



RURAL COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES
OF CALIFORNIA

John Kennedy Senior Policy Advocate

# RCRC COUNTIES REPRESENT:



**14%** of the CA population



60% of CA's land mass



Over 80% of U.S. Forest Service Land in CA

#### **RURAL COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES OF CALIFORNIA**

RCRC is a 40-county member services organization that represents the collective unique interests of its membership by:

 Providing legislative and regulatory representation at the state and federal levels

 Providing services to its members to enhance and protect the quality of life in rural California counties



#### **ESJPA COUNTIES:**

Alpine
Butte
Colusa
El Dorado
Imperial
Kings
Lassen
Mariposa
Mono
Plumas
Sierra
Solano
Trinity

Amador
Calaveras
Del Norte
Glenn
Inyo
Lake
Madera
Modoc
Nevada
Shasta
Siskiyou
Tehama
Tuolumne

# RURAL COUNTIES' ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY

ESJPA is a 26-county joint powers authority focused on solid waste management assistance that provides:

- Legislative and regulatory representation at the state and federal levels
- Education and technical assistance to member counties
- Grants management for various state-funded programs



#### **SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT IN CALIFORNIA**

- Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle)
  - Charged with oversight and of solid waste management including facility regulations
  - Countywide Integrated Waste Management Plan with Household Hazardous Waste Element
  - 50% solid waste diversion mandate for local governments, 75% statewide goal
  - Oversight of most product stewardship programs
- Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC)
  - Charged with oversight of hazardous waste management in California

#### **SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT IN CALIFORNIA**

- State mandates delegated to local governments for implementation
  - Counties (58), cities (480), regional waste management authorities (27)
  - Counties range in population from 9.7 million residents (Los Angeles) to 1,200 residents (Alpine)
- Local governments often (but not always) work with solid waste entities for the collection, management, recycling, and disposal of solid and hazardous waste
- Local governments and consumers traditionally responsible for end-of-life management costs for all products introduced into the stream of commerce

#### **HAZARDOUS WASTE TYPES IN CALIFORNIA**

- RCRA Hazardous Waste (13% of hazardous waste managed in California)
  - Listed wastes and ignitable, corrosive, reactive, or toxic wastes
- CA Hazardous Waste (86% of hazardous waste managed in California)
  - Much larger universe than RCRA wastes, including used oil, treated wood waste, batteries, wastes containing mercury
- Household Hazardous Waste
  - Antifreeze, batteries, cleaners, e-waste, glue/adhesives, paints, pesticides, pool cleaners, solvents, used oil, mercury wastes
- Universal Waste (California Hazardous)
  - Batteries, e-waste, lamps, mercury waste, aerosol cans, solar panels

#### HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION IN CALIFORNIA

- Permanent HHW Collection Facilities operated by public agencies with continuous, regular schedule at a fixed location
- Temporary HHW Collection Facilities operated by public agencies not more than once/month at the same location for not more than two days each
- Recycle-Only HHW Facilities operated/sponsored by public agencies collect only recyclable HHW (antifreeze, batteries, used oil and oil filters, paint, lamps, etc.)
- Curbside HHW Collection Programs operated by public agencies (used oil and oil filters, paint, universal wastes)
- Door-to-Door/Residential HHW Collection operated by public agency (can take any HHW)
- Used Oil Collection Centers collected used oil and filters, e.g. auto store, public and private
- Variance Process considered on a case-by-case basis

#### **HHW Facilities**

Туре	Total	Rural	Urban
Permanent	151	31	120
Recycle-Only	34	14	20
Total	185	45	140

### **HHW COLLECTION OPPORTUNITIES**











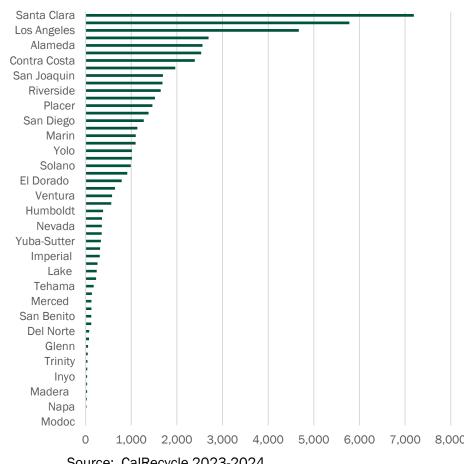


## DTSC HAZARDOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN (11/23)

- Comprehensive evaluation of hazardous waste generation, recycling, treatment, and disposal
- Quantification of RCRA and non-RCRA hazardous waste streams
- Recognition that California has very limited in-state treatment, recycling, and disposal opportunities
- 80% of hazardous waste generated in California is non-RCRA hazardous waste (much of which is contaminated soil from cleanup operations)
- Evaluation of in-state vs. out-of-state disposal
- Topics for further study
  - Recalibration of hazardous waste determination methodologies
  - Landfill design standards

