SWANApalooza
WELCOME
2019
Building the
FUTURE
February 25-28 | Boston, MA

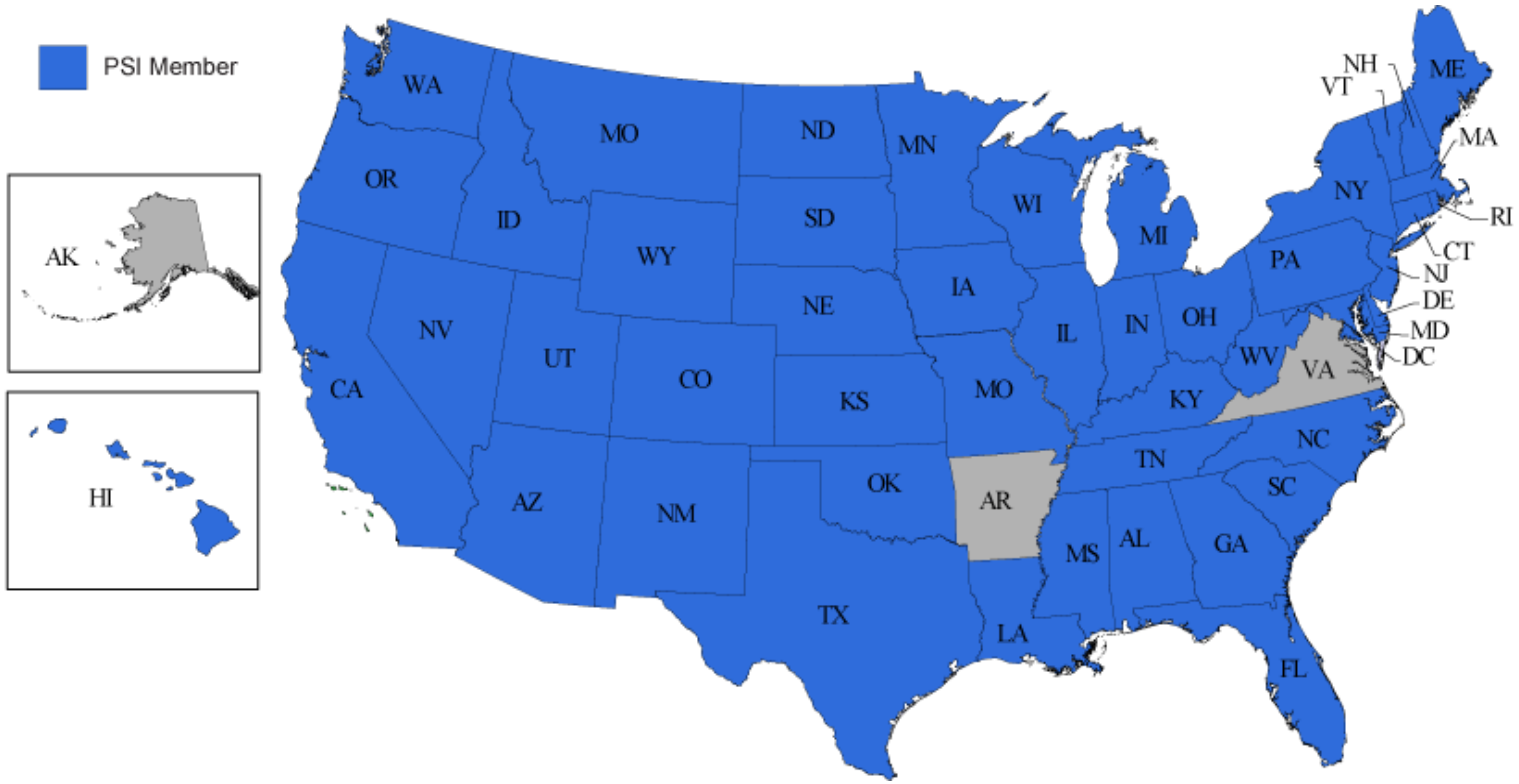
epr opportunities + challenges:
charting a path forward for massachusetts

epr summit
boston, ma
february 28, 2019

scott cassel
ceo/founder, product stewardship institute
president, global product stewardship council

PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP INSTITUTE

who is the **product stewardship institute?**



- members
- partners
- advisory council
- global psc

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our mission

reduce the health
& environmental impacts
of products
across their lifecycle

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extended producer responsibility

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psi's epr roots in **massachusetts**

- included ps/epr in 2000 sw master plan
- MA EOEEA – seed money for psi
- Gina McCarthy – founding psi board member
- revitalized MA PSC, handed off to MassRecycle

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key elements
of epr systems

1. **legislation**: levels the playing field
2. **producers** responsible for financing and managing programs
3. **stewardship organization**(s) manage program
4. **retailers** voluntarily collect products
5. **performance** goals/convenience standards
6. **government oversight** of industry's plan

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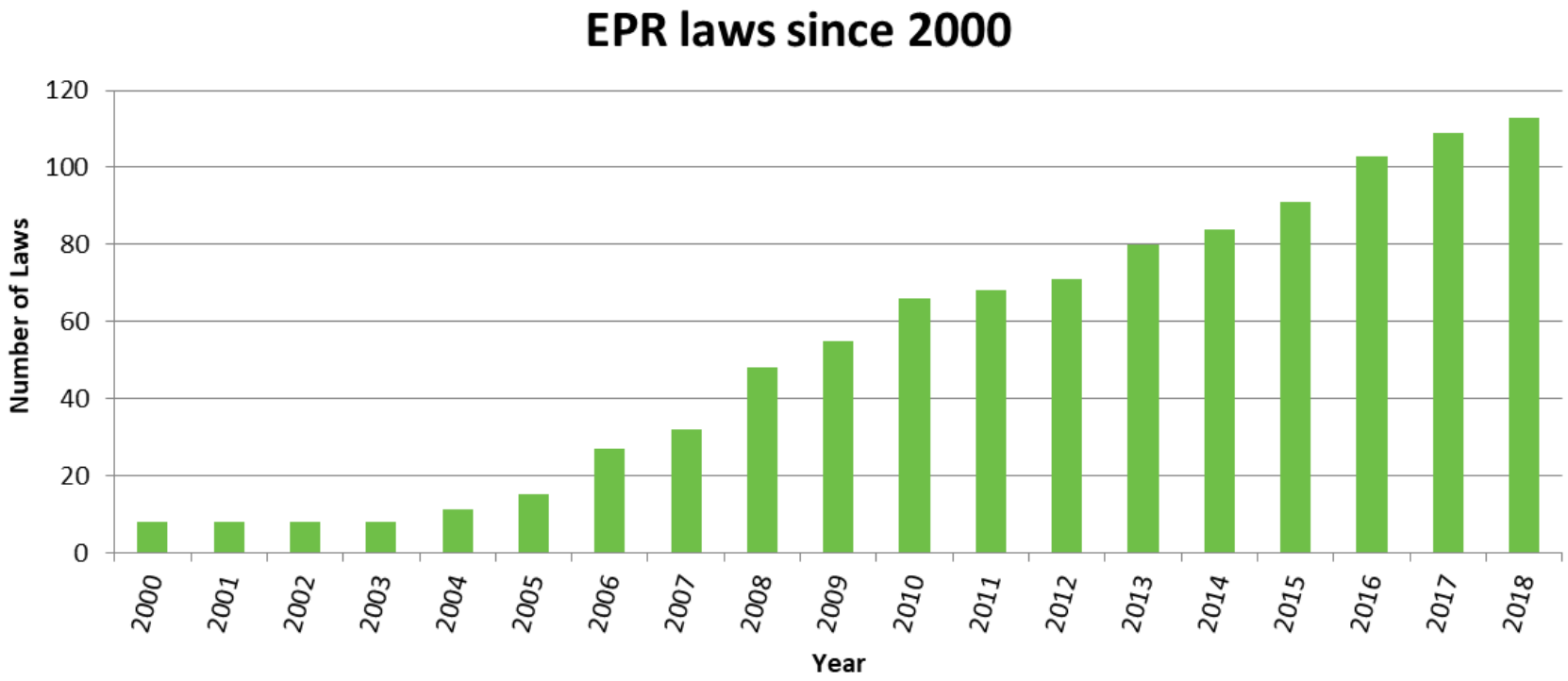
u.s. epr laws **trends**

