

Sustainable  
Materials  
Management  
Update and  
Funding  
Opportunities

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Solid Waste Advisory Committee  
(SWAC)

# Session Objectives

1

Provide an overview of Congressional and Policy Drivers Impacting EPA's Sustainable Materials Management (SMM) Program

2

Provide an overview of EPA's funding opportunities

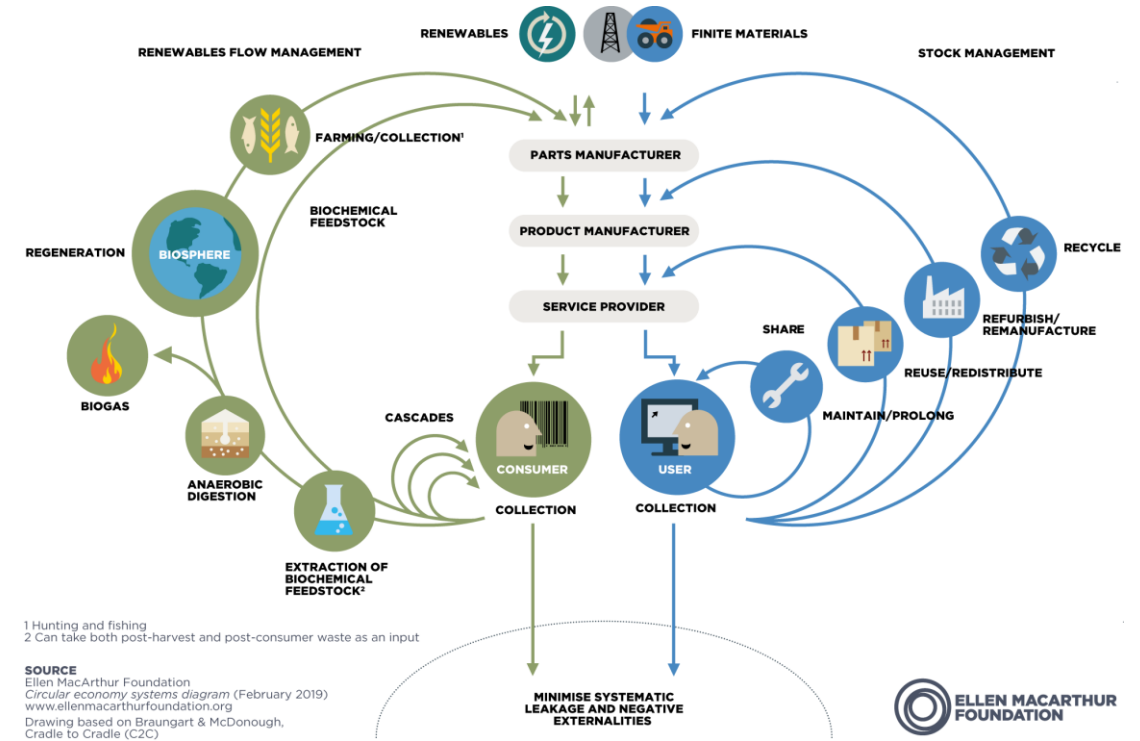
# Recent Congressional and Policy Drivers Shaping EPA's SMM Program

- FY20 Appropriations directed EPA to produce a national recycling strategy
- Save Our Seas 2.0 Act provides authority for grants, reports and a strategy on post-consumer materials management (“plastics strategy”)
- Dec. 2020 Government Accountability Office (GAO) report includes actions for EPA to strengthen recycling and recommend future policies
- FY21 Appropriations asked EPA to collect data on recycling and single-use plastics
- 17 pieces of proposed legislation related to recycling