# CALIFORNIA HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION (BY THE NUMBERS)

- 54,758 tons of HHW collected in California in 2023-24 reporting period
  - Santa Clara County 7,191 tons (13%)
  - Orange County 5,779 tons (11%)
  - Los Angeles County 4,670 tons (9%)
  - By way of comparison, Napa County (19 tons), Sierra County (8 tons), and Modoc County (7 tons)
- 26,562 tons of universal waste collected in California in 2020-21 (49% of HHW collected)

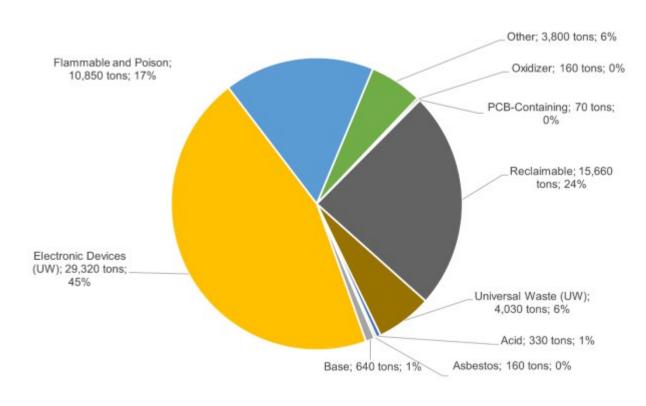


Source: CalRecycle 2023-2024

# CALIFORNIA HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION (BY THE NUMBERS)

Categories of HHW Collected (65,020 tons):

- Electronic Devices 45%
- Reclaimable Wastes 24%
  - 75% latex paint
  - 13% motor oil
  - 8% car batteries
- Flammables and Poisons 17%
- Universal Waste 6%
- Corrosives/Oxidizers 2%

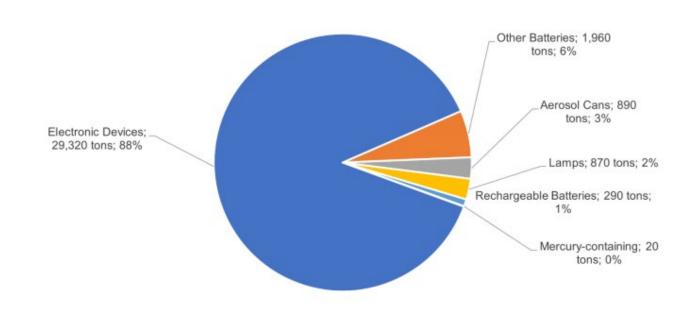


Source: DTSC 2023 Hazardous Waste Management Plan

# CALIFORNIA HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION (BY THE NUMBERS)

Categories of Universal Waste Collected (33,350 tons):

- Electronic Devices 88%
- Other Batteries 6% (1,960 tons)
- Aerosol Cans 3% (890 tons)
- Lamps 2% (870 tons)
- Rechargeable Batteries 1% (290 tons)



Source: DTSC 2023 Hazardous Waste Management Plan

### **HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE EXAMPLES**













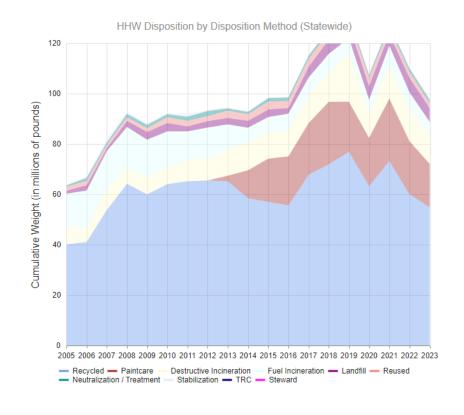




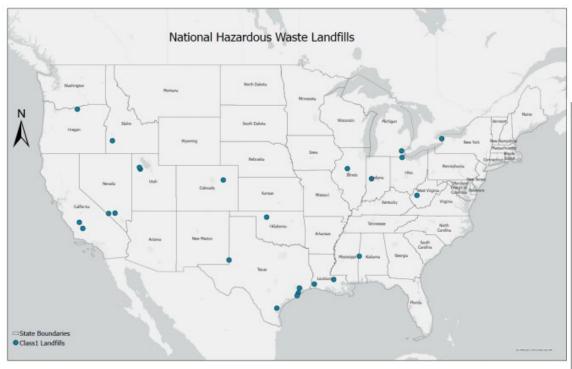
# CALIFORNIA HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE DISPOSITION (BY THE NUMBERS)

#### Methods of Universal Waste Disposition:

- Recycled 56%
- Paint Care 18%
- Incinerated 17%
- Landfilled 5%
- Reused 2%
- Neutralized/Treated 1%
- Stabilized 1%



### HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE DISPOSAL FACILITIES





#### **HHW MANAGEMENT COSTS**

- Gas cylinders \$24 each to \$1,200+ each
- Nitrous oxide cylinders \$70 each
- Small propane tanks under 1 gallon \$8 each
- Large propane tanks over 1 gallon \$30 each
- Aerosols \$1,100/55 gallon drum
- Poison aerosols \$1,850/cubic yard box
- Flammable solids \$831/cubic yard box
- Mercury devices \$500/5 gallon bucket
- Oxidizers \$375-\$500/55 gallon drum