116 epr laws

14 products
33 states + d.c.



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product categories

paint

mattresses

pharmaceuticals

medical sharps

electronics

packaging

thermostats

fluorescent lamps

hhw

batteries

phone books

textiles

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product categories

appliances with refrigerants

gas cylinders

pesticides

used motor oil

framework

carpet

auto switches

tires

radioactive devices

solar panels

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challenges

awareness
of problems posed by improperly managed waste and recovery options

infrastructure
to properly manage products and packaging

sustainable funding
for permanent take-back programs

industry opposition
to legislation

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psi strategy

- **research**, pilot projects, and evaluation
- facilitation and **consensus building**
- build product stewardship **capacity** through education and empowerment
- **legislative** technical assistance, analysis, lobbying, and stewardship models

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the problem
example: paint

take **make** **dispose**

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example: paint
9 u.s. epr laws

31 million gallons collected
over $150 million gov't savings
1,775 collection sites (77% retail)
increased consumer convenience
over 200 recycling jobs

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product focus
paint

IPRA
International Paint Recycling Association

www.recycledpaint.org

challenges
passing a paint epr law in ma

- retail association concern about border sales
  - discounts loss of benefit to other retailers in state
  - no evidence a fee in MA on paint will change consumer behavior
  - no evidence that fee in VT or ME has impacted sales to NH or residents changed behavior

- fee = tax – House Speaker's concern?
  - Rep Patricia Haddad – Speaker Pro Tempore (bill sponsor)

product focus
mattresses

- briefing document and stakeholder meetings (2011)
- developed model, passed in 3 states (CT, RI, CA)
- PSI/ISPA discussions in Oregon
- recommendations to improve RI law (Lt. Governor's office)

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challenges

passing a mattress epr law in ma

- last mattress law passed 2013; need to refine model w/ISPA?
- ensure all collected mattresses, regardless of condition, are managed by the stewardship program
- establish measurable performance goals for collection, recycling, convenience, reducing illegal dumping, and public awareness
- political aversion to fees

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the packaging problem

current system is…

- **stagnant**
  u.s. packaging recycling rate stagnant over past decade
- **fragmented**
  patchwork of public collection programs leads to high levels of contamination and inefficient processes – increasing costs
- **underfunded**
  municipal budgets are tight; costs are increasing (estimated at least **$30 million per year** spent to recycle packaging in state of Connecticut → **3.6 million population**
- **difficult markets**
  china's restriction on recyclables

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product focus
packaging

- psi epr model
- psi work – 12 years
  - dialogues, meetings, task forces
  - building support for epr legislation
  - best programs: bc, belgium europe/globally

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challenges
passing a packaging epr law in ma

- need education on epr & elements of well-designed programs
  - two MA bills: industry managed vs. government managed
- need to build broad support (especially among municipalities)
- opposition from those wanting status quo

