



soon be formed to develop proposed waste tax returns. DAKOFA says separate tax returns will be developed for households and businesses, and that draft documents will be available, perhaps for public consultation, by April 1, 2015.

Waste tax returns, according to DAKOFA, are needed to further increase recycling of targeted materials by providing new financial incentives. Some government officials are concerned that a growing scarcity of raw materials could soon adversely affect the country's economic competitiveness. *Recycling Laws International* will follow developments.

The DAKOFA announcement is posted at <http://www.dakofa.dk/NogH/defaultpost.aspx?ID=1836>.

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## New Jersey Launches New Campaign to Combat Illegal Dumping on Public Land

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) said on March 27, 2014 that state agencies are launching a year-long pilot program "to crack down on illegal dumping in state parks and natural lands."

The pilot program, which is called 'Don't Waste Our Open Space,' includes motion-sensor cameras set up in select state parks and wildlife management areas, more warning signs and possible installation of road barricades, additional lighting in areas prone to violations and more aggressive pursuit of civil and criminal complaints against violators. It also includes a public education component.

The DEP announcement states, "*Illegal dumping, which includes everything from unlawful disposal of construction debris and old TVs and computers to the dumping of car parts and tires-- and even entire vehicles -- has been a growing problem in the state's vast natural holdings in all 21 counties in recent years.*"

More information about the new campaign is available at <http://www.stopdumping.nj.gov/awareness.htm>.

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## CalRecycle Announces License Revocation and Fine for Tire Recycling Firm

Last week, the California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) announced that the license of South San Francisco-based Global Waste Management Inc has been revoked for three years and the firm ordered to pay a \$30,000 fine. The revocation action was initiated last year, but Global Waste Management Inc had until March 23 to appeal the revocation ruling. It declined to do so.

The license granted to Global Waste Management Inc allowed the firm to store less than 5,000 waste tires, but according to CalRecycle inspectors estimated 11,000 waste tires were found at the site during an initial inspection. During follow up inspections, the number of waste tires grew to around 17,000 and later nearly 21,000.

"Our responsibility is to ensure waste tire facilities operate in a safe and compliant manner to protect the surrounding community," said CalRecycle Director Caroll Mortensen. "Improperly stored waste tires are a serious threat to human health and the environment."

The CalRecycle announcement is posted at <http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/NewsRoom/2014/03Mar/09.htm>.

## Statistics & Trends

### UK Government Association Report Claims 615,000 Tons of Reusable Products Are Landfilled Annually

A 28-page report released on March 27, 2014, by the United Kingdom's Local Government Association says that the UK sends 615,000 tons of reusable products to landfills each year, contributing 60 million pounds in disposal costs. The report also says that 435 million pounds in sales could be generated from textiles and electronics that still have useful life when disposed.

"Government, councils, the waste industry and voluntary groups need to work together with consumers to highlight the potential of reuse," said Councillor Clyde Loakes, Chair of the LGA's Reuse Commission. "We want to see a vibrant reuse culture which provides jobs, training and value to our society and economy and which puts money in taxpayers' pockets."

Loakes said tax breaks for businesses entering the reuse marketplace and government support for product reuse public education are needed to help change consumer behavior while reducing municipal waste management costs.

Download the LGA report at <http://www.local.gov.uk/documents/10180/5854661/LGA+Routes+to+Reuse+FINAL+FINAL.PDF/5edd19ba-7c13-47c5-b019-97a352846863>.

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### Plastics Recycling Increased 10 Percent in Canada in 2012

The Canadian Plastics Industry Association (CPIA) released a 21-page report last month that indicates plastics recycling in Canada increased 10% in 2012 to 285 million kilograms. The report comes from a study conducted by the consulting firm Moore Recycling Associates Inc.

The report highlights increases for the following types of plastic products: bottles - 3%; non-bottle rigid plastic items - 29%; plastic bags - 18%; and polystyrene foam - 24%. For plastic bags, the study says 44 million kilograms were recycled in 2012.

