

Waste

State

On January 13, 2015, the governor signed Executive Order (EO) [01.01.2015.01—Zero Waste Plan](#) for Maryland. The EO establishes goals for the state government, including: (1) 85% waste diversion and 80% recycling by 2040; (2) a waste recycling rate of at least 65% by 2020; (3) diversion of at least 60% of its organic waste through recycling, composting and anaerobic digestion by 2020; and (4) creation of a source reduction checklist for use by state agencies to track and encourage source reduction. The EO also addresses green purchasing guidelines and certain landfill requirements.

Federal

USEPA issued a final rule revising several recycling-related provisions associated with the definition of a solid waste ([80 FR 1693](#)). The revisions ensure that recycling regulations encourage reclamation in a way that does not result in increased risk to human health and the environment. The revisions allow certain materials that would otherwise need to be managed as a hazardous waste to be recycled. Under the exclusion, a facility that recycles the newly excluded materials must send the material to a “verified recycler.” The revisions also add requirements for storage of recyclable materials, recordkeeping, and emergency preparedness and response. The final rule became effective on July 13, 2015.

The USEPA finalized new safeguards that promote responsible hazardous secondary materials recycling. The [final rule](#) modifies the USEPA’s 2008 Definition of Solid Waste rule to ensure it protects human health and the environment from the mismanagement of hazardous secondary materials intended for recycling, while promoting sustainability through the encouragement of safe and environmentally responsible recycling of such materials. Docket: EPA-HQ-RCRA-2010-0742