

Owner Communities

Bridgton
Cape Elizabeth
Casco
Cumberland
Falmouth
Freeport
Gorham
Gray
Harrison
Hollis
Limington
Lyman
North Yarmouth
Ogunquit
Portland
Pownal
Scarborough
South Portland
Waterboro
Windham
Yarmouth

January 7, 2011

Carole Cifrino, Manager
Product Management Programs
Division of Solid Waste Management
Maine Dept. of Environmental Protection
17 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333

RE: Public comment on Implementing Product Stewardship in Maine Report

We are pleased to offer comment on the DEP's report on Implementing Product Stewardship in Maine. ecomaine is in support of product stewardship legislation for paints, pharmaceuticals and medical sharps as detailed below.

Paint:

ecomaine and the municipal officials in our member communities receive many calls from residents requesting information about how the proper disposal of unwanted paint. Frequently, the residents indicate that they have large volumes of paint that they accumulated over time because they were unsure of the proper way to handle it. Several factors complicate the handling of waste paint for our residents:

- The need to dry out latex paint before disposal at solid waste facilities:

ecomaine and other solid waste facilities cannot accept liquid waste, including paint. The solid waste officials in our member communities report that residents find it very challenging to dry out before disposing of it.

- The lack of convenient and timely disposal options for oil based paints that are handled as household hazardous waste (HHW):

Several ecomaine communities collect paint at annual HHW events for their residents. The City of Portland provides monthly collection events from April – November at its Riverside Recycling Facility that are open to all Maine residents (for a fee for non-Portland residents). The ecomaine service area is large, however, and residents in communities remote from Portland find it challenging to bring their material to the Riverside Facility on the designated day

Associate Members

Baldwin
Hiram
Naples
Parsonsfield
Porter
Saco
Standish

Contract Members

Andover
Cornish
Harpwell
Jay
Livermore Falls
Manchester
Monmouth
North Hampden
Old Orchard Beach
Poland
Readfield
Sanford
Wayne

- The cost associated with disposal at commercial facilities licensed to take paints

Offering HHW collection events is very expensive and many communities have eliminated this service because of the cost. Those communities that continue to provide collections find it increasingly challenging to do so in tight economic times. The City of Portland, for instance, had budgeted approximately \$100,000 per year for this program. Expenditures in Portland for HHW disposal during the current fiscal year total almost \$40,000.

- The lack of knowledge of appropriate disposal methods for paints and other HHW

Even in communities that offer HHW programs, participation rates are quite low – usually less than 10% of eligible household bring their materials in. Municipalities would benefit greatly from the participation of manufacturers in spreading the word about the proper disposal of paint products and the availability of programs.

Unused Pharmaceuticals:

Several ecomaine communities have offered pharmaceutical collections in recent years. The necessity of sorting controlled substances from non-controlled substances complicates these events as does the need to identify, remove and properly dispose of medications classified as hazardous waste. Performing these duties requires the presence of specialized staff including police officers and pharmacists. This increases costs to the agencies sponsoring such events. However, the alternative of allowing the public to flush this material down the toilet causes environmental problems as indicated by MDEP's recent report that found quantities of pharmaceuticals in our waters.

Medical Sharps:

The improper disposal of medical sharps is a serious problem for workers involved in the collection and processing of solid waste and recyclables. It is not uncommon for collection crews to encounter loose hypodermic needles in recycling bins or protruding from trash bags. Likewise, employees at ecomaine facilities regularly find quantities of medical sharps encapsulated in plastic jugs and/or loose in 5-gallon pails. Periodically, workers are stuck with needles as they handle waste containers or sort material.

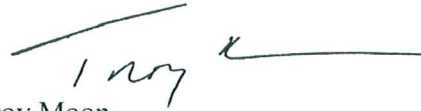
Many residents also choose to dispose of their medical sharps by flushing them down the toilet. Because of this, it is not uncommon to find used sharps near CSO outfalls. The presence of these items endangers the health and safety of members of the public who may encounter them along the shore as well as the employees tasked with collecting them. As with paint and pharmaceuticals, residents who lack a convenient way to properly dispose of their medical sharps often resort to improper disposal methods.

Again, we appreciate the opportunity to provide comment on your report and hope there will be an opportunity to discuss it further during this legislative session. We look forward to working with the DEP, industry stakeholders and members of the legislature to bring these recommendations to fruition.

Respectfully,



Missi Labbe
Program Development Manager
ecomaine



Troy Moon
Chair, ecomaine Recycling Committee &
Environmental Programs Manager, City of Portland

View All Site Content

Pictures

- Site Pictures

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- SharePoint Administration

Lists

- Calendar
- Contact Info

Recycling Site User Guide**Recycling Idea Exchange**

- Ask A Question
- Share what your town is doing

 [Recycle Bin](#)
News**Bulletin Board Users' Meeting**

1/19/2011 9:39 AM

by Shelley Dunn

Meeting for users of ecomaine's Recycling Bulletin Board on Wednesday, May 25 (tentatively planned for 6-8:00 PM). An opportunity to ask questions and to swap ideas with other towns.

