



**The State of Maryland**  
**Executive Department**

EXECUTIVE ORDER  
01.01.2017.13

Waste Reduction and Resource Recovery Plan for Maryland  
Rescinds Executive Order 01.01.2015.01

- WHEREAS, Sustainable materials management means using and managing materials as efficiently and sustainably as possible throughout their entire life cycles;
- WHEREAS, Through source reduction, reuse, and recycling, Maryland can extend existing disposal capacity, reduce the need to construct new or expanded solid waste disposal facilities, conserve natural resources, including water and energy, increase the innovative reuse and beneficial use of dredged material, and support a productive economy through recovery of valuable resources;
- WHEREAS, Studies have shown that diverting material from disposal to reuse, recycling, and composting results in more jobs and a more sustainable economy;
- WHEREAS, New and emerging materials management technologies provide opportunities to recover more energy, nutrients, and other resources from waste, while fostering new businesses in Maryland;
- WHEREAS, The potential applications for innovative reuse or beneficial use of dredged material are vast, including transportation, climate change adaptation and publicly-funded site remediation projects, habitat creation, wetland restoration, shoreline stabilization, landscaping, road construction, landfill cover, land reclamation and the manufacture of marketable products such as concrete, bricks, blocks, aggregate and topsoil;

- WHEREAS, Source reduction, reuse, and recycling reduce greenhouse gas emissions relative to disposal and can assist the State in meeting its climate change goals for 2030 and beyond;
- WHEREAS, Through the combined efforts of Maryland's local governments, businesses, and residents, the State has made significant progress in recycling over the past 23 years, more than doubling the recycling rate from 19 percent in 1992 to 43 percent in 2015;
- WHEREAS, A recent plateau in the recycling rate and the evolving composition of the waste stream suggest that an updated and more holistic materials management approach is needed to ensure continuous improvement;
- WHEREAS, Maryland has undertaken key initiatives to strengthen recycling programs, including the establishment of clearer permitting pathways for composting facilities; adoption of more aggressive county and State government recycling rates; coordination of a statewide waste sort study; enhancement of electronics recycling education and outreach; and provision of recycling opportunities at apartments, condominiums, and special events;
- WHEREAS, Maryland has recognized the importance of partnerships in achieving statewide recycling and source reduction goals, including through the cooperative efforts of waste generators, State agencies, local governments, the waste industry, the recycling industry, environmental groups, boards of education, and other interested parties; and
- WHEREAS, Executive Order 01.01.2015.01 does not adequately reflect the partnerships among State government agencies, local governments, and the private sector that are essential to advancing recycling and source reduction in Maryland and that additional research and broader stakeholder consultation are needed to establish aggressive but achievable goals for recycling and source reduction;

NOW, THEREFORE,

I, LAWRENCE J. HOGAN, JR., GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, BY VIRTUE OF THE AUTHORITY VESTED IN ME BY THE CONSTITUTION AND LAWS OF MARYLAND, HEREBY PROCLAIM THE FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE ORDER, EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY:

A. Definitions.

(1) "Department" means the Maryland Department of the Environment.

(2) "Source reduction" means the prevention of waste through changes in the way products are designed, manufactured, packaged, purchased, and used.

B. Sustainable Materials Management Policy. It is the policy of the State that solid waste and recycling planning should, to the extent practicable, seek to:

(1) Minimize the environmental impacts of materials management over their entire life cycles, including from product design to production, consumption, and end-of-life management;

(2) Conserve and extend existing in-State disposal capacity through source reduction, reuse, and recycling;

(3) Capture and make optimal use of recovered resources, including raw materials, water, energy, and nutrients; and

(4) Work toward a system of materials management that is both environmentally and economically sustainable in the long term.

C. Goals and Measurement.

(1) Stakeholder Consultation. The Department shall consult with relevant stakeholders to assess and improve the State's methodology for tracking waste generation, recycling, and source reduction in Maryland.

(2) Following stakeholder consultation, the Department shall:

(a) Recommend to the Governor a method of obtaining business source reduction and recycling data;

(b) Establish an improved method of quantifying and tracking the statewide recycling and source reduction rates; and

(c) Establish voluntary statewide goals to encourage continuous improvement of sustainable materials management

**D. Building Partnerships for Sustainable Materials Management.** In order to work toward the recycling and source reduction goals established herein, the Department shall pursue the following partnerships.

(1) The Department and the Maryland Department of Commerce shall work in cooperation with local economic development agencies to identify local markets for recycled materials and provide siting, permitting, and technical assistance for innovative recycling and resource recovery businesses.

(2) The Department shall work with the Maryland Department of Agriculture to support research and demonstration of innovative technologies for recovering nutrient resources in a manner protective of water quality.

(3) The Department shall work with the Maryland Energy Administration to research and promote methods of recovering energy from waste, including anaerobic digestion.

(4) The Department shall work with the Maryland Department of Transportation Port Administration to develop technical screening criteria and guidance to support innovative reuse and beneficial uses of dredged material removed from the Port of Baltimore's shipping channels. State agencies shall consider innovative reuse and beneficial uses of dredged material when economically feasible and in conformance with all appropriate environmental standards.

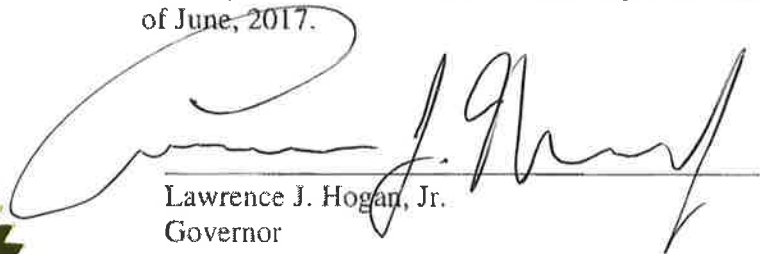
(5) Targeted Outreach Partnerships.

(a) Based on the results of the statewide waste sort study, the Department shall identify key recyclable materials that continue to be disposed in significant quantities in Maryland.

(b) The Department shall seek opportunities to pool resources among producers of products, State and local government agencies, and environmental education organizations to conduct targeted outreach campaigns to reduce disposal for each of the key materials identified.

E. This Executive Order rescinds Executive Order 01.01.2015.01.


GIVEN Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the State of Maryland, in the Town of Ocean City, this 27th Day of June, 2017.



---

Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr.  
Governor

ATTEST:



---

John C. Wobensmith  
Secretary of State