



Supporting Recycling Infrastructure, Education and Outreach

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National Recycling Strategy Released on America Recycles Day

November 15, 2021

National Recycling Strategy

Part One of a Series on Building a Circular Economy for All



November 15, 2021

SWIFR, Recycling Education & Outreach, and Batteries: Overview of funding

SWIFR Grants

- **\$275,000,000** for grants under section 302(a) of the Save Our Seas 2.0 Act (55M/yr) - Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling Grants
 - Grants are to 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.
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Reduce, Reuse, Recycle Education and Outreach Grants & Other Activities

- **\$75,000,000** (\$15M/yr from FY22-26).
 - Award education and outreach grants 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.
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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.
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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 (42 U.S.C. 14301 et seq.).

Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling Grants

- \$55 million per year for five years (FY22-26)
- **Goals:**
 - Support improvements to recycling programs, post-consumer materials management, and waste management infrastructure
- **Eligible entities:**
 - U.S. States and political subdivisions of states
 - Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands
 - District of Columbia
 - Federally recognized tribal governments
 - Former tribal reservations in Oklahoma (as determined by the Secretary of the Interior)
 - Alaskan Native Villages as defined in Public Law 92-203
 - Intertribal Consortia consistent with the requirements in 40 CFR 35.504(a)
- **EPA's Next Steps:**
 - Host listening sessions to collect stakeholder and public input to inform grants
 - Issue Request for Information
 - Release Request for Applications and/or program guidance

Education and Outreach Grants and Model Recycling Program Toolkit

- \$15 million per year for five years (FY22-26)
- **Goals:**
 - Support education and outreach on consumer recycling and waste prevention
 - Inform public on what is accepted in community recycling program
 - Increase collection rates and decrease contamination in recycling
- **Eligible entities:**
 - U.S. States, including the District of Columbia
 - Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands
 - Local governments
 - Federally recognized tribal governments
 - Native Hawaiian organizations, Department of Hawaiian Home Lands, Office of Hawaiian Affairs
 - Nonprofit organizations
 - Public-private partnerships
- **EPA's Next Steps:**
 - Host listening sessions to collect stakeholder and public input to inform toolkit and grants
 - Issue Request for Information
 - Develop Model Recycling Program Toolkit for communities
 - Release Request for Applications

Discussion Questions for Territories

1. How can EPA **maximize the benefits** of these grants for your territory?
2. What amount of grant funding would allow you to accomplish something successful?
3. What **limitations** do you face in supporting effective and efficient recycling infrastructure and education and outreach programs?
4. How do you define and **measure success** in your recycling programs or education and outreach efforts for recycling?
5. What additional actions/investments do you think are needed to better **meet underserved communities' needs**?

Stay Connected to Learn about Grants and Engagement Opportunities:

epa.gov/recyclingstrategy/forms/stay-connected

Read National Recycling Strategy:

epa.gov/recyclingstrategy

Lead or Support a Strategy Action:

epa.gov/recyclingstrategy/forms/take-action

Ask Questions:

EPArecycles@epa.gov