Recycling rates for the four plastic product categories have increased steadily since 2009, according to the report. In 2009, only 188 million kilograms of plastics were recycled.

Download the 2012 plastics recycling report at [http://www.plastics.ca/files/file.php?fileid=itemxtyIOHgHtA&filename=file\\_2012\\_Canada\\_Plastic\\_Recycling\\_Report\\_Final\\_3.4.14.pdf](http://www.plastics.ca/files/file.php?fileid=itemxtyIOHgHtA&filename=file_2012_Canada_Plastic_Recycling_Report_Final_3.4.14.pdf).

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## Michigan Recycled More Than 30 Million Pounds of E-Waste in 2013

The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) announced on March 26 that in 2013 the state recycled more than 30 million pounds of e-waste, beating a 29.6 million pound or 3 pounds per capita target.

DEQ said the firms that recycled the most devices in 2013 were Samsung at 4.67 million pounds, Hewlett Packard at 4.26 million pounds, LG Electronics at 3.99 million pounds, Best Buy at 3.28 million pounds and Dell at 3.24 million pounds. Devices covered under the Electronic Waste Takeback Program, an extended producer responsibility scheme established in 2008, include desktop computers, laptop computers, monitors, tablets, televisions and printers.

The Michigan DEQ announcement can be found at <http://www.michigan.gov/deq/0,4561,7-135--324658--,00.html>

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## Danish EPA Finds Substitutes for Phthalates Are Available for Some Products

Concerned about adverse affects on human health, Denmark issued an executive order in 2012 banning the use of four phthalates - DEHP, BBP, DBP and DIBP - in products used indoors, effective 2013. However, the ban was delayed until 2015 to accommodate manufacturers that claimed phthalate-free alternatives were not readily available.

Last month, the Danish Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) released a 26-page report that presents a complicated view of the current situation. The report claims that in many instances alternatives are currently available, although at an increased cost. Manufacturers will also need to ensure through testing that imported components do not contain the phthalates, and the testing could also lead to increased product costs. For some products, including electronics, a complete phase out of the four phthalates may not be possible by the extended 2015 deadline.

The report also noted that the use of recycled PVC could present a problem in instances where contamination from phthalates (used during a previous product life cycle) exceeds the 0.1% concentration (by weight) permissible level.

The Danish EPA surveyed 39 companies and 13 industry associations in preparing its report.

Download the Danish EPA report at <http://www2.mst.dk/Udgiv/publikationer/2014/03/978-87-93178-23-6.pdf>.

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## Scottish Government Study Finds Metals Are the Most Contaminated Type of Recyclate

Zero Waste Scotland released a 61-page study on March 26, 2014 that analyzed the levels of contaminants in five types of recyclates - paper, cardboard, glass, metals and plastics. The Scottish Government sponsored the study, collaborating with a number of UK governments and

agencies. The study analyzed 860 municipal source-separated recycle samples collected from 59 sites and 25 business recycle samples collected from 18 sites.

Metals contained the highest amounts of contaminants at 6.2% from municipal site samples and 3.3% in business site samples. Plastics had contaminant levels of 2.9% and 2.5% from municipal site samples and business site samples, respectively. Cardboard had a 4.1% contaminant level in municipal site samples, but only a 0.5% level in business site samples.

The report includes several recommendations. *"Metal streams are the most heavily contaminated, so work could be done with crews to ensure contamination is removed more effectively."* is one recommendation. Another is *"Plastics appear to be a significant contaminant in many recycle streams. People find it difficult to determine which plastics are recyclable due to the range of plastic polymers and differences between schemes."*

Download the recycles contamination study at <http://www.zerowastescotland.org.uk/sites/files/wrap/Contamination%20in%20source-separated%20municipal%20and%20business%20recycle%20in%20the%20UK%202013%20240314.pdf>.

