

# Plastic Pollution Reduction Act Implementation

---

Infrastructure, ordinances and policies - Scaffolding Approaches to Waste Reduction

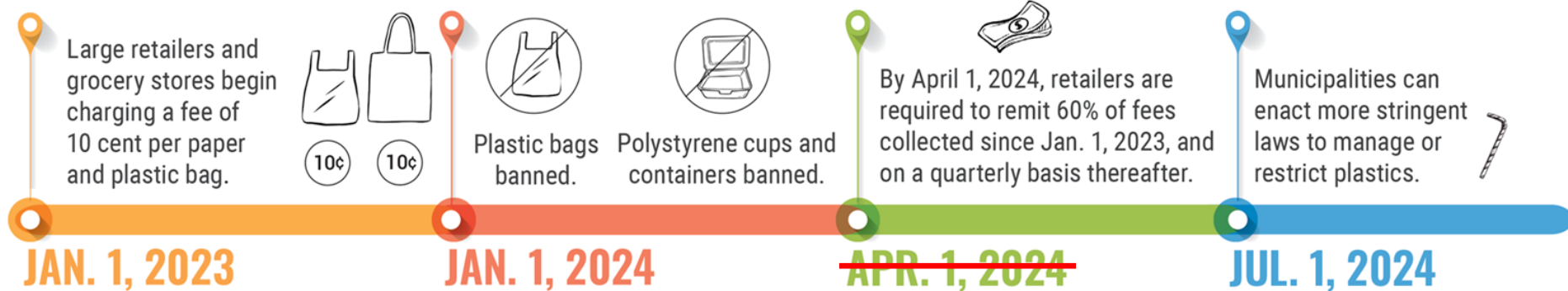
Rachel Setzke, Eco-Cycle



# eco-cycle



# Plastic Pollution Reduction Act (HB21-1162)



HB23-1285 – amended original language to remove the 2024 date. Now is simply quarterly remittance.



## What is EPR?

A policy that shifts responsibility for what happens to packaging and printed paper from local governments and taxpayers to the producers who create them.

# Current Linear Model

---



**Producers:**  
Make and sell products to consumers



**Consumers:**  
Use and recycle or dispose of the products



Municipalities are primarily responsible for waste collection and recycling services. Based on many different factors, most material does not get recycled.

# EPR Model

Higher quality **recycled materials** are more accessible to producers, who purchase them to make new products



**Producer Responsibility Organization (PRO)**  
The private sector non-profit that manages and funds the system through fees assessed on producers of packaging and printed paper



**Producers** make and sell more recyclable products to consumers and manage the recycling system



**Consumers** have greater access to higher quality recycling services and have more confidence in their materials being recycled



**Materials recycling and processing facilities** sort more used packaging and printed paper and create material that can be used to make new products



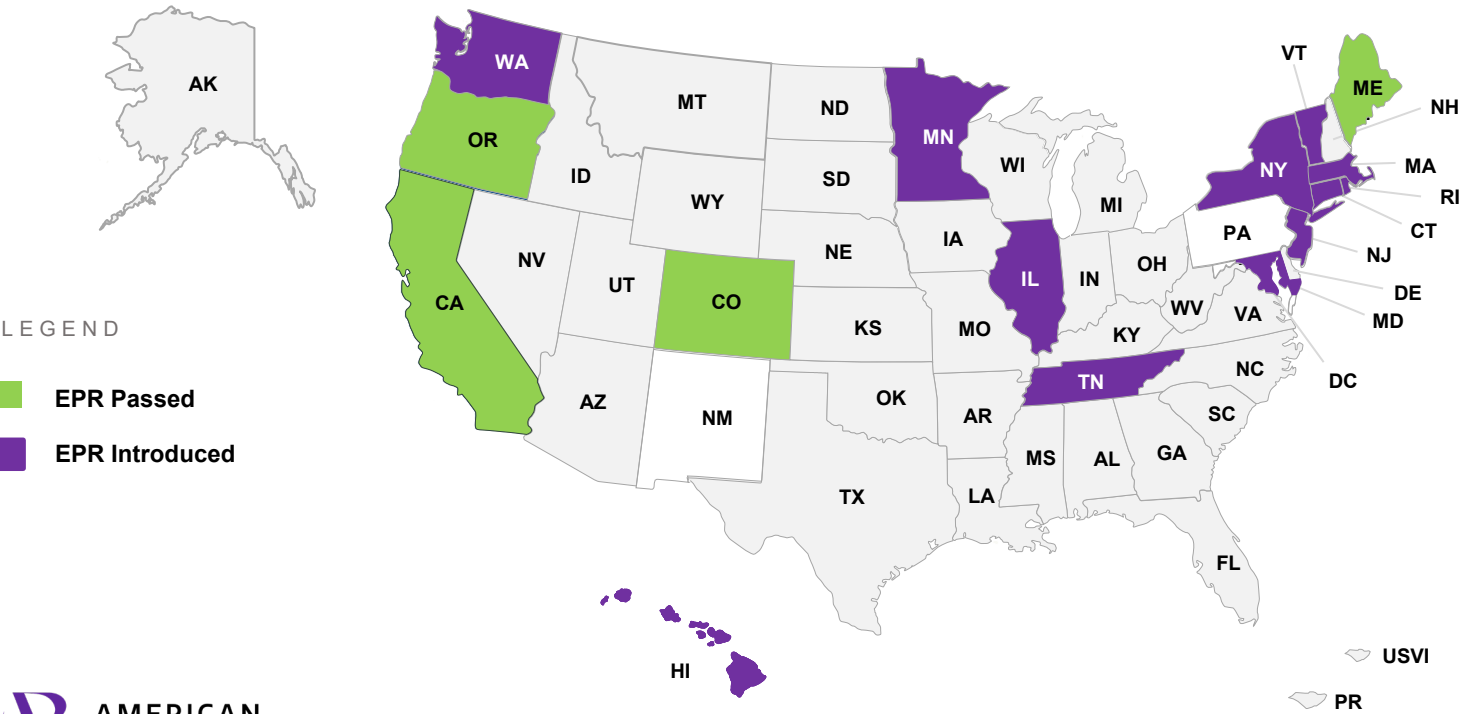
**Government agency** sets recycling targets and provides oversight ensuring transparency and accountability



