

# Comparison of the Solid Waste Master & Management Plans in the NERC States August 2011

This unique resource provides an overview and comparison of the waste hierarchies, and goals and objectives of all the Solid Waste Master & Management Plans in the 10 NERC States, including hyperlinks to each Plan.

The resource also includes a table that details which states have identified product stewardship as a priority in their Plans and which have identified source reduction or recycling as a priority in their Climate Change Plans. Links are provided to each state's Climate Change Plan.

For more information, contact [Lynn Rubinstein](#).

This document includes the following sections:

1. Web & Contact Links .....	2
2. Product Stewardship & Climate Change.....	3
3. Waste Hierarchy .....	5
4. Goals & Objectives .....	6
5. Glossary .....	9
Table 1: Links to Solid Waste Management Plans & Agency Contacts	2
Table 2: Product Stewardship & Climate Change	3
Table 3: Waste Hierarchy Comparison	5
Table 4: Comparison of Goals & Objectives	6

**1. Web & Contact Links.** The following table provides hyperlinks to the state Plans as well as to key contact people within each state for additional information.

**Table 1: Links to Solid Waste Management Plans & Agency Contacts**

<b>State Agency</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Website Link</b>	<b>Contact Person</b>
Connecticut (CT) Department of Energy and Environmental Protection	2006	<a href="#">Solid Waste Management Plan</a>	<a href="#">Chris Nelson</a>
Delaware (DE) Solid Waste Authority	2010	<a href="#">Statewide Solid Waste Management Plan and Executive Summary</a>	<a href="#">Mike Parkowski</a>
Maine (ME) State Planning Office	2009	<a href="#">Waste or Resource: Rethinking Solid Waste Policy</a>	<a href="#">George MacDonald</a>
Massachusetts (MA) Department of Environmental Protection	2010	<a href="#">Solid Waste Master Plan - Draft</a>	<a href="#">John Fischer</a>
New Hampshire (NH) Department of Environmental Services	2003	<a href="#">Solid Waste Plan</a>	<a href="#">Sharon Yergeau</a>
New Jersey (NJ) Department of Environmental Protection	2006	<a href="#">Solid Waste Management Plan 2006</a>	<a href="#">Robert Goodwin</a>
New York (NY) Department of Environmental Conservation	2010	<a href="#">Beyond Waste: A Sustainable Material Management Strategy</a>	<a href="#">Dave Vitale</a>
Pennsylvania (PA) Department of Environmental Protection	2002	<a href="#">State Solid Waste Plan - Draft</a>	<a href="#">Michael Texter</a>
Rhode Island (RI) Resource Recovery Corporation	2007	<a href="#">Rhode Island Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan</a>	<a href="#">Mike McGonagle</a>
Vermont (VT) Agency for Natural Resources	2006 (2011 update planned)	<a href="#">Revised Solid Waste Management Plan</a>	<a href="#">Christopher Kay</a>

[Back to Top](#)

## 2. Product Stewardship & Climate Change

Most of the NERC states have identified product stewardship as a priority concern in their Plans, or have other programs in place to address product stewardship. In addition, most of the states also have Climate Change Action Plans that identify waste reduction and recycling as strategies for achieving climate change goals. All of the NERC states, with the exception of Pennsylvania, are members of the [Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative \(RGGI\)](#). The following table details the states that have identified product stewardship in their Plans as well as provides hyperlinks to Climate Change Plans.

**Table 2: Product Stewardship & Climate Change**

State	Product Stewardship	Climate Change
CT	<p>The State's <a href="#">Solid Waste Management Plan</a> includes recommendations regarding product stewardship. The Plan envisions a "shift towards a shared responsibility framework..."</p> <p>Some product stewardship programs have already been implemented or are in development. Manufacturer funded consumer electronics recycling is in effect. Legislation has passed for paint recovery, and efforts are underway for mattresses.</p>	<p>The Connecticut <a href="#">Climate Change Action Plan</a> recommends increases in recycling and source reduction, consistent with the state Solid Waste Management Plan.</p>
DE	<p>The <a href="#">Statewide Solid Waste Management Plan</a> does address product stewardship in Chapter 3, Source Reduction. The plan makes recommendations to create legislation for extended producer responsibility for packaging.</p> <p>The state has a number of <a href="#">Climate Change Initiatives</a>. All waste reduction initiatives are identified as climate change initiatives in the Master Plan, with a special focus on organics diversion.</p>	<p>The <a href="#">Delaware Climate Action Plan</a> includes recommendations for increased waste reduction and recycling.</p>
ME	<p>Maine's <a href="#">Waste Management and Recycling Plan</a> acknowledges product stewardship as a successful strategy that has been implemented in the state for cathode ray tubes (CRT), thermostats, and cellular telephones, and encourages that the role of product stewardship be continued and expanded.</p> <p>DEP has completed its first report, <a href="#">Implementing Product Stewardship in Maine</a>, under Maine's Product Stewardship law. For more information, contact <a href="#">Carole Cifrino</a>, Maine DEP.</p>	<p>Maine's <a href="#">Greenhouse Gas Initiative Plan</a> has recommendations for increasing waste reduction/recycling as part of the Plan. The <a href="#">Waste Management and Recycling Plan</a> recognizes that to move beyond a 50% recycling rate, the state could establish an emissions goal for all waste management facilities. In addition, it could develop performance standards for all recycling and waste facilities so that those facilities may be issued a greenhouse gas initiative rating.</p>
MA	<p>Product stewardship is a key component of the draft <a href="#">2010 Master Plan</a>.</p>	<p>In 2010, Massachusetts released the <a href="#">Clean Energy and Climate Plan for 2020</a>. In the Solid Waste Master Plan, Massachusetts considered the strategies that will have the biggest climate change benefits</p>

