National Recycling Strategy and Goals

Kimberly Cochran, Ph.D.

Office of Resource Conservation and Recovery U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

SERDC Annual Fall Membership Meeting September 23, 2020



Recycling Challenges



Promoting Education and Outreach



Enhancing Materials Management Infrastructure



Strengthening Secondary Materials Markets



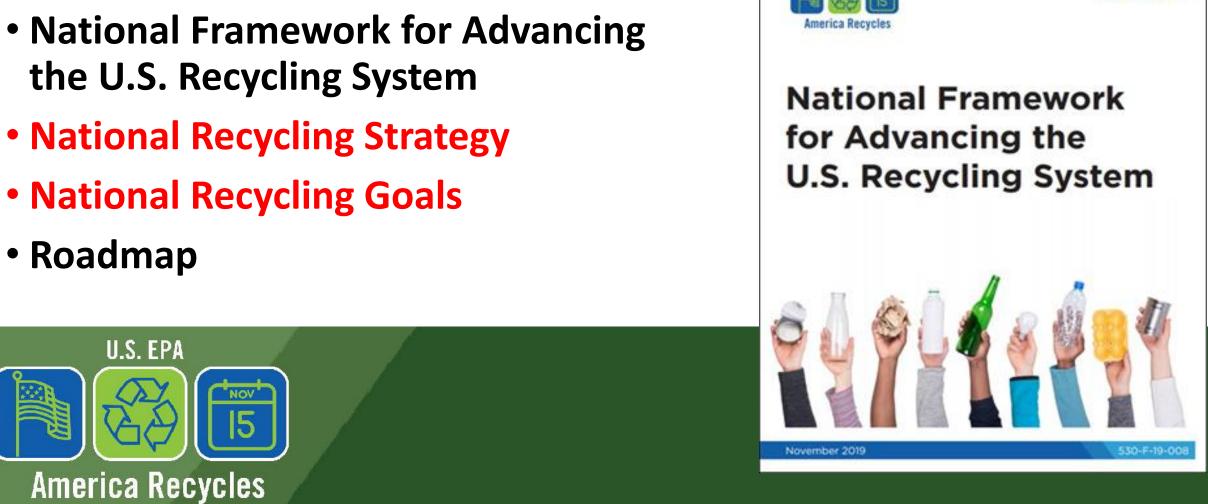
Enhancing Measurement



Developing the Draft National Recycling Strategy

ŞEPA

- SMM Strategic Plan for 2017-2022
- National Framework for Advancing the U.S. Recycling System
- National Recycling Goals
- Roadmap



National Recycling Strategy Objectives Objective 1: Reduce Contamination Objective 2: Increase Processing Efficiency **Objective 3: Improve Markets**



Objective 1: Reduce Contamination in the Recycling Stream

Enhance education and outreach

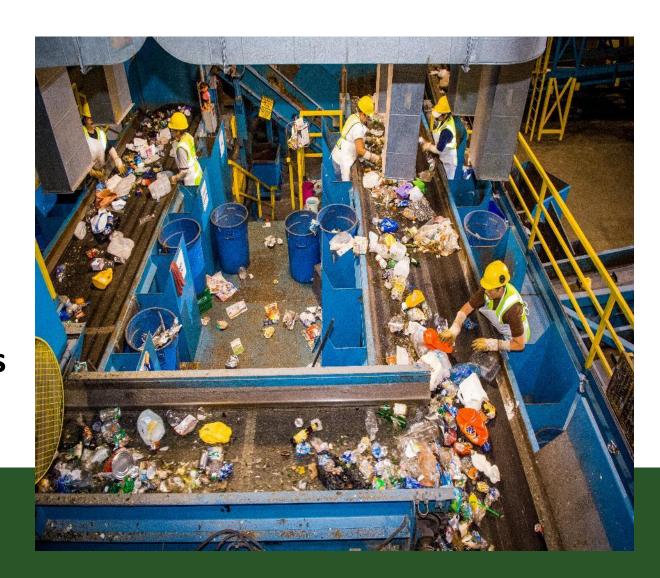
Increase information on recycling programs and policies