**Waste haulers** collect more material, serve many more customers and participate in a more efficient and streamlined collection process.



# EPR for Packaging in the United States



# U.S. Producer Responsibility Laws

	Maine	Oregon	Colorado	California
Date Passed	July 2021	August 2021	June 2022	June 2022
Scope of Materials	Packaging (no printed paper)	Packaging, printed paper and plastic foodware	Packaging and printed paper	All packaging and plastic foodware
Cost Coverage Scope	Full	Improvements	100%	Improvements
Recycling Targets	Set by DEP	Plastic Targets in Law 25% by 2028, 50% by 2040, 70% by 2050	Set with PRO plan	Plastic Target in Law 65% by 2032
Number of PROs	Single PRO	Multiple PROs (10% market share required)	Single PRO to start (multiple after 2029)	Single PRO to start (multiple after 2030)
PRO Autonomy	None	Low	High	None



# Colorado EPR Timeline

---

**2023**

Producer Responsibility Organization (PRO) forms

**2024**

Needs assessment finalized

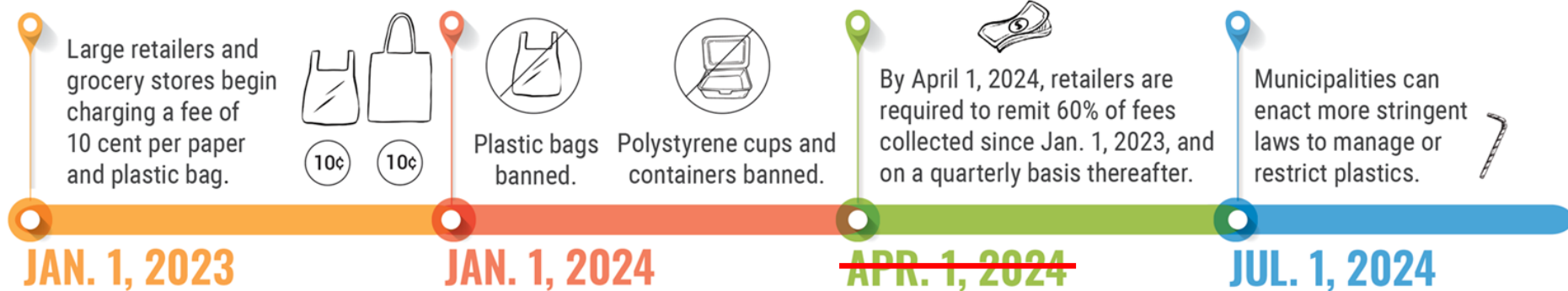
**2025**

All producers must join PRO

**2026**

PRO begins to implement plan

# Plastic Pollution Reduction Act (HB21-1162)



HB23-1285 – amended original language to remove the 2024 date. Now is simply quarterly remittance.

