

Dansk Retursystem A/S, the compliance organization managing Denmark's container deposit scheme, said on February 28 that it received approval from the Danish Environmental Protection Agency to stop redeeming 0.5 liter plastic bottled water containers under the Aqua Green brand.

According to Dansk Retursystem A/S, the action is being taken because the manufacturer failed to pay the required funding to cover its product. The cut off date for redemptions is March 10.

Get more information at

http://www.dansk-retursystem.dk/content/dk/om_dansk_retursystem/presse/nyheder/2013/stop_for_pant_pa_kildevandsprodukt.

Statistics & Trends

Government Report Estimates Brazil Will Generate 1.1 Million Tons of E-Waste in 2014

On February 27, the Secretary of Production and Development in the Brazilian Ministry of Development, Ministry and Trade released a 179-page report estimating that Brazil will generate about 1.1 million tons of e-waste in 2014 and 1.247 tons next year. The report is coauthored by the Brazilian Agency for Industrial Development.

Two-thirds of Brazil's e-waste will be generated in 150 municipalities in the southern parts of the country, an important piece of knowledge as the country prepares to implement EEE extended producer responsibility programs under its National Policy of Solid Waste.

The report details waste data projections on a number of EEE categories including computers, displays and televisions, mobile phones, small appliances and large appliances.

Download a copy of the report at

http://www.mdic.gov.br/arquivos/dwnl_1367253180.pdf.

Austria Recycled Record Amount of Glass in 2013

The industry association Austria Glas Recycling announced last month that based on preliminary data Austria recycled 233,000 tons glass last year - a record for the country. Since glass collections rolled in the 1970s, Austria has recycled more than 17 million tons of the material, according to the announcement.

The Austria Glas Recycling announcement is posted at

<http://www.agr.at/presse/pressemitteilungen/pressemitteilungen-detail/artikel/erneut-rekordmengen-bei-altglassammlung-prognostiziert.html>.

Victorian Government Announces Funding to Expand Public Places Recycling

On March 4, Victoria's Minister for Environment and Climate Change, Ryan Smith, announced that \$815,000 in government grants will be provided for purchasing recycling bins for 22 public places across the Australian state.

"These Regional Public Place Recycling Grants are designed to see new recycling bins and other infrastructure introduced to remove waste from landfills and reduce unsightly litter," said Smith.

The Government of Victoria announcement can be reviewed at <http://www.sustainability.vic.gov.au/~media/resources/documents/news%20and%20events/media%20releases/140304%20smith%20-%20recycling%20boost%20in%20regional%20victoria.pdf>.

EEA Launches Marine Litter Tracking App for EU Citizen-Environmentalists

On Monday, European Environment Agency (EEA) announced the availability of a mobile phone app for environmentally-minded users to upload data on the litter they find on their beaches. The app is called Marine LitterWatch, and is currently available for the Android operation system. iPhone and iPad versions are under development.

EEA said that the collected marine litter data will be used *"to better understand the problem, and will hopefully help support a policy response as formulated in the European Marine Strategy Framework Directive."*

The agency also said, *"MLW also aims to inspire new communities to emerge. The aim is to empower citizen networks throughout Europe with MLW and help improve the evidence base needed to reach the MSFD main objective of 'Good Environmental Status' of Europe's seas by 2020."*

Get more information at <http://www.eea.europa.eu/highlights/new-mobile-phone-app-will>.

France Launches Effort to Create Compost Quality Certification Label

Last week, the French Environment and Energy Management Agency (ADEME), in collaboration with the French Chamber of Agriculture and the CompostPlus network, announced the launch of an effort that should lead to a label attesting to the quality of commercial compost sold to agricultural producers, landscapers and other professional buyers.

To minimize contaminants (chemicals, pesticides and non-organic foreign matter) in composted materials, the voluntary effort will include traceability of source materials, product quality testing and transparency in all steps of production.

The ADEME announcement is posted at http://www.presse.ademe.fr/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/CP_compostplus_25022014.pdf.

London Expands Textiles Reuse and Recycling Effort

The London Waste and Recycling Board (LWARB) said last week that it will provide 185,000 pounds in funding to six recycling organizations to increase the reuse and recycling of clothing and other textiles including carpeting. The grants come from LWARB's Textile Reuse and Recycling Fund.

The funding is expected to help divert 3,500 tons of unwanted clothing from landfills and incinerators over the next 12 months. According to LWARD, Londoners send an average of 200,000 tons of clothing and other textiles to landfill each year.

Get more information at

<http://www.larac.org.uk/content/textiles-recycling-boost-london#.UxYsNc4QP7E>.

Business Initiatives

UK Waste Industry Association Publishes Report on Waste Crime Costs

Yesterday the Education Trust of the Environmental Services Association, the UK's waste management industry association, published a 44-page report on crime in the waste and resource recovery, calling the situation "*widespread and endemic*." Offenses range from simple fly-tipping (illegal dumping) to unlicensed, illegal waste sites to misclassifying waste to avoid paying taxes.

The report claims such crimes cost the UK economy 567.9 million pounds annually, with unlicensed, illegal waste sites accounting for 224.3 million pounds.

The report includes four recommendations: 1) increase funding for law enforcement efforts, 2) require liability insurance for waste transporters and facilities operators, 3) educate and assist businesses and landlords on regulatory compliance, and 4) "*help courts set fines for waste crime that reflect its costs*."

Download a copy of the ESAET report at

http://www.esauk.org/reports_press_releases/esa_reports/ESAET_Waste_Crime_Tackling_Britains_Dirty_Secret_LIVE.pdf.

Green by Nature Selected to Process British Columbian Paper and Packaging Waste

In May, the Canadian province of British Columbia will roll out an extended producer responsibility program for residential printed paper and packaging (PPP). On February 27, Multi-Material BC (MMBC), a nonprofit organization funded by industry, announced it had selected Green by Nature EPR (GBN) to manage the program's "*post-collection system*."

GBN is a new business formed by three companies - Cascades Recovery, Emterra Environmental, and Merlin Plastics. It will process and market the roughly 185,000 tons of waste paper and packaging expected to be collected annually in the province.

MMBC has set a 75% recycling rate for the PPP program.

The full MMBC announcement is available at
<http://multimaterialbc.ca/node/362>.

UK Food and Drink Producers Cut Waste Disposal to Three Percent

The United Kingdom's Food and Drink Federation, an association of manufacturers, said last week that its members reduced the amount of waste sent to landfill to only 3% in 2012. In 2006 the rate was 16.5%.

The FDF said it diverted 250,000 tons of food waste from landfills largely through "*redistribution*," which includes its use as animal feed. The industry association's packaging recycling rate increased to 96%.

The FDF has set a goal of zero landfill disposal by 2015.

Get more information at
<https://www.fdf.org.uk/news.aspx?article=6717>.

Industry-Sponsored School Campaign Collections More Than 3,500 Mobile Phones

Sponsored by the Canadian Wireless Telecommunications Association (CWTA), the Recycle My Cell Student Challenge conducted late last year collected more than 3,500 cell phones and other wireless devices along with 200 kilograms of wireless accessories and batteries, according to a recent CTWA announcement. 2013 was the fourth year of the campaign.

CTWA said more than 140 schools across Canada participated in the event which was held from October 21 to November 22. The schools that collected the most devices won \$500 cash prizes to "*support the school's green initiatives*."

The CWTA announcement is posted at
<http://cwta.ca/blog/2014/02/19/canadian-schools-win-big-for-the-environment-with-the-recycle-my-cell-student-challenge/>.

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