Welcome to the ecomaine Recycling Bulletin Board!!!

12/30/2010 3:54 PM

by System Account

Please use the link on the left side of the page to view the Recycling Site User Guide. It will provide valuable information about how to use this site and add content. If you have any questions or comments, please post them in the Recycling Idea Exchange...

2011 eco-Excellence Awards

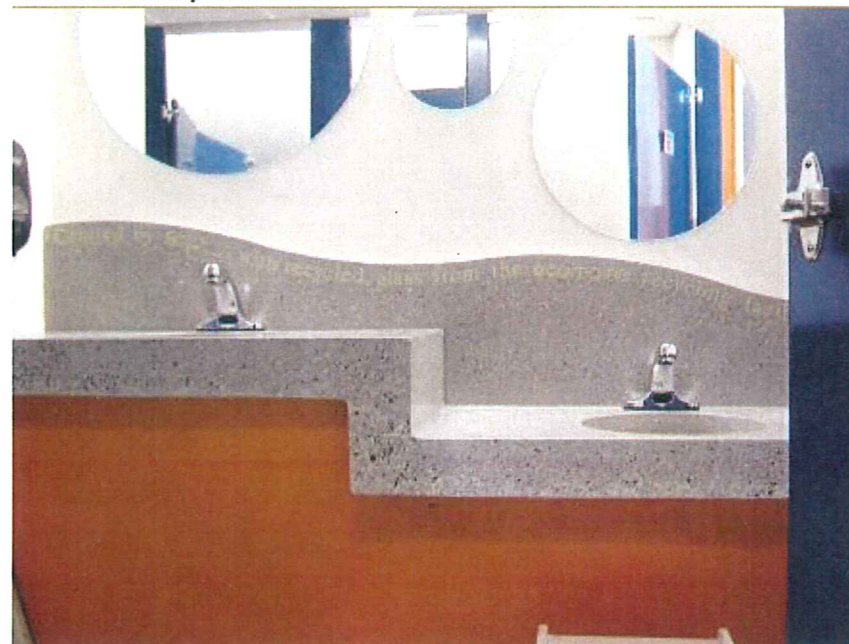
12/21/2010 9:21 AM

by Shelley Dunn

Each one of ecomaine's 40 municipalities may have one of its citizens, businesses, or organizations honored for local environmental activities with an eco-Excellence Award. The nomination process is easy, so take a minute to give recognition to someone...

 Add new announcement
Calendar

Title	Location	Start Time	End Time	Created By
eco-Excellence Awards Deadline		2/18/2011 12:00 AM	2/18/2011 11:59 PM	Shelley Dunn
eco-Excellence Awards	ecomaine	3/22/2011 10:00 AM	3/22/2011 2:00 PM	Shelley Dunn