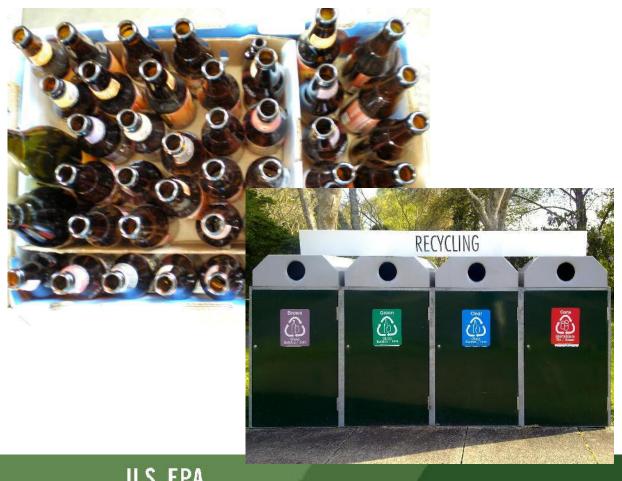
Objective 2: Increase Processing Efficiency

- Understand infrastructure needs
- Identify available funding
- Support R&D
- Design products for recycling
- National definitions, measures, targets, and performance indicators





Objective 3: Improve Markets



- Market development workshops
- Analyze end markets
- Generate data on materials and markets
- Use materials where they are generated
- Increase demand



Opportunity for Comment

- Which actions are the most important?
 - In general?
 - For the federal government?
- What are the key steps to successfully implement these actions?

- Are we missing any actions?
- Are you willing to lead and collaborate with others to implement the actions?

 Additional information or recommendations?



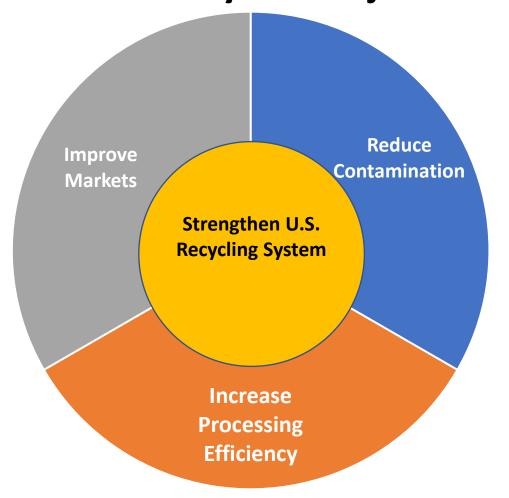
Deadline for comments is December 4th!

Find the Strategy at:

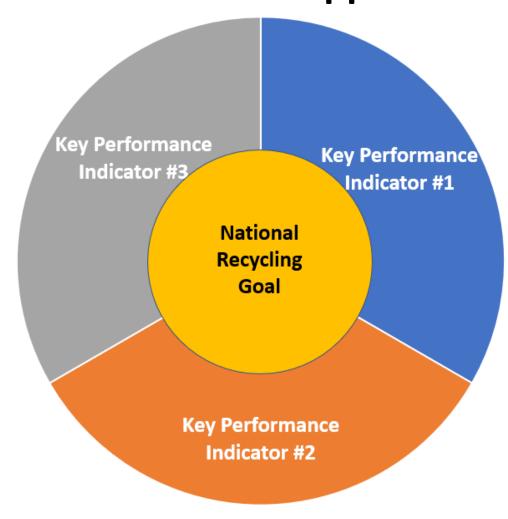
epa.gov/AmericaRecycles

Developing National Recycling Goals

America Recycles Objectives



Measurement Approach



Next Steps



- Taking comments on the Strategy through Dec. 4th
- Highlight Strategy and Announce Recycling Goals during America Recycles Week 2020
 - Summit and Innovation Fair Nov 16-17
- Finalize Strategy in 2021
- Develop roadmap



epa.gov/AmericaRecycles

Questions

Kim Cochran

Chief of the Sustainable Materials Branch
Office of Resource Conservation and Recovery

Cochran.Kimberly@epa.gov



epa.gov/AmericaRecycles