

Taking Responsibility for your Residual Products

Understanding your Responsibilities as a Producer



Ministry of
Environment
and Parks

Why is this important?

The Recycling Regulation requires producers of products in B.C. to take responsibility for the life cycle of their: 1) regulated products, 2) empty containers and 3) product containers that might contain residuals, including end-of-life collection and management. A residual is the portion of a product that's left after a consumer is finished with the product.

1 What makes me a producer?

You are a producer if you sell, offer for sale or distribute products where residuals of the product could remain in the container after use. These products include solvents and flammable liquids, pesticides, gasoline, pharmaceuticals, lubricating oil, empty oil containers, oil filters, paint, lead-acid batteries and antifreeze.

Residual products & containers include:

Paint strippers containing methylene chloride

Petroleum or synthetic lubricating oils

Household furnace oil filters

Hydraulic, transmission & heater transfer fluids

Pest control products

Aerosol paints or paints in containers

Unused or expired drugs

Lead acid batteries weighing more than 2kg

Gasoline sold for use in spark ignition engines

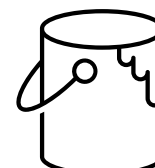
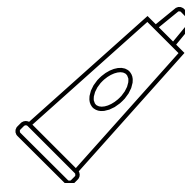
Automotive antifreeze



*See [Recycling Regulation](#) for a full list of product materials.

2 What do I need to know?

Producers include **manufacturers, distributors, importers and retailers** of residual products and containers.

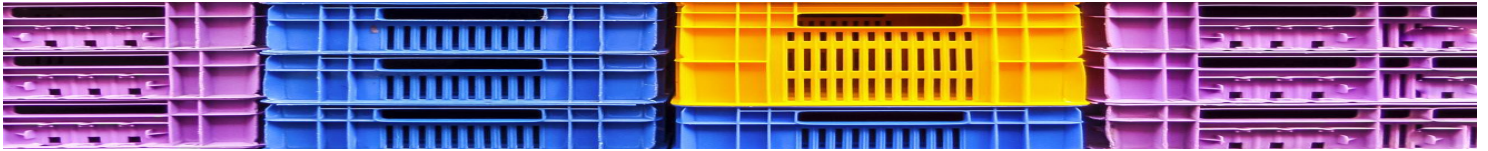


3 What do I need to do?

Contact an approved Extended Producer Responsibility **agency overseeing residual products** to manage your business's recycling obligations or submit your own plan.

Joining an agency can help you fulfill your responsibilities under the Recycling Regulation.

Approved EPR Agency List can be found by product type on the [BC Government EPR website](#).



What is Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR)?

EPR is one of the key pillars of B.C.'s circular economy, driving sustainable waste management through the continuous conservation and reuse of products as raw materials. British Columbia stands as a leader in North America, with over 15 EPR programs that mandate producers to take full responsibility for the entire life cycle of their products, including collection and recycling.

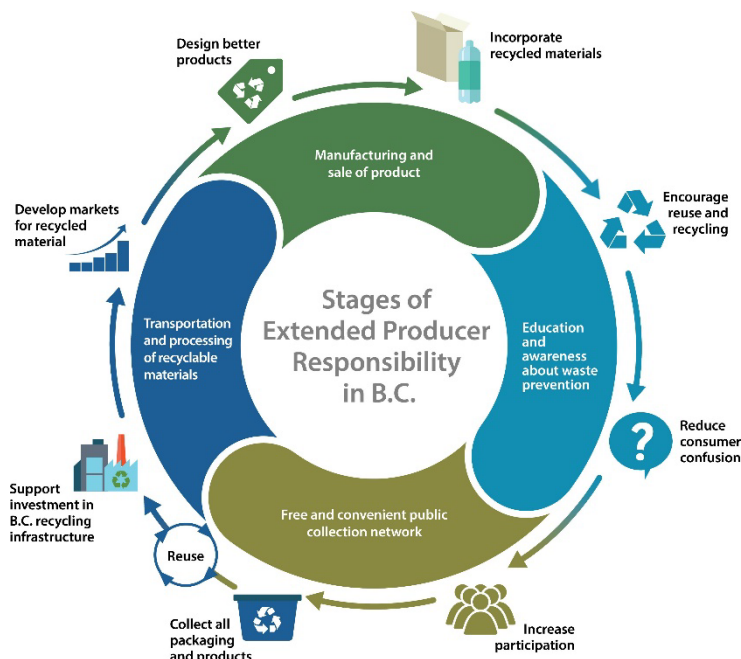
Why is EPR important?

Over 2.5 million tonnes of solid waste from B.C. homes and businesses end up in landfills or are incinerated each year. This is over 500 kg of waste disposed per person.

We're doing something to curb the waste. Through the EPR framework, we're able to improve province-wide recycling and expand collection programs making recycling easier and more accessible for British Columbians.

Benefits of adopting the EPR Framework:

- ✓ EPR provides businesses like yours the tools to take ownership of the products you sell, helping you participate in the circular economy.
- ✓ EPR promotes the design of more reusable and recyclable products and redirects them away from landfills.



That's why in B.C., we're shifting towards the circular economy, working with industry, businesses, and other levels of government to realize the environmental and economic benefits of this move to a circular system, preventing waste from being produced in the first place.

For questions contact:

ExtendedProducerResponsibility@gov.bc.ca