# EPA's Circular Economy Strategy Series

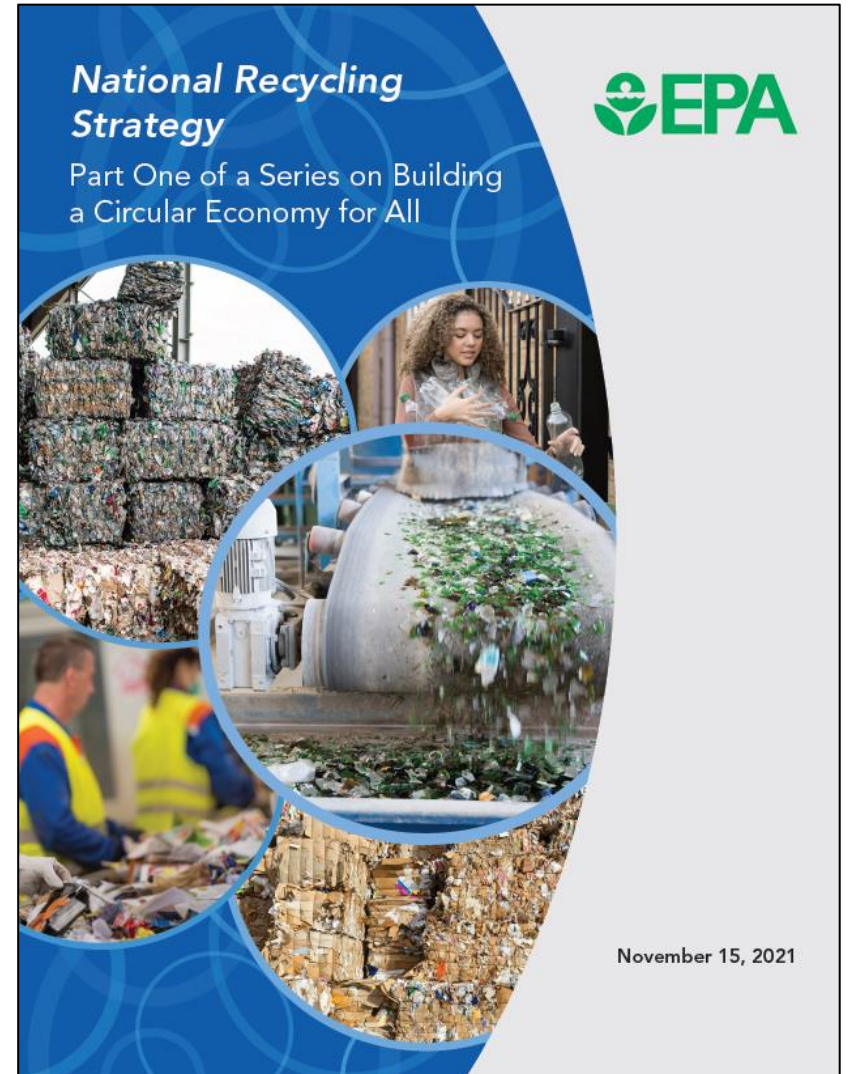
- Part 1: National Recycling Strategy
- Part 2: Plastics
- Part 3: Food Waste
- Part 4: Critical Minerals and Electronics
- Part 5: Built Environment
- Part 6: Textiles



***We are establishing a 10-year vision and strategic direction for the SMM Program – one that embraces zero waste/circularity, sustainable materials management, addresses climate change, and environmental justice.***

# National Recycling Strategy

- View the Strategy's actions:  
<https://www.epa.gov/recyclingstrategy>
- Successful Implementation of the National Recycling Strategy will take action from all stakeholders!
- All stakeholders can sign up
  - to lead or “support Strategy actions
  - To identify new actions for consideration



# National Recycling Strategy Objectives

- A. Improve Markets for Recycled Commodities
- B. Increase Collection and Improve Materials Management Infrastructure
- C. Reduce Contamination in the Recycled Materials Stream
- D. Enhance Policies and Programs to Support Circularity
- E. Standardize Measurement and Increase Data Collection



# Challenges to the U.S. Recycling System

- Inadequate recycling infrastructure and market demand for recyclables
- Confusion on what is recyclable, leading to contamination
- Environmental justice concerns, including around exporting recyclables



# Unprecedented Congressional Support for Recycling and Materials Management

- **2021 Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act /Bipartisan Infrastructure Law:**
  - \$350M for Grant funding for FY22-26:
    - \$55M/year for Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling (SWIFR) grant program
    - \$15M/year for education and outreach on prevention, recycling, including a toolkit to support programs
  - \$25M for best practices for battery collection and voluntary labeling program
    - \$10M for a battery collection program
    - \$15M to create voluntary labeling guidelines for batteries





# Overview of funding

## Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling (SWIFR) Grants

- **\$275,000,000** for **grants** under section 302(a) of the Save Our Seas 2.0 Act (55M/yr).
- Implement the strategy developed under section 301(a) of the SOS 2.0 Act, support improvements to local post-consumer materials management, including municipal recycling programs; and assist local waste management authorities in making improvements to local waste management systems.

## Reduce, Reuse, Recycle Education and Outreach Grants & Other Activities

- **\$75,000,000** (\$15M/yr from FY22-26).
- Award education and outreach **grant**s focused on improving material recycling, recovery, management, and reduction. Directs EPA to develop a model recycling program toolkit for States, tribes, local governments for use in carrying out the grant program.
- Calls for increased coordination at the federal level regarding the Comprehensive Procurement Guidelines (CPG) program and increases the frequency by which EPA must review the CPGs to every 5 years.
- Directs EPA to assist educational community by promoting the introduction of recycling principles and best practices into public school curriculum.