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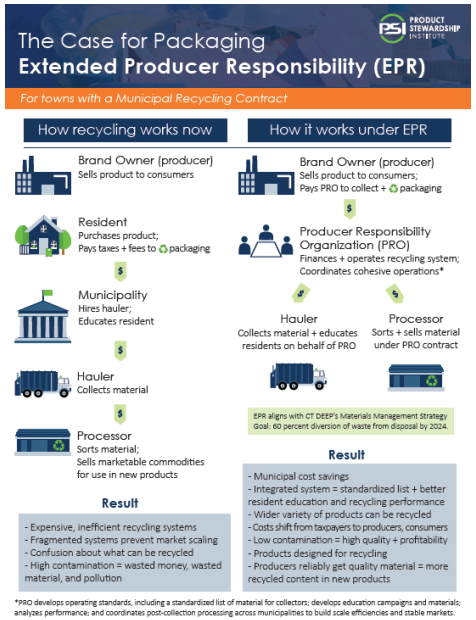
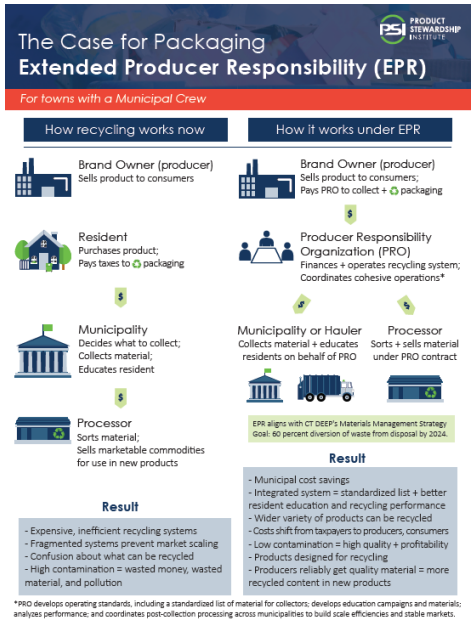
what is your current **recycling model?**

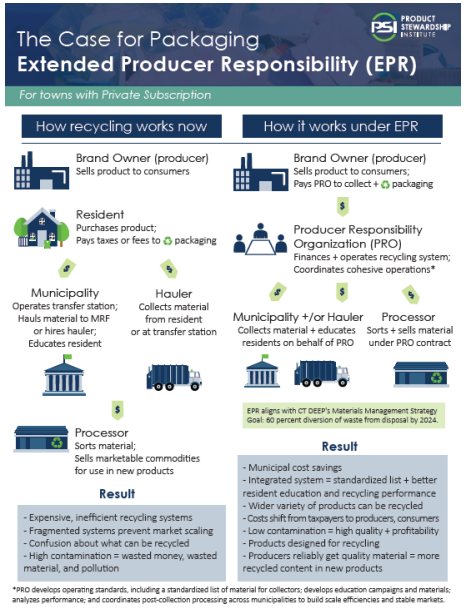
municipal recycling contract



municipal crew



private subscription



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product focus
electronics

psi work – 18 years

- NEPSI – first national multi-stakeholder dialogue (2000)
- Staples retail take-back pilot (2004)
- epr model (2015)
- program evaluation and support for regulatory improvements in multiple states