 Add new event
Sink from Recycled Glass**Links**

- ecomaine Web Site
- Recycling Site User Guide

 Add new link

Fiscal Year Recycling Tons & Revenues 2009-2010

	#8 News		OCC		NATURAL		COLORED		PET		#3-7 MIXED PLASTIC		STEEL CANS		ALUMINUM		LOOSE GLASS		LOOSE METAL/STEEL		Mixed Paper		Post Burn		Monthly Totals		Percentage of residue based on Monthly tons minus Post Burn		Net Revenue			
	Tons	Value	Tons	Value	Tons	Value	Tons	Value	Tons	Value	Tons	Value	Tons	Value	Tons	Value	Tons	Value	Tons	Value	Tons	Value	Tons	Value	Tons	Value	Tons	Value	Tons	Value		
July	1602.26	\$84,539	639.30	\$44,509	0.00	\$12,757	47.33	\$4,740	25.62	\$1,895	0.00	\$0	44.93	\$2,922	14.68	\$8,972	96.90	\$0	8.65	\$952	0.00	\$0	68.86	\$389	2548.53	\$1,597,779	100.23	\$4,410	4.04%	\$155,389		
		\$53		\$70		\$270		\$185		\$0		\$65		\$611		\$0		\$110		\$0		\$0		\$6								
August	1502.22	\$94,292	636.21	\$41,196	42.40	\$17,280	19.90	\$4,198	20.93	\$200	89.23	\$4,333	0.00	\$0	101.64	\$2,471	0.00	\$0	27.59	\$805	0.00	\$0	73.03	\$905	2557.48	\$1,700,082	83.72	\$3,684	3.37%	\$166,398		
		\$63		\$65		\$408		\$290		\$8		\$75		\$0		\$0		\$90		\$0		\$0		\$11								
September	1558.79	\$110,047	648.95	\$53,249	18.34	\$6,750	22.13	\$3,790	22.01	\$1,172	20.21	\$4,418	0.00	\$0	105.05	\$6,375	0.00	\$0	40.20	\$2,471	0.00	\$0	213.16	\$6,635	2690.92	\$2,000,563	103.22	\$4,542	4.17%	\$196,021		
		\$71		\$82		\$496		\$305		\$10		\$105		\$0		\$0		\$159		\$0		\$0		\$31								
October	1622.04	\$124,242	581.66	\$46,848	19.44	\$7,719	21.28	\$4,217	23.43	\$1,180	0.00	\$0	60.35	\$7,952	11.19	\$8,508	103.36	\$0	8.91	\$810	0.00	\$0	177.34	\$8,382	2629.00	\$2,181,907	88.78	\$3,906	3.62%	\$215,001		
		\$77		\$81		\$526		\$363		\$0		\$132		\$0		\$760		\$0		\$91		\$0		\$47								
November	1698.81	\$133,980	503.11	\$40,156	20.39	\$8,524	22.42	\$4,005	21.08	\$1,190	43.54	\$3,661	0.00	\$0	73.68	\$3,661	0.00	\$0	3.70	\$321	0.00	\$0	291.96	\$14,369	2717.23	\$2,161,935	94.68	\$4,166	3.90%	\$212,769		
		\$79		\$80		\$525		\$380		\$28		\$95		\$0		\$0		\$0		\$87		\$0		\$49								
December	1746.44	\$145,645	535.55	\$42,199	22.69	\$7,012	22.19	\$4,490	0.00	\$0	21.90	\$219	0.00	\$0	81.04	\$7,380	0.00	\$0	5.44	\$588	0.00	\$0	194.77	\$8,200	2692.50	\$2,222,362	112.14	\$4,934	4.49%	\$217,428		
		\$83		\$79		\$490		\$316		\$10		\$118		\$0		\$0		\$108		\$0		\$0		\$42								
January	1508.50	\$122,855	674.02	\$72,263	22.34	\$20,802	62.89	\$20,802	0.00	\$0	20.03	\$12,765	0.00	\$0	83.11	\$12,765	0.00	\$0	8.76	\$1,046	0.00	\$0	165.48	\$7,400	2610.59	\$2,448,635	107.65	\$4,737	4.40%	\$243,898		
		\$81		\$107		\$506		\$331		\$0		\$195		\$0		\$0		\$0		\$119		\$0		\$45								
February	1335.55	\$111,083	462.56	\$65,237	21.10	\$10,967	0.00	\$0	20.24	\$266	41.69	\$1,070	0.00	\$0	80.19	\$8,151	0.00	\$0	3.85	\$356	0.00	\$0	158.07	\$8,588	2179.34	\$2,171,949	82.91	\$3,648	4.10%	\$214,301		
		\$83		\$141		\$515		\$0		\$266		\$195		\$0		\$505		\$0		\$92		\$0		\$54								
March	1738.40	\$161,480.48	549.11	\$93,213.30	21.19	\$11,820.22	2788.00	\$4,770	43.66	\$2,922	20.30	\$12,923.20	0.00	\$0	122.85	\$15,325.51	0.00	\$0	10.84	\$1,532.51	0.00	\$0	248.65	\$1,331,305	\$313,110	\$3,131,110	156.14	\$6,870	6.08%	\$306,240		
		\$93		\$175		\$558		\$470		\$10		\$205		\$0		\$141		\$0		\$54		\$0		\$54								
April	1726.64	\$147,008.69	572.38	\$82,528.00	20.01	\$2,726.36	0.00	\$0	21.77	\$350	20.38	\$815.20	0.00	\$0	133.06	\$1,409,680	0.00	\$0	71.44	\$1,409,680	0.00	\$0	180.97	\$1,041,833	\$283,305	\$2,833,305	238.05	\$10,474	9.20%	\$272,831		
		\$86		\$144		\$636		\$0		\$40		\$205		\$0		\$197		\$0		\$58		\$0		\$58								
May	1464.61	\$1,265,152.23	801,493.33	\$1,289,400.00	21.49	\$2,980.40	6404.60	\$9,216.00	20.66	\$3,310	23.04	\$9,216.00	0.00	\$0	124.78	\$871,363	0.00	\$0	55.74	\$713,633	0.00	\$0	106,623.39	\$258,641	\$258,641	\$6,242	\$6,242	6.14%	\$252,400			
		\$86		\$138		\$600		\$310		\$40		\$40		\$0		\$156		\$0		\$56		\$0		\$56								
June	2024.13	\$1,400,078.84	722.55	\$894,714.00	21.85	\$7,075.40	14,877.00	\$3,940	20.81	\$73	39.84	\$894.54	0.00	\$0	157.45	\$807,987	0.00	\$0	53.47	\$807,987	0.00	\$0	98.11	\$552,673	\$269,720	\$269,720	\$8,746	\$8,746	6.45%	\$260,974		
		\$69		\$124		\$615		\$340		\$73		\$22		\$0		\$151		\$0		\$57		\$0		\$57								
TOTAL TONNAGE	19,528.39		7,104.44		251.24		260.25		239.92		340.16		494.79		50.61		1,263.11		298.59		-		2,051.08			31,882.58		1,508.16				
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 1,502,438		\$ 754,127		\$ 131,478		\$ 92,178		\$ 54,588		\$ 6,494		\$ 69,261		\$ 29,972		\$ 45,343		\$ -		\$ -		\$ 94,111			\$ 2,779,990		\$ 66,359				\$ 2,713,631

