seattle area last year. (That’s enough to fill about one and a half Olympic swimming pools.)…*<https://crosscut.com/opinion/2021/03/what-it-takes-recycle-styrofoam-seattle?utm_source=Crosscut%20Daily&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Crosscut+Daily+20210305+-++READY>

**AMP Robotics Pilots Automated Secondary Sortation Facility to Increase Recycling Rates** Waste Advantage March 5, 2021 <https://wasteadvantagemag.com/amp-robotics-pilots-automated-secondary-sortation-facility-to-increase-recycling-rates/>

**Senate passes Das bill to promote recycling, reduce expanded polystyrene** **Kent Reporter** by [Reporter Staff](https://www.kentreporter.com/author/reporter-staff/) -- Wednesday, March 3, 2021 10:51am
*Targets plastic beverage containers, trash bags and bottles for household products,* *The state Senate approved legislation Tuesday, March 2 to require increased recycled content in plastic beverage containers, trash bags and bottles for household products. The measure also would ban expanded polystyrene food ware, recreational coolers and packing peanuts; and require that utensils, straws, cup lids and condiments only be provided to customers on request.*  *Senate Bill 5022, sponsored by Sen. Mona Das, D-Kent, builds on a bill Das championed in 2020 that banned thin plastic carry-out bags and required that thicker plastic bags consist of 40% post-consumer recycled content….* [https://www.kentreporter.com/news/senate-passes-das-bill-to-promote-recycling-reduce-expanded-polystyrene/](https://r.xdref.com/?id=125GuIGG003301&from=brad@wrra.org&to=kristanm@orra.net&url=https://www.kentreporter.com/news/senate-passes-das-bill-to-promote-recycling-reduce-expanded-polystyrene/)

**AF&PA Releases New Guide to Further Advance Paper Recycling: ‘Design Guidance for Recyclability for Paper-based Packaging’** Waste Advantage March 4, 2021
*Building on the sustainability success of paper based packaging and recycling, the American Forest & Paper Association (AF&PA) today released a new tool, The Design Guidance for Recyclability, a data-driven resource to aid packaging designers and brands in the design and manufacture of packaging to meet recyclability goals. The guide provides data on how certain non-fiber elements, such as coatings and additives, impact the recyclability of paper-based packaging….*
<https://wasteadvantagemag.com/afpa-releases-new-guide-to-further-advance-paper-recycling-design-guidance-for-recyclability-for-paper-based-packaging/>

**Oregon moves to ban display of nooses – a racist symbol** AP March 3, 2021*…Last month, a noose was placed on the recycling container of a mixed-race couple in Eugene, Oregon, and their car was spray-painted with a racial epithet, Evans said in an interview. He believes most people who place nooses are fully aware of the pain it causes Black people….* <https://www.startribune.com/oregon-moves-to-ban-display-of-nooses-a-racist-symbol/600029904/>

**EPR proposals for carpet land in four states** Plastics Recycling Update March 3, 2021 by Jared Paben*…In the Midwest, the Minnesota legislature has three bills that create carpet stewardship program. On Feb. 8, HF 842 was introduced in the House of Representatives, SF 1171 was introduced in the Senate on Feb. 18, and HF 1426 was introduced in the House on Feb. 22.**Meanwhile, in Illinois, SB0345 was introduced in the Senate on , Feb. 19.**On the East Coast, S05027 was introduced in the New York State Senate on Feb. 22.**On the West Coast, in Oregon, HB 3271 was introduced in the House of Representatives on Feb. 23. None of the bills has yet emerged from legislative committees.*

*Scott Cassel, founder and CEO of the Product Stewardship Institute, said he believes each of the bills, which take slightly different approaches to carpet EPR, has an equal chance of passing. The bills in Illinois and Minnesota have been introduced in their legislatures for years, followed by New York and then Oregon, he said….*<https://resource-recycling.com/plastics/2021/03/03/epr-proposals-for-carpet-land-in-four-states/>

**Unsmoke Canada and TerraCycle to Reduce Cigarette Waste** Waste Advantage March 3, 2021

*… All cigarette butts collected through the UNSMOKE Cigarette Recycling Program will be shipped to TerraCycle for recycling. When processed, the paper and tobacco are separated from the filter and composted. The filter is then recycled into plastic pellets which can be used by manufacturers to create products such as shipping pallets, ashtrays and park benches. Through the cigarette recycling program, Unsmoke Canada intends to expand on TerraCycle’s efforts, which since the conception for the program in 2012, has collected over 155 million cigarette butts, engaged more than 5,000 collection points across Canada and distributed in excess of 1,550 cigarette butt recycling receptacles across ten provinces….*<https://wasteadvantagemag.com/unsmoke-canada-and-terracycle-to-reduce-cigarette-waste/>

**Northeast Recycling Council Invites Industry and Public Sectors to Develop Glass Model Legislation** Waste Advantage March 3, 2021*NERC is convening a Work Group to develop model legislation for minimum post-consumer recycled content requirements for glass beverage and food containers, and fiberglass insulation. The goals for developing the model legislation are to:**Develop markets for post-consumer glass containers.**Increase the use of post-consumer glass containers in the manufacture of new beverage and food containers and fiberglass insulation….*<https://wasteadvantagemag.com/northeast-recycling-council-invites-industry-and-public-sectors-to-develop-glass-model-legislation/>

**Tracking the future of US recycling policy in Congress** Updated March 3, 2021 By Megan Quinn and Cole Rosengren -- *Spurred by market challenges, the Hill has seen a historic influx of big bills. Keep up on all the latest developments with our legislative tracker.*<https://www.wastedive.com/news/tracking-the-future-of-us-recycling-policy-in-congress/570778/?utm_source=Sailthru&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Issue:%202021-03-03%20Waste%20Dive%20Newsletter%20%5Bissue:32771%5D&utm_term=Waste%20Dive>

**Privacy And Ethics: Why Consumers Need To Dispose Of Their Electronic Waste Responsibly**March 2, 2021 *Only about*[***20% of electronic equipment***](https://www.thebalancesmb.com/e-waste-recycling-facts-and-figures-2878189)*or e-waste is fully documented and disposed of properly, according to the UN Environment Programme. While*[***electronic waste is on the decline***](https://wasteadvantagemag.com/electronic-waste-on-the-decline-new-study-finds/)*, proper disposal is still an absolute must. With electronics being an essential part of business processes and daily consumer life, special care must be taken to dispose of them in order to protect both personal data and the environment.*<https://wasteadvantagemag.com/privacy-and-ethics-why-consumers-need-to-dispose-of-their-electronic-waste-responsibly/>

[**Recycling Plastic Car Bumpers Could Prevent Millions of Pounds of Waste**](https://wasteadvantagemag.com/recycling-plastic-car-bumpers-could-prevent-millions-of-pounds-of-waste/) March 2, 2021

*The Plastics Industry Association (PLASTICS) and Pennsylvania plastics recycler Ultra-Poly Corporation have successfully tested a process to collect and recycle plastic automobile bumper covers. According to a published case study, the process could divert approximately one million pounds of plastic from landfills annually….*<https://wasteadvantagemag.com/recycling-plastic-car-bumpers-could-prevent-millions-of-pounds-of-waste/>