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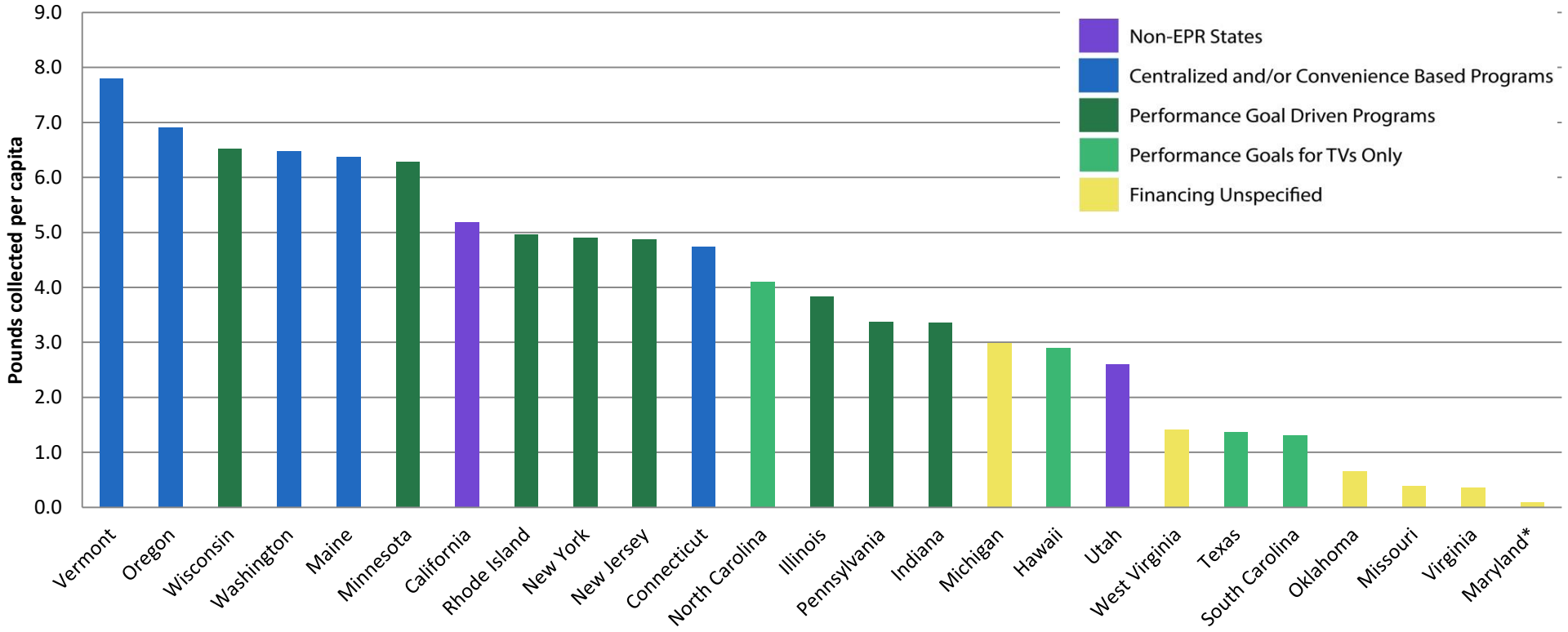
u.s. e-waste epr laws

based on pounds of e-scrap collected per capita by state, 2014



Note: This chart presents available data on program performance, but does not provide an "apples to apples" comparison as the covered products and entities (e.g., residents, businesses, schools, etc.) vary from state to state.

Source: PSI analysis of ERCC data, 2016

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challenges
passing an e-waste epr law in ma

- industry opposition/introduced federal eco fee proposal
- ensuring year-round convenience for consumers
- getting targets and incentives right to achieve high recycling rates