**ecomaine Neighborhood Recycling Year to Date Totals For
July 1, 2010 Through December 31, 2010**

Town	Town Tons-MSW To Date	Town Tons-Rec Drop off To Date	Town Tons-Rec Curb To Date	Town Tons-Rec Total To Date	Town Total MSW+Rec	Town % Rec To Date
Bridgton	1260.74	351.04	0.00	351.04	1611.78	21.78%
Cape Elizabeth	1349.17	692.06	0.00	692.06	2041.23	33.90%
Casco	482.14	119.46	0.00	119.46	601.60	19.86%
Cumberland	825.69	0.00	462.98	462.98	1288.67	35.93%
Falmouth	1056.04	494.39	400.02	894.41	1950.45	45.86%
Freeport	864.81	282.01	0.00	282.01	1146.82	24.59%
Gorham	1082.73	118.89	515.54	634.43	1717.16	36.95%
Harrison	515.22	117.83	0.00	117.83	633.05	18.61%
Hollis	493.14	0.00	162.39	162.39	655.53	24.77%
Limington	824.83	56.45	0.00	56.45	881.28	6.41%
Livermore Falls	397.17	109.79	0.00	109.79	506.96	21.66%
Lyman	578.40	120.32	0.00	120.32	698.72	17.22%
Naples	589.08	145.99	0.00	145.99	735.07	19.86%
No. Yarmouth	293.83	0.00	242.38	242.38	536.21	45.20%
Ogunquit	373.67	46.53	0.00	46.53	420.20	11.07%
Parsonsfield	355.43	0.00	47.62	47.62	403.05	11.81%
Portland	5129.75	616.37	2088.17	2704.54	7834.29	34.52%
Pownal	87.64	0.00	85.08	85.08	172.72	49.26%
Saco	2643.87	83.29	869.95	953.24	3597.11	26.50%
Scarborough	2804.94	396.61	1058.96	1455.57	4260.51	34.16%
S. Portland	3212.34	154.31	1157.54	1311.85	4524.19	29.00%
Standish	1578.64	342.39	0.00	342.39	1921.03	17.82%
Tri-Town	847.43	49.50	0.00	49.50	896.93	5.52%
Waterboro	936.04	294.10	0.00	294.10	1230.14	23.91%
Windham	1091.12	68.15	768.96	837.11	1928.23	43.41%
Yarmouth	1169.39	537.27	0.00	537.27	1706.66	31.48%
	30,843.25	5,196.75	7,859.59	13,056.34	43,899.59	29.74%

**ecomaine Neighborhood Recycling Monthly Totals For
December 01, 2010 Through December 31, 2010**

	Pop.	Town Tons- MSW Month	Town Tons-Rec Drop-off - Month	Town Tons-Rec Curb- month	Town Tons-Rec Monthly Total	Town MSW + Rec Monthly Total	Town % Rec Month
Bridgton	5,120	170.87	49.57		49.57	220.44	22.49%
Cape Elizabeth	9,178	213.64	111.80		111.80	325.44	34.35%
Casco	3,690	64.54	17.43		17.43	81.97	21.26%
Cumberland	7,762	121.60		69.62	69.62	191.22	36.41%
Falmouth	10,950	197.21	102.83	62.10	164.93	362.14	45.54%
Freeport	8,010	136.13	48.58		48.58	184.71	26.30%
Gorham	15,183	185.24	21.84	102.10	123.94	309.18	40.09%
Harrison	2,458	67.38	18.95		18.95	86.33	21.95%
Hollis	4,583	91.04		29.39	29.39	120.43	24.40%
Limington	3,822	130.50	11.29		11.29	141.79	7.96%
Livermore Falls	3,222	77.48	21.00		21.00	98.48	21.32%
Lyman	4,155	98.66	20.55		20.55	119.21	17.24%
Naples	3,498	78.86	21.30		21.30	100.16	21.27%
No. Yarmouth	3,485	50.32		41.40	41.40	91.72	45.14%
Ogunquit	1,286	24.23	7.17		7.17	31.40	22.83%
Parsonsfield	1,770	46.53		10.35	10.35	56.88	18.20%
Portland	64,249	872.64	96.01	422.73	518.74	1391.38	37.28%
Pownal	1,610	17.32		14.60	14.60	31.92	45.74%
Saco	18,328	426.73	17.68	152.15	169.83	596.56	28.47%
Scarborough	18,604	441.91	69.29	178.67	247.96	689.87	35.94%
S. Portland	23,729	545.32	24.02	204.43	228.45	773.77	29.52%
Standish	9,946	237.45	45.08		45.08	282.53	15.96%
Tri-Town	4,403	136.41	8.03		8.03	144.44	5.56%
Waterboro	7,247	143.11	42.75		42.75	185.86	23.00%
Windham	15,988	171.12	11.94	121.60	133.54	304.66	43.83%
Yarmouth	8,266	181.22	86.61		86.61	267.83	32.34%
		4,927.46	853.72	1,409.14	2,262.86	7,190.32	31.47%