- Reactives for incineration \$7.40/lb
- Alkaline batteries \$755/55 gallon drum
- Acids and bases \$545/55 gallon drum
- Vapes \$365/5 gallon bucket
- CFL Bulbs \$0.60-\$1.50 each
- Fluorescent lamps \$0.13/linear foot
- Household batteries \$1.13/pound
- Household lithium batteries \$540/5 gallon bucket

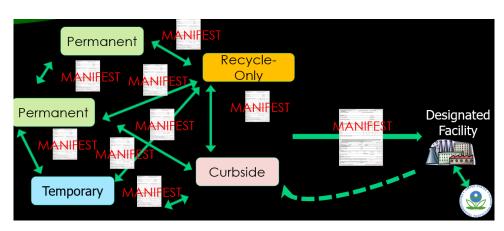
#### HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE REDUCTION OPPORTUNITIES

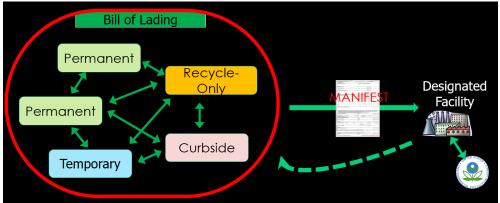
- Local HHWCF materials exchange programs
- Product design improvements to make it easy to determine if a container/cylinder is empty and can be disposed as trash or recycled
- Product right-sizing
- Recalibrating regulatory waste classifications



#### **HHW COLLECTION AND MANAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

Regulatory management efficiencies





Universal waste designation

Collection system enhancements and partnership opportunities

Leveraging community recycling centers/depots

Producer responsibility programs

#### PRODUCT MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS IN CALIFORNIA

#### Extended Producer Responsibility

- Carpet (advanced disposal fee)
- Paint (advanced disposal fee)
- Mattresses (advanced disposal fee)
- Pharmaceuticals and Sharps Waste
- Batteries (in development)
- Textiles (enacted in 2024)
- Mercury thermostats
- Rigid, non-refillable empty HDPE pesticide containers

#### Other Programs

- <u>Electronic Waste</u>\* (advanced disposal fee includes video display devices and batteryembedded products)
- Lead Acid Batteries\* (core charge depositbased system)
- <u>DTSC's Green Chemistry Program</u> (specific product/chemical combinations)

# SB 54 – PLASTIC POLLUTION PREVENTION AND PACKAGING PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY ACT

- Transformative approach to solid waste management
- Requires single-use packaging and plastic food service ware to be recyclable or compostable
- Requires 25% source reduction in single-use packaging and food service ware
- Requires 65% of single-use packaging and food service ware to be recycled or composted
- Requires local agencies to include covered materials in their recycling and composting programs
- Requires the producer responsibility organization to reimburse local governments for the costs of managing and recycling covered materials

## SB 1143 (ALLEN) OF 2023: HHW EPR (PROPOSED)

- Covered products that are flammable, toxic, ignitable, corrosive, reactive or pressurized and that:
- Meets criteria for HHW or is defined as HHW by DTSC OR is one or more of the following product types:
  - Aerosols, cleaners, glues, solvents, oxidizers, adhesives
  - Automotive products
  - Electronics and paint products not covered under existing EPR programs
  - Fire extinguishers
  - Degreasers, lubricants, liquid adhesives, and strippers
  - Gas cylinders

- Lamp kerosene and lighter fluid
- Rust, tar, and bug remover
- Fertilizers, pesticides, insecticides, herbicides, fungicides, and soil fumigants
- Pool chemicals
- Universal waste
- Concrete mix containing lime
- Products containing asbestos, mercury, or PCBs

## **SB 1143 (ALLEN) OF 2023 HHW EPR**

- Would have required producers or a PRO to develop and implement a plan to:
  - Ensure the safe and convenient collection and management of covered products and decrease the aggregate percentage of covered products improperly disposed 20% by 2032 and 40% by 2035.
  - Ensure elderly consumers, disabled consumers, and any other consumers with limited mobility have access to the safe and proper collection and management of covered products, including opportunities to have covered products collected.
  - Provide adequate funding for administrative and operational costs, including the collection, transport, and safe/proper management of covered products, including those illegally dumped.
- PRO would have been required to reimburse local jurisdictions for costs associated with collecting illegally dumped covered products and providing a convenient collection system.

#### **LOOKING AHEAD**

- Local governments considering HHW EPR ordinances
- HHW EPR legislation
- Opportunities for future collaboration
  - Packaging design
  - Take-back
  - Materials exchange/reuse programs
  - Update to regulatory framework



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#### **QUESTIONS?**

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#### **KEEP UP WITH RCRC:**

- WEBSITE: <u>www.rcrcnet.org</u>
- SIGN UP FOR THE BARBED WIRE NEWSLETTER
- FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA:



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