# **RECYCLE COLORADO** An interactive **Conversation on PPRA** Implementation

**INFRASTRUCTURE, ORDINANCES AND POLICIES - SCAFFOLDING APPROACHES TO PLASTIC POLLUTION REDUCTION** 

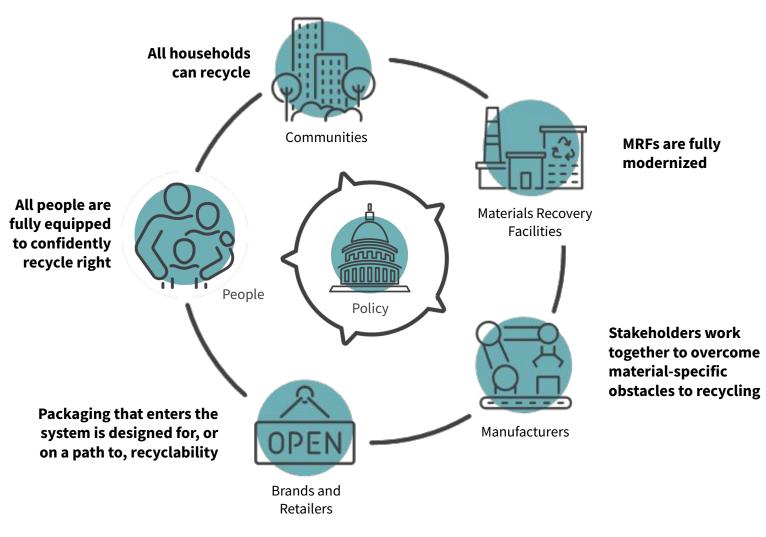
RACHEL SETZKE, ECO-CYCLE DYLAN DE THOMAS, THE RECYCLING PARTNERSHIP

Summit for Recycling – Steamboat Springs, Colorado – May 22-23, 2023



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Mobilizing people, data, and solutions across the value chain to unlock the environmental and economic benefits of recycling and a circular economy.



















# Agenda for this session

1. Background on plastic reduction ordinances in Colorado and overview of HB21-1162 – PPRA

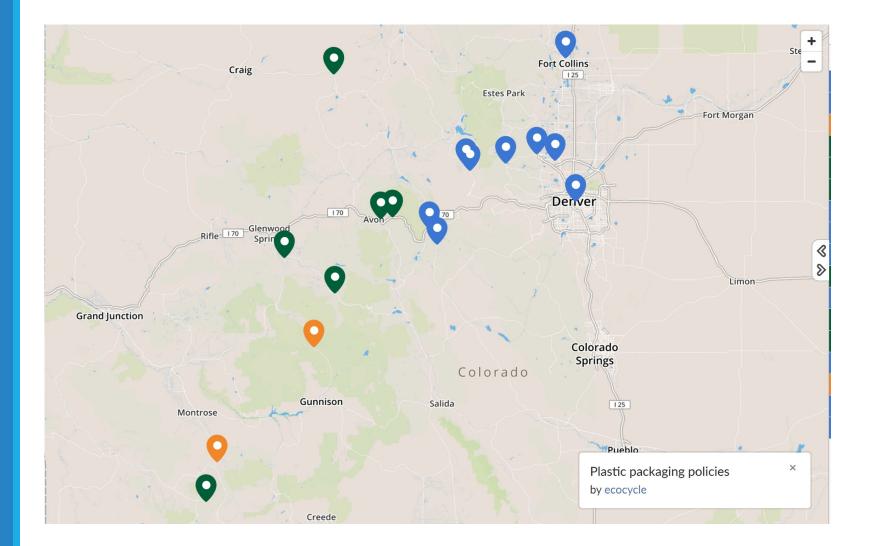
2. Thinking through ordinance creation and implementation

3. Other strategies for reducing plastic pollution

4. Interactive conversation with the audience about approaches to plastic pollution reduction

## Bag Ordinances Pre-1162

- 17 municipalities adopted ordinances
- Telluride was the first in 2010
- Fort Collins was the last in 2021
- Ordinances include:
  - Bans on plastic;
  - Fees on paper, ban on plastic
  - Fees on paper and plastic
- Many ordinances championed by youth