		for reducing greenhouse gas emissions.
<b>NH</b>	The State's <a href="#">Solid Waste Management Plan</a> does not address product stewardship.	The NH <a href="#">Climate Change Policy Task Force</a> has issued a draft Action Report which includes a recommendation for implementing a "Pay as You Throw" initiative.
<b>NJ</b>	Product stewardship is extensively addressed in the <a href="#">State Wide Solid Waste Management Plan 2006</a> , including a number of program recommendations.	The State's <a href="#">Climate Change Action Plan</a> includes waste reduction and zero waste goals.
<b>NY</b>	Product stewardship is an organizing principle for materials management in the Master Plan. New York State has a <a href="#">Product Stewardship Council</a> .	Climate change is a major driver for <a href="#">NYS environmental policy</a> . As such, the Solid Waste Management Plan includes a chapter on waste and climate change. It reviews the greenhouse gas implications of different waste management strategies and concludes that waste prevention, reuse, and recycling are preferable to disposal from a climate perspective.
<b>PA</b>	The Draft <a href="#">State Solid Waste Plan</a> does not address product stewardship.	In December 2009 Pennsylvania Released its <a href="#">Climate Change Action Plan</a> . It includes recommendations for increased recycling, utilization of collected LFG for energy generation, use of anaerobic digestion, and increased use of waste-to-energy.
<b>RI</b>	The <a href="#">Solid Waste Plan</a> encourages product stewardship for electronic waste management, which is supported by recent ewaste legislation.	<a href="#">The Rhode Island Greenhouse Gas Process (RI GHG) Action Plan</a> includes solid waste reduction recommendations, including "Pay-as-You Throw" and Resource Management Contracting.
<b>VT</b>	Product stewardship is being considering for inclusion of the next revision of the state's <a href="#">Solid Waste Management Plan</a> - scheduled for 2011. Vermont is the first Northeast state to have a <a href="#">Product Stewardship Council</a> .	The <a href="#">Vermont State Government Actions on Climate Change</a> includes the state's recommendations on waste reduction and diversion. Climate change will be considered in the Solid Waste Management Plan revisions.

### 3. Waste Hierarchy

Several of the states specifically address a waste hierarchy in their Plans. Those states are:

- Connecticut (CT)
- Delaware (DE)
- Maine (ME)
- New Hampshire (NH)
- New York (NY)
- Rhode Island (RI)
- Vermont (VT)

**Table 3: Waste Hierarchy Comparison**

	Reduction	Reuse	Recycle	Compost	Landfill	Waste-to-Energy	Incineration	Volume Reduction	C&D Diversion
<b>CT</b>	1	2	3	4	7	5	6		
<b>DE</b>	1		2	3					4
<b>ME</b>	1	2	3	4	6	5	5		
<b>NH</b>		1	2	3	4		4		
<b>NY</b>	1	2	2	2	4	3	4		
<b>RI</b>	1	1	2		4			3	
<b>VT</b>	1	2	2	2	3		3		

[Back to Top](#)