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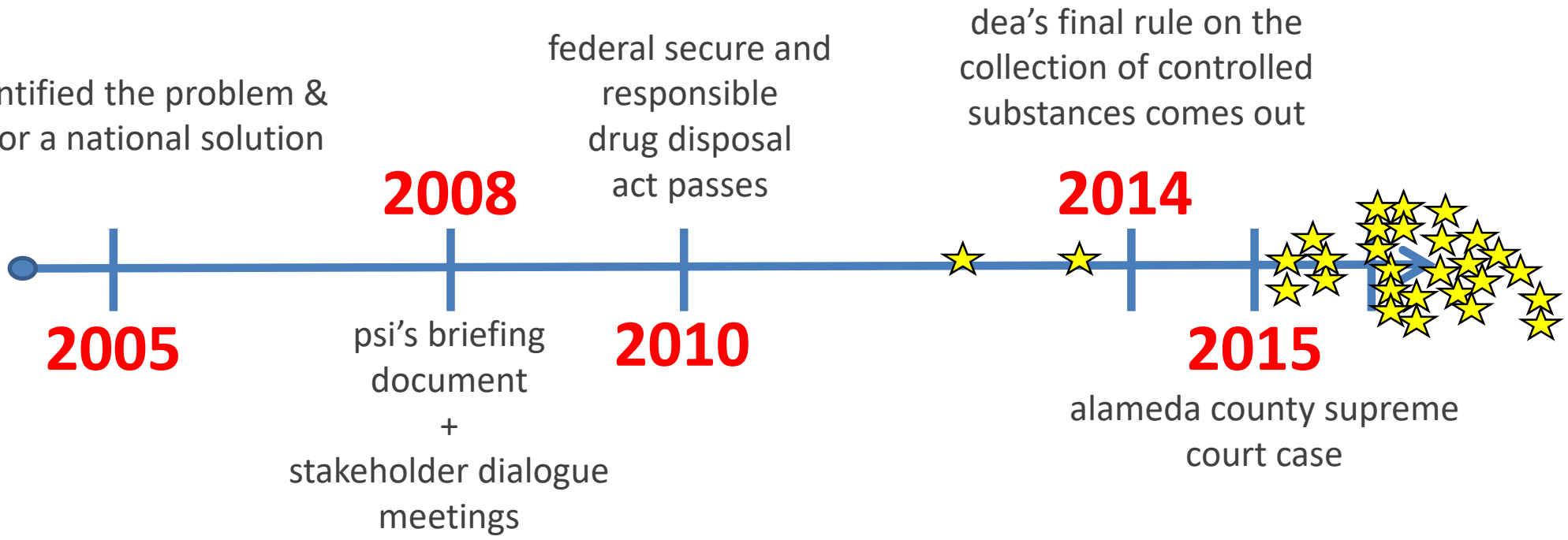
key events
in drug stewardship



★= "Extended producer responsibility" (EPR) law passed in US

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ma substance abuse prevention law
first state-level pharms epr law

passed **unanimously** in house (rep mahlia) and senate (sen keenan)

first state-level pharms epr law passed in US.

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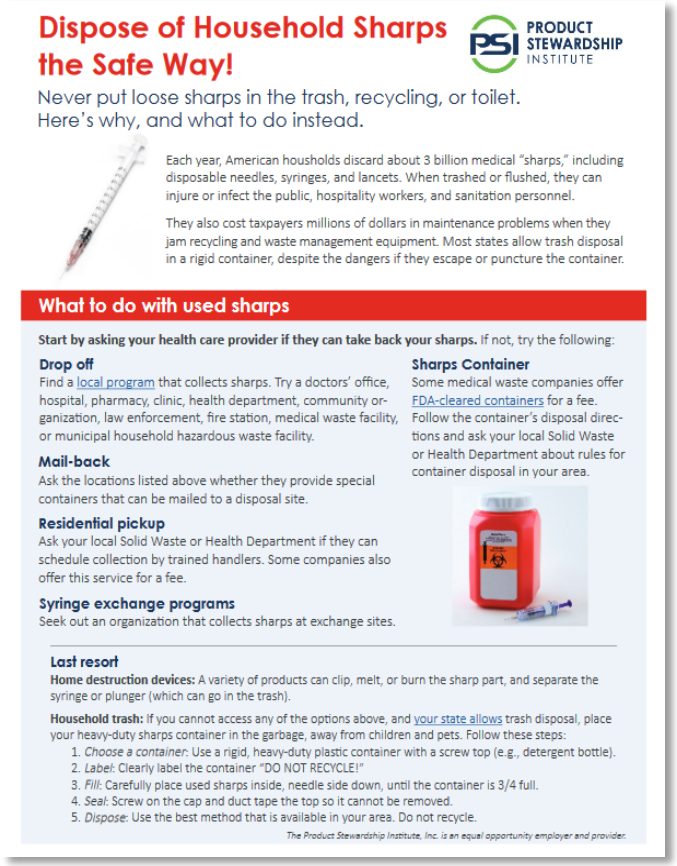
product focus
medical sharps

psi work – 11 years

- national stakeholder dialogue meetings (2008)
- il stakeholder dialogue (2018)
- ok stakeholder dialogue (2019)
- multiple projects

- need pharms laws passed first
- industry opposition



Dispose of Household Sharps the Safe Way!