Source: https://maphub.net/ecocycle/plastic-packaging-policies

## Denver's 2021 <u>Restrictions on Single Use</u> <u>Accessories</u> – or Skip the Stuff



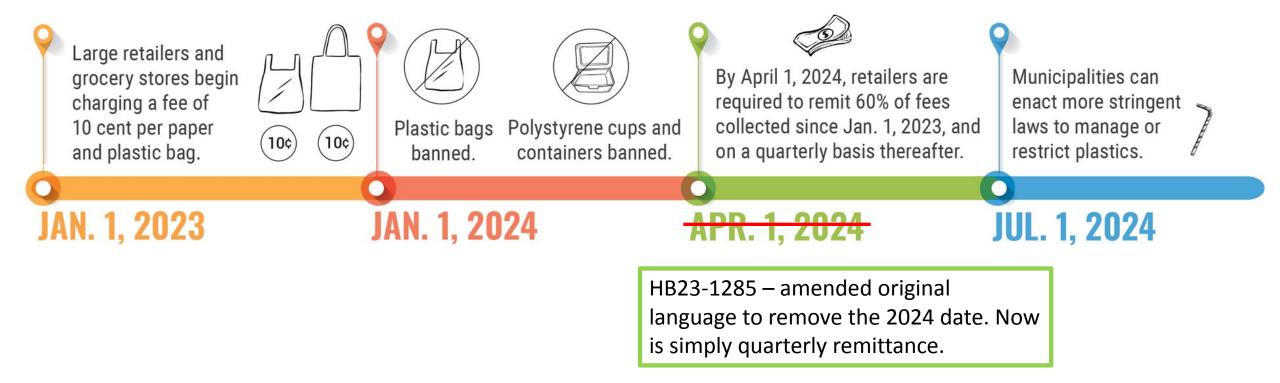
### **#SkipTheStuff** EFFECTIVE JANUARY 2022

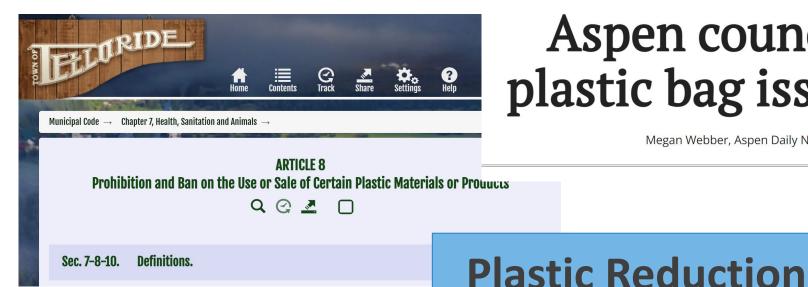
- Request only what you need and leave the rest.
- Single-use condiments and service ware will only be provided upon request.



DenverGov.org/SkipTheStuff

## Plastic Pollution Reduction Act (HB21-1162)





Colorado's ban on banning plastics has cities' plans to outlaw single-use bags and straws in limbo

A little-known Colorado law written to protect recycling stands is in the way of cities that want to outlaw straws, plastic grocery bags and Styrofoam containers

Breckenridge passes ordinance to reduce single-use plastics

**Ordinances Since** 

HB21-1162, PPRA

### Looking to reduce plastic waste, Frisco Town Council considers possible ordinances related to cutlery and water bottles

The proposed ordinances include requiring restaurants to only provide single-use utensils on request and banning the sale of water sold in single-use plastic bottles.

News Follow News | Mar 25, 2023

Ryan SpencerFOLLOWrspencer@summitdaily.com

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# Aspen council returns to plastic bag issue on Tuesday

Megan Webber, Aspen Daily News Staff Writer Mar 13, 2023



# **Examples from Outside of CO**



## SB 54 – In Context

### Catalysts

- Growing concerns over plastic pollution
- China National Sword/market disruption
- Broad ballot initiative motivates stakeholders

### Not Your Typical EPR Law

- Far reaching objectives world's first circular economy law?
- Recycle or die ban if don't satisfy targets
- State is decision maker with strong enforcement authority







# Scope of the Law



## Scope of the Law

### **System Improvement Targets**

All Covered Materials	All <u>Plastic</u> Covered Materials	Expanded Polystyrene Food Service Ware
Must be recyclable or compostable by 2032 Annual state determinations begin Jan. 2024 and impact labeling	<ul> <li>Recycling Rate Targets</li> <li>30% by Jan. 2028</li> <li>40% by Jan. 2030</li> <li>65% by Jan. 2032</li> </ul> Source Reduction Rate Targets <ul> <li>10% by Jan. 2027, with ≥ 2% reuse / refill</li> <li>20% by Jan. 2030, with ≥ 4% reuse / refill</li> <li>25% by Jan. 2032, with ≥ 10% reuse / refill or elimination</li> <li>Up to 8% credit for PCR content, details TBD</li> </ul>	Continued EPS food service ware sales tied to higher recycling rates for all EPS • 25% by Jan. 2025 • 30% by Jan. 2028 • 50% by Jan. 2030 • 65% by Jan. 2032

## Note about SB 343 Labeling Law





# Stakeholder Mapping



## **Stakeholder Mapping**

## **Build Your Coalition – Collaboration and Perspectives**

## **Bill Sponsor(s)/Key Legislator(s)**







# Oversight



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# **Oversight and Enforcement**