## 4. Goals & Objectives

Table 4: Comparison of Goals & Objectives

State	Recycling	Source Reduction	Objectives
CT	58% - 2024	Decrease annual per capita gen. to 0.6 tons	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. Source Reduction</b> – Catalyze shifts in consumer, business, product manufacturing, &amp; solid waste processing practices that reduce the amount &amp; toxicity of waste generated in Connecticut.</li> <li><b>2. Recycling &amp; Composting</b> – Move aggressively to strengthen Connecticut’s public &amp; private reuse, recycling &amp; composting efforts &amp; infrastructure to increase the quantity &amp; quality of recovered materials</li> <li><b>3. Management of Solid Waste Requiring Disposal</b> – Assure that the need for new disposal capacity is minimized,</li> <li><b>4. Management of Special Wastes &amp; Other Types of Solid Waste</b> – Maximize source reduction, recycling, &amp; beneficial use of special waste &amp; other types of solid waste in a manner that protects human health &amp; the environment.</li> <li><b>5. Education &amp; Outreach</b> – Significantly increase awareness &amp; understanding of waste management needs, impacts &amp; the social, economic, &amp; environmental issues facing Connecticut, &amp; build support for programs to engage citizens in actions needed to maximize waste reduction &amp; recycling &amp; minimize the need for additional disposal capacity.</li> <li><b>6. Program Planning, Evaluation &amp; Measurement</b> – Enhance local, state &amp; regional planning, measurement &amp; program evaluation practices to drive continual progress towards achieving Connecticut’s waste management goals.</li> <li><b>7. Permitting &amp; Enforcement</b> - Ensure that permitting &amp; enforcement decisions promote the goals of the Plan &amp; are made in a manner that is fully protective of human health &amp; the environment; promote continuous improvement of the environmental permit application review &amp; decision making process; achieve the highest level of environmental compliance through predictable, timely, &amp; consistent enforcement &amp; effective compliance assistance where appropriate; &amp; improve communication with municipalities, business, industry, &amp; the public on the regulatory process in order to facilitate &amp; improve compliance with environmental requirements.</li> <li><b>8. Funding</b> – Adopt stable, long-term funding mechanisms that provide sufficient revenue for state, regional &amp; local programs while providing incentives for increased source reduction &amp; recycling.</li> </ol>
DE	55% - 2020	82% total waste diversion by 2020	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Universal recycling- curbside recycling for every Delaware household</li> <li>2. Yard Waste Bans enacted at all Delaware Landfills</li> <li>3. Food Waste Diversion from commercial generators</li> </ol>

<b>ME</b>	50% - 2009	Reduce MSW gen. by 5% every 5 years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve collection &amp; participation in public recycling programs</li> <li>• Mandate old corrugated cardboard recycling</li> <li>• Encourage communities to ban disposal of leaf &amp; yard waste</li> <li>• Encourage recycling C&amp;D debris waste stream</li> <li>• Expand recycling opportunities for commercial sources</li> <li>• Maine state government leads by example</li> <li>• Continue efforts to remove toxic wastes from MSW stream</li> </ul>
<b>MA</b>	Reduce disposal by 30% - 2020 and 80% by 2050	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to divert toxic substances from the waste stream</li> <li>• Increase compliance with waste bans</li> <li>• Increase percent of population served by PAYT from 24% to 50% by 2020</li> <li>• Divert additional 350,000 tons of organics from disposal annually by 2020</li> <li>• Increase recycling rate for C&amp;D materials excluding ABC to 50% by 2020.</li> </ul>	Reduce disposal by 30% - 2020 and 80% by 2050
<b>NH</b>	40% - 2020	None	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce volume of the solid waste stream</li> <li>• Reduce toxicity of solid waste stream</li> <li>• Maximize diversion of residential &amp; commercial/industrial solid wastes</li> <li>• Assure disposal capacity</li> <li>• Assure solid waste management activities are conducted in manner protective of human health &amp; the environment</li> </ul>
<b>NJ</b>	50% MSW & 60% total non-hazardous (w/C&D)	None	
<b>NY</b>	None	Decrease disposal from 4.1#/ person /day to 1.7 #/person/day (2020) & 0.6#/ person/day by 2030	
<b>PA</b>	35%	Decrease annual per capita generation to 0.6 tons	

<b>RI</b>	35%	None	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce amount of solid waste generated</li> <li>• Maximize post-consumer material recovery for use in new products</li> <li>• Provide necessary &amp; reliable waste management facilities &amp; programs</li> <li>• Optimize use of Central Landfill capacity to maximize its life</li> <li>• Provide max. protection of human health &amp; the environment</li> </ul>
<b>VT</b>	50% - 2005	Reduce MSW gen. by 5% every 5 years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce waste through waste prevention, reuse, &amp; recycling</li> <li>• Ensure environmentally sound waste management facilities</li> <li>• Reduce illegal disposal</li> <li>• Monitor disposal capacity</li> <li>• Manage biosolids &amp; septage</li> <li>• Manage HHW, conditionally exempt generator waste, landfill banned materials, &amp; other special wastes</li> <li>• Manage junkyards</li> <li>• Municipal &amp; district solid waste implementation plans</li> </ul>

[Back to Top](#)



## **5. Glossary**

**ABC** ~ Asphalt, Brick, and Concrete

**C&D** ~ Construction and Demolition

**CT** ~ Connecticut

**DE** ~ Delaware

**HHW** ~ Household Hazardous Waste

**MA** ~ Massachusetts

**ME** ~ Maine

**MSW** ~ Municipal Solid Waste

**NH** ~ New Hampshire

**NJ** ~ New Jersey

**NY** ~ New York

**NYS** ~ New York State

**PA** ~ Pennsylvania

**PAYT** ~ Pay As You Throw

**RI** ~ Rhode Island

**RIRRC** ~ Rhode Island Resource Recovery Corporation

**VT** ~ Vermont

[Back to Top](#)