

TALKING POINTS

California Product Stewardship Council

Local Government:

- By diverting products from the waste stream, we reduce the need for costly new landfills and solid waste facilities. This is more important than ever, as local governments struggle to fund basic services such as public education, police and fire protection.
- Local governments should not continue to shoulder the burden and cost of managing product waste alone.
- Product-by-product mandated disposal bans make no sense when they are not funded. We call this a “Ban without a Plan,” and it simply does not work and is not enforceable.
- San Luis Obispo County estimated it would cost \$4-million to properly collect and manage Universal Wastes prohibited from disposal by the statewide disposal ban, yet their total annual household hazardous waste operating budget is less than \$300,000.
- Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) calls for producers to have the primary responsibility for the products they create and incentivizes them to design products that are more durable, less toxic and create less waste, and also to develop, fund and manage programs that “take-back” their products for reuse and recycling.
- Twenty-six states have already passed or are considering Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) laws for various products or framework legislation.
- Producers should have the primary responsibility to establish, fund and manage end of life systems for their products with State government setting the performance goals and ensuring accountability.
- Product-by-product legislation is not productive or cost-effective. Our state needs a holistic approach like the comprehensive framework Green Chemistry program, recently signed by the Governor, which will reduce and eliminate hazardous chemicals in our products and the environment.
- The current waste management system is enabling producers to design toxic, disposable products without requiring them to take any responsibility for the product at the end of its life.
- The California Product Stewardship Council educates and organizes governmental and non-governmental organizations about product stewardship.
- The goal of the California Product Stewardship Council is to produce a roadmap and establish framework that implements meaningful product stewardship policies and programs in California.

- The California Product Stewardship Council is driven by local governments and works closely with partners including waste and recycling companies, non-profits, water quality organizations, businesses of all types, and, most importantly, product consumers who are working together to reduce waste and bring good public policy to the materials management industry.
- For more information, go to the website: <http://www.calpsc.org>