- Ability to comply!
- Engagement vs enforcement
  - ... or engagement on the path to enforcement
- Existing Resources
- Tailor your message
- Business case



# Approaches Outside of Ordinances

# Supporting Policies can Lead by Example

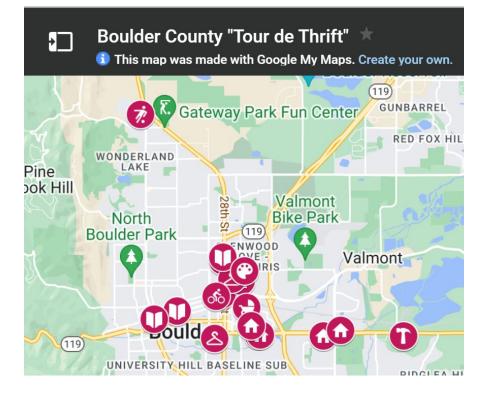
Purchasing policies prohibiting the use of local government dollars on single use plastic items.
 Ex: San Jose, CA Prohibition of City Funding for Purchase of Single Serving Bottled Water
 <u>Administrative Policy 5.1.11</u> Contains exemptions for emergencies, and waivers with ways to track when waivers are approved. Could be improved by adding mention of reusable cups in addition to reusable pitchers.

Purchasing Policies supporting recycled content such as waste bins with a certain percentage of PCR plastic. Ex. Boulder <u>2-8-12. - Recycled and Environmentally Preferable Products</u> & www.bouldercolorado.gov/purchasing

Events policies requiring vendors to reduce plastic waste. Ex. <u>Avon & Walking Mountain Vendor</u> <u>Requirements</u>

Building Code update to require bottle filling stations anywhere a drinking fountain is required. Ex: <u>WA HB23-1085</u> section 2; Section 5 prohibits hospitality venues over 50 units from distributing single-use personal care items.

# **Bigger Picture Solutions – Reduce/Reuse**





# Make it EASY to refill Amazing CO H2O!



Basalt promotes their filling station & quality of local water <u>online</u>.



You can fill up on pure Breckenridge water at one of our water fill stations around town, check out the map for all the locations. Need a water bottle? Head to the Welcome Center to pick one up. https://bit.ly/2WCFyXc

...

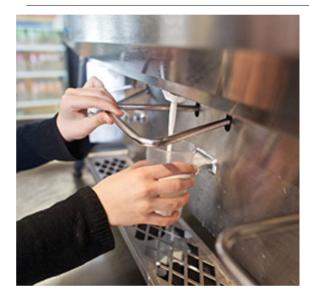


Breckenridge tourism Facebook post with a map to all municipal refill stations in town



Breckenridge bag fees & tourism dollars bought filling stations for events

# Support Reuse/Reduce in Schools



Bulk milk dispensers paired with reusable cups cut down on packaging and food waste.

Source: Chef Ann Foundation



Reusable trays and utensils reduce waste, keep kids' food off of toxic foam trays. Support also needed for dishwashers and staff.

Source: Boulder Valley School District

#### The Eco-Cycle Zero Waste Schools Activity Guide

#### SECTION 1: INTRODUCTION

#### ▲ SECTION 2: WASTE-REDUCTION ACTIVITIES



Click the links below to download and view individual PDFs of chapters from this section.

Chapter 1: Eco-Cycle Schools Supplies Chapter 2: Waste-Free Lunch, Part 1 Chapter 2: Waste-Free Lunch, Part 2 Chapter 2: Waste-Free Lunch, Part 3 Chapter 3: Refillable Water Bottle Project Chapter 4: Take a Bite Out of Food Waste

Teaching reuse/reduce in schools builds good behavior and reinforces messaging to families. Free lesson plans at <u>ecocycle.org/schools-guide</u>.

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## Education –

Free Customizable Toolkit for PPRA Outreach that Leverages Common Messaging

#### **Toolkit to Implement Plastic and Paper Checkout Bag Fees**

Step-by-step guidelines and resources to get your municipality, local businesses, and community ready!



- Dec. 2022 Eco-Cycle created a free toolkit for education around PPRA to fill a gap and create common messaging around the law
  - Currently working on an update for Phase 2
- Based on best practices from around the state and nation
- Toolkit was distributed to municipalities around the state and received national media coverage

Access the toolkit at <u>www.ecocycle.org/ppra</u>

# Audience participation Questions

If your community is actively engaging in conversation or action around plastic pollution reduction, what approaches are they considering?

What successes or challenges have you encountered so far?

What questions are you looking for answers/input on around any of these approaches?

# Thank you

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