# Funding from Bag Fees

## Communities receiving bag funds

- Tend to see more \$\$ in the first year than later years due to behavior change
- Have use funds for:
  - Providing free reusable bags
  - Administering bag fee collection
  - Educating about bag reduction, recycling and other sustainability efforts
  - Recycling programs and purchasing recycling containers
  - Community cleanup or collection events
  - Green business and other sustainability programs

## Communities NOT receiving bag fund

- HB23-1285 clarified that businesses in jurisdictions not set up to receive funds may retain the full fee and spend it recycling, composting, or waste reduction efforts – include distribution of reusable bags

# Step 1: Determine your Goals

---

- Eliminate plastic – which plastics?
- Reduce overall waste
- Support Reuse Systems
- Prolong landfill lifespan
- Help businesses save money and have more environmental options
- Make it easier for customers/residents to make more environmental choices
- **Other – What's important to your community?**



# Step 2: Identify your stakeholders

---

- Youth
- Residents
- Businesses
- Community Groups
- Local Government Staff
- Elected Leaders
- **Other or a combination – who's driving the conversation and who needs to be part of it?**



Photo: <https://www.facebook.com/LouisvilleForReuse/photos>

# Step 3: Plan your Approach(es)

---



# Aspen council returns to plastic bag issue on Tuesday

Megan Webber, Aspen Daily News Staff Writer | Mar 13, 2023

## Colorado's ban on banning plastics has cities' plans to outlaw single-use bags and straws in limbo

A little-known Colorado law written to protect recycling stands in the way of cities that want to outlaw straws, plastic grocery bags and Styrofoam containers

### Breckenridge passes ordinance to reduce single-use plastics

## Plastic Reduction Ordinances Since HB21-1162, PPRA

## Looking to reduce plastic waste, Frisco Town Council considers possible ordinances related to cutlery and water bottles

The proposed ordinances include requiring restaurants to only provide single-use utensils on request and banning the sale of water sold in single-use plastic bottles.

News [FOLLOW NEWS](#) | Mar 25, 2023

[Ryan Spencer](#) [FOLLOW](#)  
rspencer@summitdaily.com



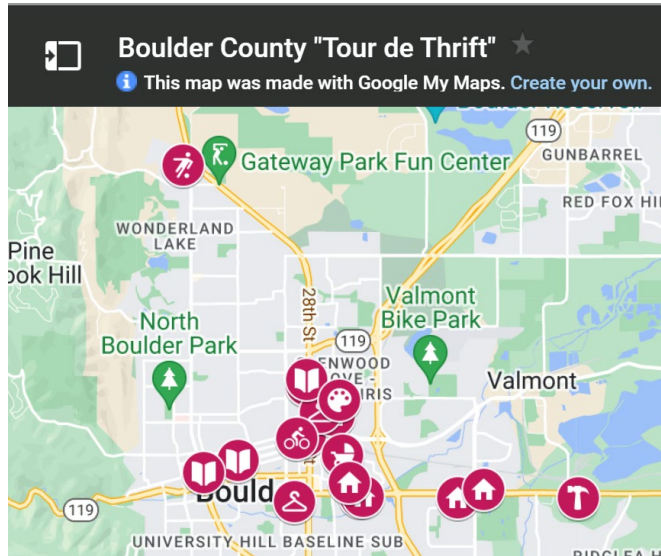
# Supporting Policies can Lead by Example

---

- **Purchasing policies prohibiting the use of local government dollars on single use plastic items.** Ex: San Jose, CA Prohibition of City Funding for Purchase of Single Serving Bottled Water – [Administrative Policy 5.1.11](#) Contains exemptions for emergencies, and waivers with ways to track when waivers are approved. Could be improved by adding mention of reusable cups in addition to reusable pitchers.
- **Purchasing Policies supporting recycled content such as waste bins with a certain percentage of PCR plastic.** Ex. Boulder [2-8-12. - Recycled and Environmentally Preferable Products & www.bouldercolorado.gov/purchasing](#)
- **Events policies requiring vendors to reduce plastic waste.** Ex. [Avon & Walking Mountain Vendor Requirements](#)
- **Building Code update to require bottle filling stations anywhere a drinking fountain is required.** Ex: [WA HB23-1085](#) section 2; Section 5 prohibits hospitality venues over 50 units from distributing single-use personal care items.



# Bigger Picture Solutions – Reduce/Reuse



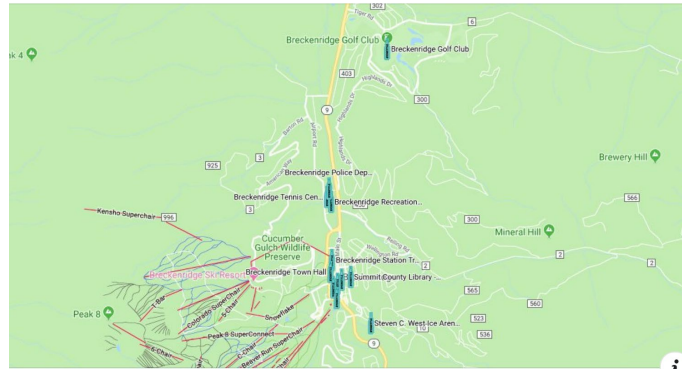
# Make it EASY to refill Amazing CO H2O!