## Battery Collection Best Practices

- **\$10,000,000** for fiscal year 2022, available to be expended until September 30, 2026.
- Develop best practices that may be implemented by State, Tribal, and local governments with respect to the collection of batteries, are technically and economically feasible for State, Tribal, and local governments; are environmentally sound and safe for waste management workers; and optimize the value and use of material derived from recycling of batteries.
- **Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall submit to Congress a best practices report.**

## Voluntary Battery Labeling Guidelines

- **\$15,000,000** for fiscal year 2022, available to be expended until September 30, 2026.
- Establish a program to promote battery recycling through the development of voluntary labeling guidelines for batteries and other forms of communication materials for battery producers and consumers about the reuse and recycling of critical materials from batteries. Strive to ensure that voluntary labeling guidelines and other forms of communication materials developed under the program are consistent with international battery labeling standards; and the Mercury-Containing and Rechargeable Battery Management Act

# What are the Needs of Tribes, and Local and State Governments

- Solid waste management infrastructure and education and outreach needs
- Updates to waste characterization studies,
- Data collection needs to more effectively run your programs.
- Limitations in supporting an effective recycling program (staffing, equipment, end markets, recycled commodities, contamination, curbside vs. drop-off access, MRF processing capacity)
- Assistance to underserved communities' solid waste management programs
- **WHAT SAY YOU??????**

## How do I Learn More?

### Sign up to “stay connected”

- New grant programs!
  - Solid waste Infrastructure for Recycling (SWIFR) grants
  - Reduce, Reuse and Recycle - Education and Outreach Grants
- EPA reports (Recycling Measurement Guide)
- Circular Economy strategies – Development and Implementation

### Sign Up Here

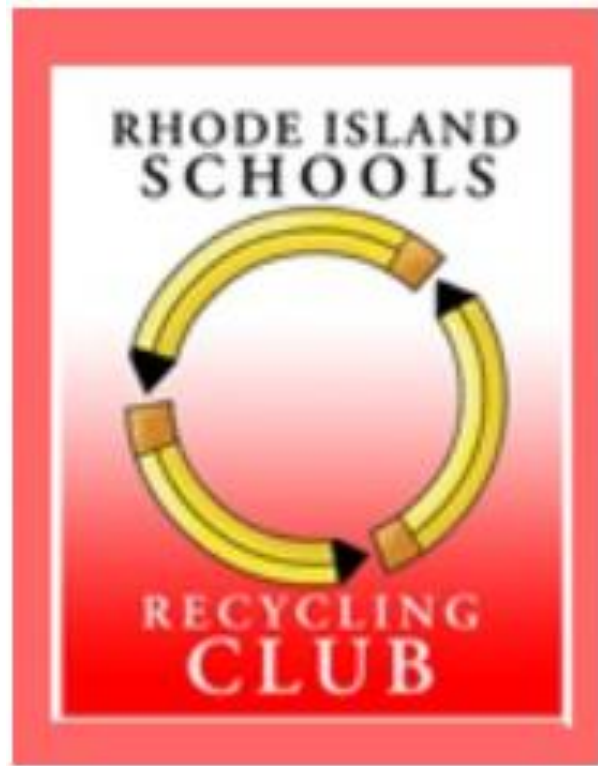
[epa.gov/recyclingstrategy/forms/stay-connected](https://epa.gov/recyclingstrategy/forms/stay-connected)

**EPA Region  
New England  
ONLY Grants**





**Healthy Communities Grant Program**

- **Sustainable Materials Management  
Target Program Areas**
  - **Sustainable Management of Food**
  - **Sustainable Packaging**
  - **Built Environment**
- **Request for Application issued**
- **Proposals Due May 9, 2022**

[https://www3.epa.gov/region1/eco/uep/grants\\_2022hc.html](https://www3.epa.gov/region1/eco/uep/grants_2022hc.html)







### Donate Excess Food with Ease

 On average, donations are claimed within the hour!	 Free transportation provided by <a href="#">Rescuing Leftover Cuisine (RLC)</a> .
 All food donated is protected from liability by the Good Samaritan Food Donation Act and <a href="#">Rhode Island State Law</a> .	 Support from an EPA grant ensures that donations are completely free of charge to both donors and recipients.

**How to donate:**

1. Go to [www.meansdatabase.org/signup](http://www.meansdatabase.org/signup)
2. Within 1-2 business days, we will introduce you to Dana from RLC to complete the onboarding process
3. We will work around your schedule to pick up your excess food!

Join us on the [Rhode to End Hunger](#):

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# Healthy Community Grant Examples

<https://www.epa.gov/sustainable-management-food/wasted-food-programs-and-resources-across-united-states#1>

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