



Hi Friend of Maine's environment,

Somebody pinch me. We did it! Maine just became the first state in the nation to pass an Extended Producer Responsibility for Packaging law to hold big corporations accountable for the plastic pollution and wasteful packaging they create.

- Read my blog to learn what's next.
- <u>Share our social media posts</u> with your friends to help celebrate this exciting victory!

We could not have accomplished this major victory without the help of you and the thousands and thousands of students, activists, local business owners, transfer station employees, municipal officials, and others who emailed, called, signed petitions, passed municipal resolutions, testified, and so much more. This new law grew out of a crisis our towns are facing, not of their own making. Rising costs due to a flood of hard-to-recycle packaging mostly from multinational corporations like Amazon and Walmart were making recycling programs nearly impossible to run.

But as Mainers we stood up to those big corporations and said enough is enough. We said loudly and clearly, "We are not going to let recycling fail and Maine is no longer willing to shoulder the cost of your wasteful packaging!"

This new EPR for Packaging law, together with the ban on single-use plastic bags, foam food containers, and intentional balloon releases build on other victories this legislative session to reduce toxic chemicals and plastic pollution in Maine's communities and environment. NRCM's advocacy to improve health by reducing waste and reforming

recycling is made possible thanks to your generous support and activism. <u>Please consider</u> <u>donating or renewing your membership today.</u>

I'm so grateful to everyone who made their voice heard and helped make Maine a leader in tackling plastic pollution. Thanks again!



Sarah Nichols NRCM Sustainable Maine Director

Share this exciting news!





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