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Never put loose sharps in the trash, recycling, or toilet. Here's why, and what to do instead.

Each year, American housholds discard about 3 billion medical "sharps," including disposable needles, syringes, and lancets. When trashed or flushed, they can injure or infect the public, hospitality workers, and sanitation personnel.

They also cost taxpayers millions of dollars in maintenance problems when they jam recycling and waste management equipment. Most states allow trash disposal in a rigid container, despite the dangers if they escape or puncture the container.

What to do with used sharps

Start by asking your health care provider if they can take back your sharps. If not, try the following:

Drop off
Find a local program that collects sharps. Try a doctors' office, hospital, pharmacy, clinic, health department, community organization, law enforcement, fire station, medical waste facility, or municipal household hazardous waste facility.

Mail-back
Ask the locations listed above whether they provide special containers that can be mailed to a disposal site.

Residential pickup
Ask your local Solid Waste or Health Department if they can schedule collection by trained handlers. Some companies also offer this service for a fee.

Syringe exchange programs
Seek out an organization that collects sharps at exchange sites.

Sharps Container
Some medical waste companies offer FDA-cleared containers for a fee. Follow the container's disposal directions and ask your local Solid Waste or Health Department about rules for container disposal in your area.

Last resort

Home destruction devices: A variety of products can clip, melt, or burn the sharp part, and separate the syringe or plunger (which can go in the trash).

Household trash: If you cannot access any of the options above, and your state allows trash disposal, place your heavy-duty sharps container in the garbage, away from children and pets. Follow these steps:

1. *Choose a container:* Use a rigid, heavy-duty plastic container with a screw top (e.g., detergent bottle).
2. *Label:* Clearly label the container "DO NOT RECYCLE!"
3. *Fill:* Carefully place used sharps inside, needle side down, until the container is 3/4 full.
4. *Seal:* Screw on the cap and duct tape the top so it cannot be removed.
5. *Dispose:* Use the best method that is available in your area. Do not recycle.

The Product Stewardship Institute, Inc. is an equal opportunity employer and provider.

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building coalitions

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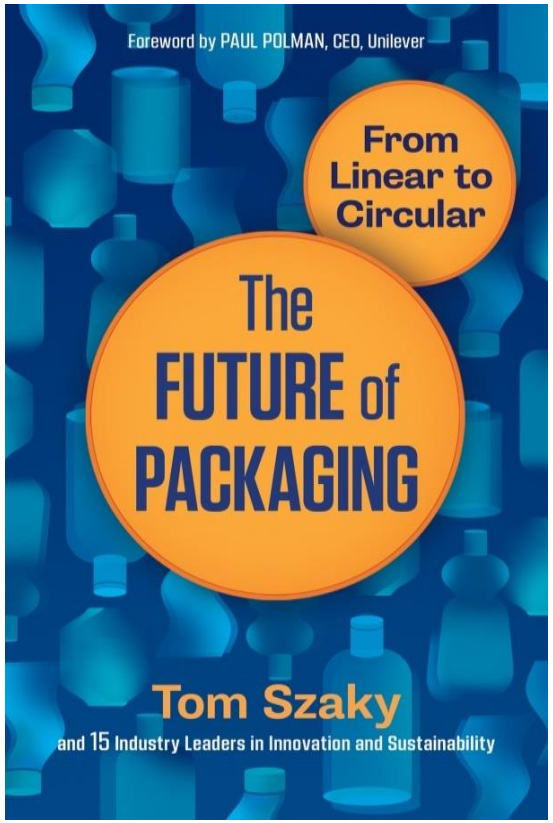
the future of packaging
from linear to circular



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chapter on epr
by scott cassel

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GLOBAL PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL

for more information and to register, visit:

www.GlobalPSC.net/ParisForum2019

PSI PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP INSTITUTE

thank
you!

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