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## Kentucky Attorney General Announces Support for Clothing Recycling Bins Ordinance Model

On March 27, 2014, the non-profit Secondary Materials and Recycled Textiles Association (SMART) announced that the Attorney General of Kentucky is *"supporting a model"* developed by SMART for the regulation of used clothing collection bins. The AG has indicated that support in a memorandum sent to the Kentucky League of Cities, Magistrates and Commissioners, Association of Counties, and Judge Executives Association.

SMART says its model is *"draft legislative language reflecting our industry's Code of Conduct for collection bin operators. We encourage local officials to utilize this language to encourage companies with the best business practices to locate in their communities, while holding accountable those companies that operate without regard to local residents or community standards."*

The association also notes that according to the US Environmental Protection Agency 13 million tons of recyclable clothing and textiles are dumped in US landfills annually while only two million tons are reused or recycled.

Download the SMART ordinance model at [http://www.smartasn.org/government/SMART\\_bin\\_position\\_documents.pdf](http://www.smartasn.org/government/SMART_bin_position_documents.pdf).

### Business Initiatives

## Dutch Compliance Scheme Distributes Small WEEE Collection Boxes for Home Use

On March 31, 2014, the Dutch WEEE compliance scheme Wecycle launched a program to distribute 100,000 small WEEE collection boxes for in-home use. The "Jekko Boxes" have separate compartments for unwanted small electronics (such cell phones and handheld appliances), waste batteries and spent LED lamps, and are available free at all Kruidvat drug

stores across the country. When filled, Jekko Boxes can be returned at no charge at Kruidvat stores.

As an incentive for consumers to use the Jekko Boxes, Wecycle has also launched a contest where consumers can submit an entry to win one of 25 luxury hotel stays.

Get more information at

<http://www.wecycle.nl/nederlands/consumenten/acties/jekko2014/home.html>.

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## UK Packaging Industry Council Calls for a Comprehensive Litter Solution

Last month, the Industrial Council for Research on Packaging and the Environment (INCPEN) released results of a study it commissioned on litter composition in Scotland and said in a press announcement that "*Cherry-picking litter won't work: It has to be all or nothing.*" The study was conducted by the nonprofit organization Keep Scotland Beautiful.

The INCPEN announcement said, "*Measures targeting single items - such as deposits on drinks containers - will not achieve the objective of eliminating litter from our streets and countryside.*"

"*Litter has to be measured by number of items and also, ideally, an assessment of its visual impact as well as how easy it is to clear up, the announcement continued. The weight of litter is usually irrelevant because, for example, 40 grams of plastic could be either 1 bottle or 12 yogurt pots. To effectively tackle litter it is essential to know the number of items that must be picked up, and how difficult that task is.*"

The Keep Scotland Beautiful study supported INCPEN's argument. It found that cigarette butts comprised 35% of the littered items. Food and food packaging accounted for only 4.6% percent of littered items, followed by non-alcoholic drink items (soft drink bottles and cans, cups, lids and straws) at 5.9% and alcoholic drink items at 0.5%.

Download the INCPEN-sponsored litter study and its recommendations at

<http://www.incpen.org/docs/CompositionOfLitterInScotlaand.pdf>

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## R2 Solutions Says CRT Glass Should Not Be Used As Landfill Cover

On March 26, 2014, R2 Solutions, an organization that certifies e-waste recyclers, issued a "*formal clarification*" that R2:2013, its current environmental standard, "*prohibits the use of CRT glass that no longer is considered a Focus Material (FM) as Alternative Daily Cover at solid waste landfills.*" R2 Solutions Board of Directors voted to approve issuing the clarification.

At issue was a R2:2013 provision that indicates CRT glass could be used as landfill cover if "*no reuse or recycling options are viable.*" The clarification states that "*recycling options are viable for non-FM CRT glass and that Alternative Daily Cover does not constitute a form of reuse or recycling under the Standard (but rather a form of land disposal).*"

The organization also said it "*will continue to monitor the CRT glass situation in the United States and around the globe.*"

The R2 Solutions announcement is posted at

<http://asoft10298.accrisoft.com/r2solutions/news/2014/03/26/press-releases/r2-solutions-board-clarifies-crt-glass-rules/>.

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