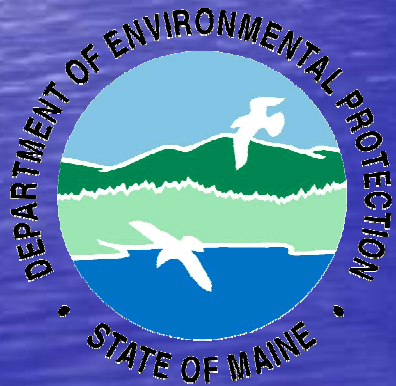


Maine's Product Stewardship Programs

**Carole Cifrino, Program Manager
Product Management Programs**

Maine Department of Environmental Protection



**Sierra Fletcher, Senior Associate
Policy & Programs
Product Stewardship Institute**

Product Stewardship

All participants involved in the life cycle of a product share responsibility for the impacts to human health and the natural environment that result from the production, use, and end-of-life management of the product. The greater the ability of a party to influence the life cycle impacts of a product, the greater the degree of that party's responsibility. The stakeholders typically include manufacturers, retailers, consumers, and government officials.

Maine's Current Product Stewardship Laws

- 1991 - dry cell mercuric oxide and rechargeable batteries
- 2001 - Mercury auto switch law (2003)
- 2004 – E-waste recycling law (2006)
- 2005 – Thermostat recycling law (2007)
- 2007 – Cell phone recycling law (2008)
- 2009 – Mercury lamp recycling law (2011)
- 2010 – Product Stewardship Framework

Maine's Framework Law

- Sets product stewardship as state policy to support waste management hierarchy;
- Defines “product stewardship program”;
- Provides predictable process for legislative consideration of products for new stewardship programs and changes to existing programs;
- Provides criteria for identifying candidates for new product stewardship programs.

Definitions

- **Product stewardship.** "Product stewardship" means a producer's taking responsibility for managing and reducing the life-cycle impacts of the producer's product, from product design to end-of-life management.
- **Product stewardship program.** "Product stewardship program" means a program financed without a visible fee at purchase either managed or provided by producers and includes, but is not limited to, the collection, transportation, reuse and recycling or disposal, or both, of unwanted products.

2011 DEP Product Stewardship Report

- May propose new programs and changes to existing programs.
- Post final report on website around December 1, 2010.
- Collect comments to forward with report to Legislature by January 15, 2011.
- Natural Resources Committee can introduce legislation based on report.

Criteria for new products

- The product or product category is found to contain toxics that pose the risk of an adverse impact to the environment or public health and safety;
- A product stewardship program for the product will increase the recovery of materials for reuse and recycling;
- A product stewardship program will reduce the costs of waste management to local governments and taxpayers;
- There is success in collecting and processing similar products in programs in other states or countries; and
- Existing voluntary product stewardship programs for the product in the State are not effective in achieving the policy of this chapter.

To be determined.....

- Collection system - convenience
- Performance goals
- Performance metrics
- Producers' reporting requirements
- Education & outreach responsibilities
- Administrative fees

What's important to towns?

- Flexibility in how towns participate in each program
- Which products?????
- Opportunities for input to DEP report
 - e-mail (listserv?)
 - meetings – invite DEP
 - talk to MMA- will be on Rep. Innes' advisory group
- Program performance – recycling rates

Next products?

- Unused pharmaceuticals
- Medical sharps
- Packaging
- Paint
- Carpet
- Pesticides & their containers
- Alkaline batteries
- Mattresses
- Plastic bags
- Gas cylinders
- Phone books
- ??????

Contact information

Carole Cifrino
Maine DEP
17 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333
207-287-7720

carole.a.cifrino@maine.gov

www.maine.gov

Sierra Fletcher
Product Stewardship Institute
29 Stanhope Street, 3rd floor
Boston, MA 02144
617-236-4886

sierra@productstewardship.us

www.productstewardship.us