Basalt promotes their filling station & quality of local water [online](#).

**B** GoBreck  
June 12, 2019 · 🌐

You can fill up on pure Breckenridge water at one of our water fill stations around town, check out the map for all the locations. Need a water bottle? Head to the Welcome Center to pick one up. <https://bit.ly/2WCFyXc>



Breckenridge tourism Facebook post with a map to all municipal refill stations in town



Breckenridge bag fees & tourism dollars bought filling stations for events

# Support Reuse/Reduce in Schools



Bulk milk dispensers paired with reusable cups cut down on packaging and food waste.

Source: [Chef Ann Foundation](#)



Reusable trays and utensils reduce waste, keep kids' food off of toxic foam trays. Support also needed for dishwashers and staff.

Source: [Boulder Valley School District](#)

## The Eco-Cycle Zero Waste Schools Activity Guide

### SECTION 1: INTRODUCTION

### SECTION 2: WASTE-REDUCTION ACTIVITIES

#### WASTE-REDUCTION ACTIVITIES

Click the links below to download and view individual PDFs of chapters from this section.



- Chapter 1: Eco-Cycle Schools Supplies
- Chapter 2: Waste-Free Lunch, Part 1
- Chapter 2: Waste-Free Lunch, Part 2
- Chapter 2: Waste-Free Lunch, Part 3
- Chapter 3: Refillable Water Bottle Project
- Chapter 4: Take a Bite Out of Food Waste

Teaching reuse/reduce in schools builds good behavior and reinforces messaging to families. Free lesson plans at [ecocycle.org/schools-guide](https://ecocycle.org/schools-guide).

# Education –

## Free Toolkit for PPRA Outreach that Leverages Common Messaging

### Toolkit to Implement Plastic and Paper Checkout Bag Fees

Step-by-step guidelines and resources to get your municipality, local businesses, and community ready!



**BAG FEES GUIDE FOR  
MUNICIPALITIES**



**BAG FEES GUIDE FOR BUSINESSES**



**BAG FEES GUIDE FOR  
COMMUNITIES**

- ❖ Eco-Cycle created a toolkit for education around PPRA to fill a gap and create common messaging around the law
  - ❖ Currently working on an update for Phase 2
- ❖ Based on best practices from around the state and nation
- ❖ Toolkit was distributed to municipalities around the state and received national media coverage
- ❖ Access the toolkit at [www.ecocycle.org/ppra](http://www.ecocycle.org/ppra)

# Polystyrene Tool - Coming SOON!

Sample Pages:

## Containers for Dry/Solid Foods

Best choices ←		→ Worst choices		
REUSABLES	RECYCLABLES	COMPOSTABLES	LANDFILL	AVOID
<p>Durable/Washable</p>  <p>Subscription Reuse Services</p>  <p>Encourage customers to bring their own containers for leftovers</p> 	<p>Aluminum</p>  <p>Recyclable plastics Recycling guidelines vary across the state. Check your local recycling guidelines to determine which plastics are recyclable.</p> 	<p>Many compost facilities do not accept compostable products. Check your local composting guidelines to see if these items can be composted or must be landfilled.</p>  <p>In communities that do accept compostables, they must be certified compostable. For example:</p>  <p>Uncoated papers</p> 	<p>Plastic-coated papers</p>    	<p>#6 Polystyrene</p>   

## Accessories

	UTENSILS	NAPKINS	STRAWS	LIDS
BEST OPTION	 <p>Reusable utensils</p>	 <p>Reusable cloth napkins</p>	 <p>No straws—provide only upon request</p>	 <p>No lids—provide only upon request</p>
BETTER OPTION	 <p>Customer self-select or provide only upon request</p>	 <p>Customer self-select or provide only upon request</p>	 <p>Bamboo or paper straws provided only upon request</p>	 <p>Lid with no straw</p>
WORST OPTION	 <p>Wrapped, bundled utensils</p>	 <p>Large quantities of napkins</p>	 <p>Plastic straws</p>	 <p>Lid with straw</p>

# THANK YOU!

---

[ecocycle.org/ppra](https://ecocycle.org/ppra)

**eco-cycle**

Rachel Setzke, [Rachel@ecocycle.org](mailto:Rachel@ecocycle.org)