Handout 5

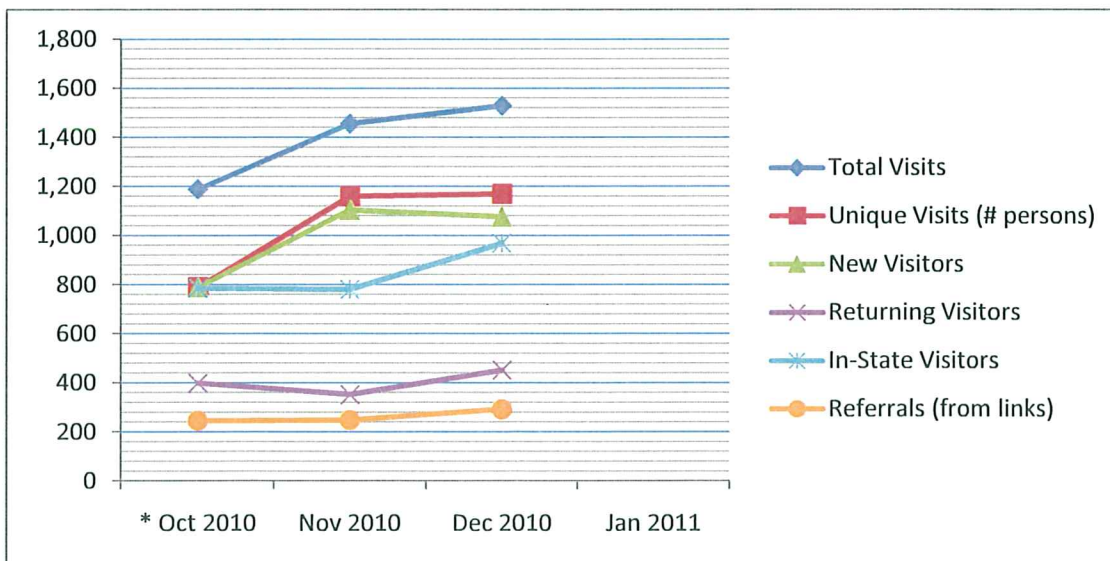
ecomaine RECYCLING TOTALS

	1991/92	1992/93	1993/94	1994/95	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
July	287.96	323.48	496.67	533.59	593.37	667.46	666.77	732.22	1,085.76	1,174.28	1,439.83	1,392.49	1,670.01	1,536.03	1,801.55	1,963.92	2,212.79	2,776.35	2,743.86	3,211.52
YTD	287.96	323.48	496.67	533.59	593.37	667.46	666.77	732.22	1,085.76	1,174.28	1,439.83	1,392.49	1,670.01	1,536.03	1,801.55	1,963.92	2,212.79	2,776.35	2,743.86	3,211.52
August	283.48	349.92	507.49	632.76	669.37	716.80	631.03	681.37	1,160.65	1,335.45	1,549.36	1,380.26	1,611.16	1,725.95	2,157.27	2,285.15	2,394.69	2,729.66	2,605.20	3,219.21
YTD	571.44	673.40	1004.16	1166.35	1262.74	1,384.26	1,297.80	1,413.59	2,246.41	2,509.73	2,989.19	2,772.75	3,281.17	3,261.98	3,958.82	4,249.07	4,607.48	5,506.01	5,349.06	6,430.73
September	281.94	374.41	546.27	606.30	660.45	682.07	741.43	827.63	1,175.35	1,217.37	1,474.21	1,420.08	1,836.76	1,742.24	2,117.62	2,078.68	2,045.61	2,868.29	2,718.77	3,097.71
YTD	853.38	1047.81	1550.43	1772.65	1923.19	2,066.33	2,039.23	2,241.22	3,421.76	3,727.10	4,463.40	4,192.83	5,117.93	5,004.22	6,076.44	6,327.75	6,653.09	8,374.30	8,067.83	9,528.44
October	325.51	339.49	516.48	608.88	677.03	730.60	693.07	772.33	1,013.54	1,290.35	1,998.15	1,667.28	1,800.58	1,593.15	1,993.01	2,294.74	2,357.24	2,783.06	2,796.23	3,015.68
YTD	1178.89	1387.30	2066.91	2381.53	2600.22	2,796.93	2,732.30	3,013.55	4,435.30	5,017.45	6,461.55	5,860.11	6,918.51	6,597.37	8,069.45	8,622.49	9,010.33	11,157.36	10,864.06	12,544.12
November	281.68	337.00	543.15	626.32	688.18	688.07	621.13	824.11	1,146.92	1,316.17	1,750.31	1,596.47	1,483.24	1,744.19	2,198.55	2,277.91	2,256.00	2,333.81	2,662.58	3,050.05
YTD	1460.57	1724.30	2610.06	3007.85	3288.40	3,485.00	3,353.43	3,837.66	5,582.22	6,333.62	8,211.86	7,456.58	8,401.75	8,341.56	10,268.00	10,900.40	11,266.33	13,491.17	13,526.64	15,594.17
December	321.02	388.94	514.09	599.10	683.42	806.53	795.31	834.70	1,178.45	1,341.32	1,764.33	1,841.63	1,919.08	1,936.94	2,256.75	2,166.13	2,362.55	2,937.11	3,158.21	3,139.40
YTD	1781.59	2113.24	3124.15	3606.95	3971.82	4,291.53	4,148.74	4,672.36	6,760.67	7,674.94	9,976.19	9,298.21	10,320.83	10,278.50	12,524.75	13,066.53	13,628.88	16,428.28	16,684.85	18,733.57
