

EPA's National Recycling Strategy

Building a Circular Economy for All

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“A circular economy is an industrial system that is restorative or regenerative by design. It is a change to the linear model...A circular economy reduces materials use, redesigns materials and products to be less resource intensive, and recaptures ‘waste’ as a resource.”

- Michael Regan, EPA Administrator

Strategy Overview

Released November 2021

Supports National Recycling Goal of 50% recycling rate by 2030

Highlights climate change and environmental justice

5 objectives, 50 unique actions

Part 1 of 6: plastics, organics, electronics, buildings, and textiles

Recycling Strategy Objectives



A. Improve Markets

Analyze end markets, increase domestic use, support R&D



B. Increase Collection & Improve Infrastructure

Funding access, optimization, technological demonstrations



C. Reduce Contamination

Enhance education and outreach, ensure resource availability



D. Enhance Circularity

Strengthen policies and programs, study challenges, share best practices



E. Standardize Data Collection

Develop definitions, targets, reporting plan, and increase transparency

Actions & Implementation Plan Online Platform

Filter by Objective:

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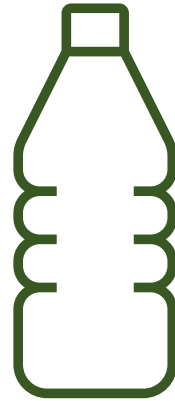
Objective	Action Title	Action Number	Status
Enhance Policies and Programs	Conduct a study on reflecting environmental and social costs in product pricing	D3	Not started
Enhance Policies and Programs	Conduct an analysis of different policies that could address recycling challenges	D2	Not started
Enhance Policies and Programs	Coordinate domestic and international interests	D6	Not started
Enhance Policies and Programs	Increase awareness of and continue voluntary public-private partnerships	D4	Not started
Enhance Policies and Programs	Share best practices on policies, programs, funding opportunities and outreach through a free, publicly accessible online clearinghouse	D5	Not started
Enhance Policies and Programs	Strengthen federal coordination to support and encourage actions to improve the U.S. recycling system	D1	Not started
Improve Markets	Conduct market development workshops and dialogues	A1.1	Not started
Improve Markets	Continue to support research and development of technologies and products that will expand market opportunities	A5	Not started
Improve Markets	Create a "Demand Challenge" partnership program to encourage the use of recycled materials in products	A4.6	Not started
Improve Markets	Create market development toolkits for communities	A1.4	Not started

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Focus on Issues: Plastics

- What's recyclable
- Environmental justice
- Product design
- Market improvement



Stakeholders

Public, Private, Government, Tribal Nations, Universities...

Lead

- Plan development
- Convey progress
- Coordinate supporters

Support

- Implementation
- Provide data
- Open-ended

DNR Action – Expressed Interest

- B1.1. Create a national map of existing recycling infrastructure to depict available recycling system capacity
- B5. Optimize processing efficiencies at materials recovery facilities
- B6.1. Engage in outreach efforts to increase participation in recycling
- C1.1. Develop messaging and educational materials about the importance and value of recycling
- C1.6. Develop a plan to assist state and local governments with contamination
- E.1 Develop and implement national recycling definitions, measures, targets, and performance indicators

Getting Involved



- Receive updates for recycling, food waste, and the circular economy
<https://www.epa.gov/recyclingstrategy/forms/stay-connected>
- Lead or support an action
- Propose a new action

Indicating Interest

No specified timeline

EPA will connect those interested this spring and on ongoing basis

Fill out the form:
<https://www.epa.gov/recyclingsstrategy/forms/take-action>

Sign up to Implement a Strategy Action:

To sign up to lead or support an action, complete the information below. [If you would like to propose a new action, you can do so by completing this form.](#) For any other questions or expressions of interest, please send an email to EPARecycles@epa.gov.

Name *

Email address *

Organization name *

Phone number *

Actions

Select "Lead" or "Support" associated with actions of interest to you or your organization.

A: Improve Markets for Recycled Commodities

A1.1 Conduct market development workshops and dialogues

None Lead Support

Find Out More

Full Strategy Text

<https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2021-11/final-national-recycling-strategy.pdf>

Executive Summary

<https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2021-11/national-recycling-strategy-executive-summary.pdf>

FAQ

<https://www.epa.gov/recyclingstrategy/frequent-questions-about-national-recycling-strategy#Organization%20Recycling>

CONNECT WITH US



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"WILD WISCONSIN:
OFF THE RECORD"