

Conservation Law Foundation's Zero Waste Project

Envisioning a Zero Waste Future for New England.

A woman with curly hair is shown in profile, smiling as she pours a substance from a black dispenser into a clear glass jar. She is wearing a white t-shirt. The background is a bulk food store with shelves filled with various jars and containers. The text "Our Vision for a Zero Waste Future" is overlaid in white.

Our Vision for a Zero Waste Future

Photo: Shutterstock

Out With the Old, In With the New

- **Phase out polluting trash systems** that poison our environment and our communities.
- Replace these systems with **non-toxic, sustainable alternatives** that don't harm people, the planet, or the economy.



Opposing Polluting Trash Systems



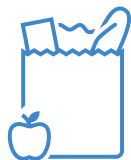
Zero Waste Solutions for New England



Strengthen proven and effective policies and laws.



Advocate for new laws that will fix and stabilize recycling.



Establish programs and policies to divert food waste away from landfills.



Push back against false solutions.

TEN STATES WITH BOTTLE BILLS

The data in this graphic can be found at: www.bottlebill.org



IMPLEMENTED	BEVERAGES COVERED	DEPOSIT	REDEMPTION RATE
1987 CALIFORNIA	All beverages except: Dairy products, Some juices, Spirits, Wine	5-10¢	67% <small>(as of 2019)</small>
1980 CONNECTICUT	Beer, Soda, Water	5¢	44% <small>(as of 2020)</small>
2005 HAWAII	All beverages except: Dairy products, Liquor, Wine	5¢	62% <small>(as of 2019)</small>
1979 IOWA	Beer, Water, Wine coolers, Wine and liquor, Carbonated soft drinks, Carbonated mineral water	5¢	65% <small>(as of 2016)</small>
1978 MAINE	All beverages except: Dairy products	5-15¢	84% <small>(as of 2017)</small>
1983 MASSACHUSETTS	Beer, Malt, Carbonated soft drinks, Mineral water	5¢	50% <small>(as of 2019)</small>
1978 MICHIGAN	All beverages except: Dairy Products, Liquor	10¢	89% <small>(as of 2019)</small>
1983 NEW YORK	Beer and malt beverages, Wine products, Water that doesn't contain sugar, Soda water, Carbonated soft drinks	5¢	64% <small>(as of 2020)</small>
1972 OREGON	All beverages except: Dairy Products, Liquor, Wine	10¢	77% <small>(as of 2020)</small>
1973 VERMONT	Beer, Malt, Liquor over 50 mL, Mixed wine drinks, Sparkling water, Carbonated soft drinks	5-15¢	77% <small>(as of 2020)</small>

Modernizing Bottle Bills

Priorities for New England

- Expand the scope of covered containers in CT, MA, and VT.
- Increase the value of the deposit in CT, MA, and VT.
- Pass laws that establish modern bottle bill systems in NH and RI.

Extended Producer Responsibility for Packaging



PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY FOR PACKAGING

PROBLEM

Packaging waste is filling our landfill, clogging our waters, and damaging our climate. Most plastic packaging is unrecyclable and towns and cities get stuck with all the costs.

SOLUTION

Producer Responsibility laws hold consumer brands accountable by requiring them to pay fees based on the amount and type of packaging waste they create. That money reimburses local governments for waste management costs. It also helps fund recycling infrastructure investments.

Responsible Food Waste Management

Priorities for New England

- Establish food waste diversion policies in ME and NH.
- Enforce and expand existing laws in CT, MA, and RI.
- Work with VT DEC on the implementation of the state's food waste ban.



Opposing False Solutions

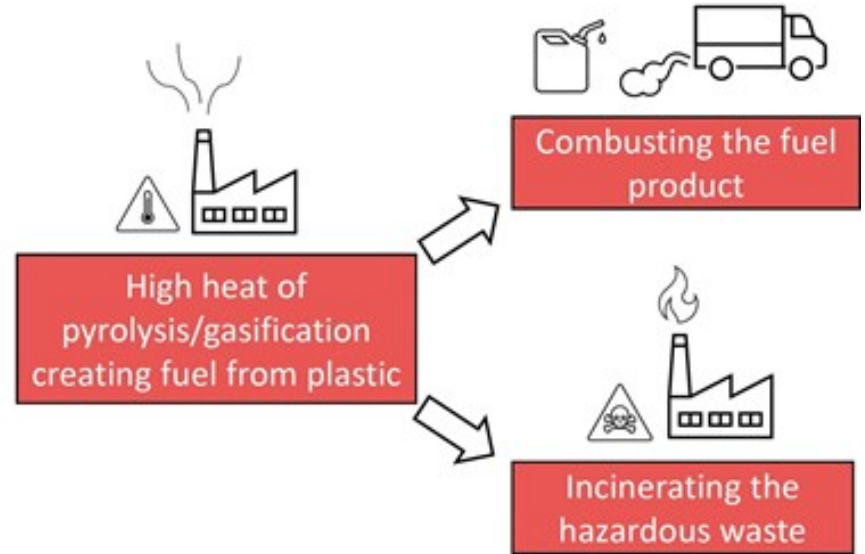
“Advanced Recycling”



A catchall for technologies like pyrolysis and gasification that break down plastic waste into toxic chemicals and fuel.



A greenwashing term coined by the plastic and petrochemical industry for burning plastic. This is not a solution to our plastic waste problem.



An aerial photograph of a large industrial or construction site. In the center, there is a large blue building with a white roof. To the right of the building is a large pile of debris, including plastic, metal, and other waste. Several yellow excavators are visible working on the debris pile. In the background, there is a cityscape with various buildings and green spaces. The sky is overcast.

THANK YOU!

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