January	271.05	359.99	444.28	557.29	608.08	632.55	606.67	673.01	909.51	1,367.61	1,707.27	1,765.43	1,467.16	1,657.08	2,114.52	2,068.29	2,564.76	2,441.23	2,685.89	0.00
YTD	2052.64	2473.23	3568.43	4164.24	4579.90	4,924.08	4,755.41	5,345.37	7,670.18	9,042.55	11,683.46	11,063.64	11,787.99	11,935.58	14,639.27	15,134.82	16,193.64	18,869.51	19,370.74	18,733.57
February	244.13	310.62	464.59	451.68	523.30	619.28	605.88	616.02	945.88	1,084.71	1,547.84	1,395.61	1,394.75	1,497.44	1,689.38	1,633.72	2,139.22	2,078.44	2,286.95	0.00
YTD	2296.77	2783.85	4033.02	4615.92	5103.20	5,543.36	5,361.29	5,961.39	8,616.06	10,127.26	13,231.30	12,459.25	13,182.74	13,433.02	16,328.65	16,768.54	18,332.86	20,947.95	21,657.69	18,733.57
March	275.97	456.63	512.53	570.16	584.39	616.62	671.88	751.34	1,062.77	1,098.41	1,459.30	1,572.04	1,629.24	1,774.99	2,016.88	1,823.79	2,258.34	2,354.49	2,907.84	0.00
YTD	2572.74	3220.48	4545.55	5186.08	5687.59	6,159.98	6,033.17	6,712.73	9,678.83	11,225.67	14,690.60	14,031.29	14,811.98	15,208.01	18,345.53	18,592.33	20,591.20	23,302.44	24,565.53	18,733.57
April	319.29	517.14	549.15	538.63	667.71	676.79	671.45	752.00	1,000.57	1,220.48	1,638.89	1,710.90	1,524.35	1,627.25	1,831.65	1,871.62	2,363.75	2,395.67	2,875.88	0.00
YTD	2892.03	3737.62	5094.70	5724.71	6355.30	6,836.77	6,704.62	7,464.73	10,679.40	12,446.15	16,329.49	15,742.19	16,336.33	16,835.26	20,177.18	20,463.95	22,954.95	25,698.11	27,441.41	18,733.57
May	315.59	488.88	547.91	671.66	698.84	639.03	707.09	765.11	1,193.95	1,311.08	1,714.14	1,732.85	1,576.35	1,877.96	2,224.46	2,279.00	2,516.52	2,279.50	2,791.10	0.00
YTD	3207.62	4226.50	5642.61	6396.37	7054.14	7,475.80	7,411.71	8,229.84	11,873.35	13,757.23	18,043.63	17,475.04	17,912.68	18,713.22	22,401.64	22,742.95	25,471.47	27,977.61	30,232.51	18,733.57
June	352.14	523.69	583.87	654.97	624.78	660.55	752.80	807.31	1,234.16	1,348.20	1,455.10	1,783.82	1,683.84	2,020.91	2,207.89	2,140.94	2,459.61	2,727.78	3,167.65	0.00
Total	3,559.76	4,750.19	6,226.48	7,051.34	7,678.92	8,136.35	8,164.51	9,037.15	13,107.51	15,105.43	19,496.73	19,258.86	19,596.52	20,734.13	24,609.53	24,883.89	27,931.08	30,705.39	33,400.16	18,733.57

Projection based on:

Web Site Analytics		* Oct 2010	Nov 2010	Dec 2010	Jan 2011		
Total Visits		1,189	1,456	1,529			
Unique Visits (# persons)		790	1,160	1,169			
New Visitors		790	1,104	1,077			
Returning Visitors		399	352	452			
In-State Visitors		786	781	969			
Referrals (from links)		246	248	292			
Average Time On Site (min)		1:51	2:21	2:17			
Average # Pages Viewed		2.86	3.41	3.35			
Top 5 Pages (excluding index)	1=most popular						
Recycling		1	1	1			
WTE		2	2				
About Us		3	3	2			
Contact Info		4	5				
Stats/Annual Reports		5		5			
Jobs			4	4			
Electric Generation				3			

*Tracking began Oct. 9, 2010; ecomaine employee filter not applied until Nov. 1, 2010





Implementing Product Stewardship in Maine

2011 Report to the Joint Standing
Committee on Natural Resources

Maine Department of Environmental Protection
17 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333-0017

January 15, 2011

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*www.maine.gov/dep/rwm/publications/legislative-reports/
pdf/2011-report-final.pdf*

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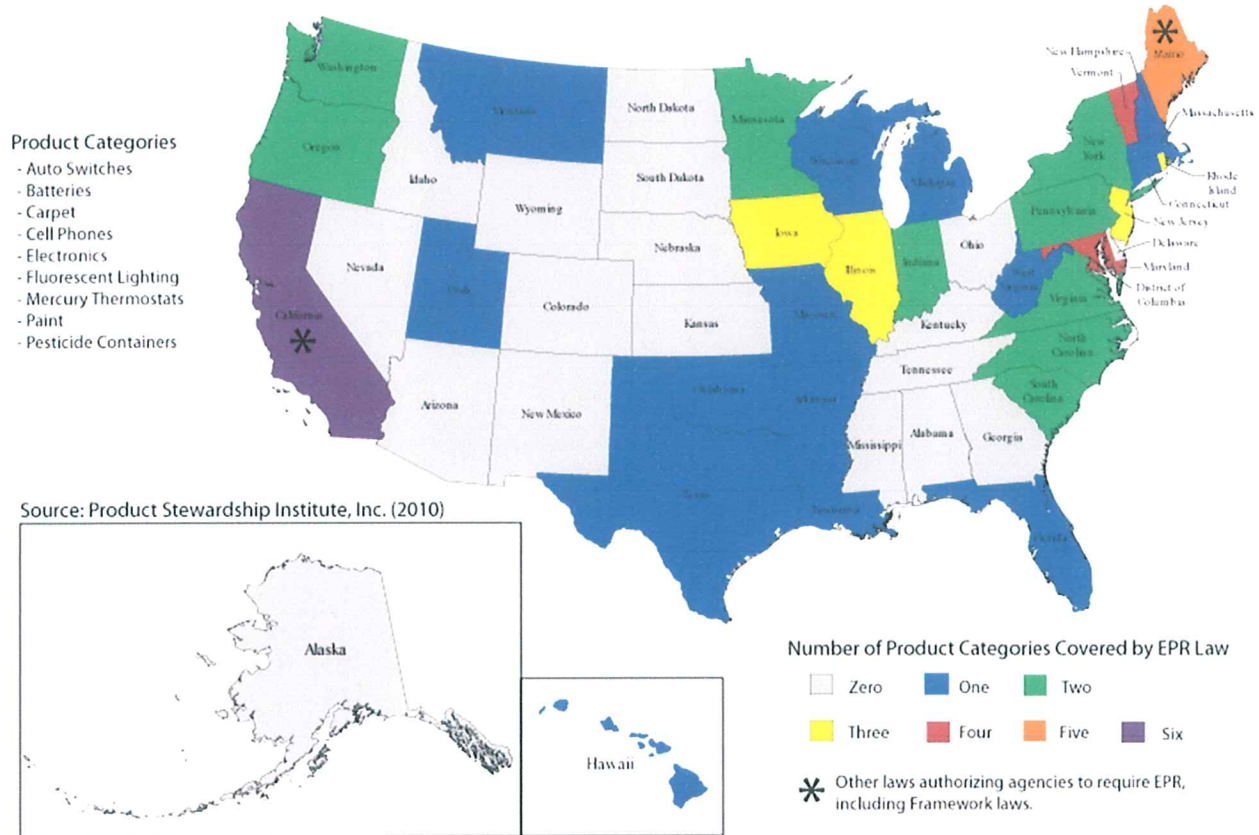
Product Stewardship or 'EPR'

As many of you know, product stewardship laws direct producers to fund the collection and recycling of their products at the end of the product's useful life, reducing costs for local governments and taxpayers and creating jobs through the collection and recycling of formerly discarded products. They also promote the sustainable reuse of materials and help prevent the release of hazardous chemicals into the environment.

Product stewardship laws have been in place in Maine for some time. Electronics manufacturers currently finance and run collection and recycling programs for unwanted television sets, computers, printers, monitors, cell phones, mercury-containing thermostats, video-game consoles and more. In 2004, the Maine Legislature - with the support of Dell and Hewlett Packard - passed a landmark product stewardship law for electronic waste (e-waste). Since then, Maine has recycled over 30 million pounds of e-waste, saved taxpayers more than \$20 million dollars, and prevented more than 6 million pounds of lead and other toxics from entering our environment. Nation-wide, there are now more than 60 product stewardship laws passed in 32 states on 9 different product categories (including paint, pesticide containers, carpet, electronics, thermostats, mercury-containing lamps, batteries, auto-switches, and cell phones).

With solid waste costs at 10% of municipal budgets (currently \$72 million statewide) and rising every year, product stewardship can be an important tool to reduce those costs, build local businesses and protect the environment at the same time.

While many affected manufacturers are concerned about the costs and logistics of setting up and running product stewardship programs, there are also many companies that have embraced product stewardship and are working to support and implement initiatives here and around the world.



Extended Producer Responsibility State Laws

as of January 2011

Implementation of the Canada-wide Action Plan for Extended Producer Responsibility

Under the terms of the Action Plan Canadian jurisdictions commit to working towards the development of EPR framework legislation and/or regulations to allow for action on the following identified priority products and materials.

Phase 1

Jurisdictions commit to working towards managing the following products and materials in operational EPR programs within six (6) years of the adoption of the CAP:

- Packaging
- Printed materials
- Mercury containing lamps
- Other mercury-containing products
- Electronics and electrical products
- Household hazardous and special wastes
- Automotive products

Existing product stewardship, non-EPR programs, which were established before the adoption of the CAP will be reviewed within the context of the CAP within six (6) years of the adoption of the CAP.

Jurisdictions will seek within two (2) years of the CAP's adoption to identify a more detailed phased implementation plan for the product categories and products listed in Phase 1.

Phase 2

Jurisdictions commit to working towards incorporation into operational EPR programs within eight (8) years of the adoption of the CAP for each of the following product categories, of specific identified products and materials as further elaborated upon by CCME

Construction materials

- Demolition materials
- Furniture
- Textiles and carpet
- Appliances, including ozone-depleting substances (ODS)

Jurisdictions will seek, within two (2) years of the adoption of the CAP, to publish a detailed list of products to be managed through EPR programs for each of the above, Phase 2, product categories.

Territories

Given their unique circumstances of geography, population and infrastructure, it must be recognized that EPR may not be an appropriate instrument for all products or product categories in the northern Territories. EPR programs, stewardship programs or a variety of supporting measures may therefore be necessary to achieve the desired outcomes across all product categories.

Within six (6) years of ministerial concurrence Territorial jurisdictions will review their progress toward the development of EPR frameworks for all product categories and provide an update to CCME which will include a determination of whether EPR will be pursued for each of the remaining Phase 1 and Phase 2 categories.

Tracking Performance of the Priority EPR Programs

CCME, with stakeholder input, will identify protocols, responsibilities and timelines for producing a national annual status report on the performance of the priority EPR programs. A number of key performance indicators have been identified to measure progress in the national annual status report. These include: kilograms per capita captured or recovered; dollars per kilogram captured or recovered; per cent of waste captured, per cent of waste recovered; and avoided greenhouse gas emissions.

Performance indicators may be adjusted to recognize the unique circumstances of particular products and product categories.

Model EPR Program

In order to facilitate the creation of consistent and harmonious EPR regulations and programs, the CAP outlines a number of common elements that set out recommendations and guidance for all EPR programs to ensure common interpretation and application. These elements include the responsibilities of designated producers and producer responsibility organizations, the relationship to stewardship plans, the establishment of targets and reporting mechanisms, the raising of funds and design for environment considerations. The EPR program elements are designed so that through a successful EPR program, and the regulations which mandate it, cost and management signals are given to producers to improve the life-cycle performance of their products knowing that at some point in the future they will be responsible for the collection, recycling and the environmentally sound management of products that would otherwise be discarded.

Supportive Policies and Regulations

In a complex and competitive national and global business market signals to producers from a relatively small market like Canada may not be strong enough alone to influence new environmentally conscious product design and supply chain management. The environmental objectives of EPR may therefore need to be supported and reinforced by other measures, such as: eco-labelling; restrictions on toxic substances; recycled content standards and regulations; green procurement policies; environmental performance/voluntary agreements and a variety of other potential standards, bans, guidelines and educational tools.