

- **REDUCE UNNECESSARY PACKAGING**
- **RECLAIM VALUABLE MATERIALS**
- **SUPPORT & DEVELOP MARKETS FOR RECYCLED MATERIALS**



## ***TENNESSEE WASTE REDUCTION AND RECYCLING ACT (TWRRA)***

**TWRRA** (HB0550 and SB0573) creates new jobs, builds local economies, reduces litter, reduces waste sent to landfills, resulting in cleaner Tennessee air and water. **TWRRA** helps businesses by ensuring a resilient domestic supply of recycled materials for new products. **TWRRA** eliminates the burden of funding and managing Recycling for Tennessee’s towns. **TWRRA** improves recycling of plastics, aluminum and steel cans, glass bottles, and cardboard.

<p><b>INDUSTRY &amp; JOBS</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Enhances Tennessee’s business prospects by ensuring a domestic supply of raw materials for new products.</li> <li>● Supports Tennessee’s existing recycling industry and develops new product industries from recycled materials.</li> <li>● Exempts small producers; less than \$1M revenue or 1 ton of packaging.</li> </ul>
<p><b>LANDFILLS</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Diverts valuable materials from Tennessee’s overburdened landfills.</li> </ul>
<p><b>RECYCLING</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Provides and funds free recycling for all Tennesseans, including those living in apartments and rural areas.</li> <li>● Increases the recycling rate and reduces pollution providing cleaner air, rivers, roads, forests, parks and stormwater systems.</li> </ul>
<p><b>LITTER</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Reduces disposable packaging litter in neighborhoods, cities, parks, roadsides, storm drains, and waterways throughout Tennessee.</li> <li>● Creates financial incentives for companies to increase recyclable packaging as well as eliminate or decrease total packaging.</li> </ul>
<p><b>MONEY</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Saves Tennessee towns and taxpayers money by reimbursing material recovery costs of program operations</li> <li>● Creates jobs.</li> </ul>

*Imagine what the **Tennessee Waste Reduction and Recycling Act** Will Do for Tennessee businesses and communities!*

# **How the *Tennessee Waste Reduction and Recycling Act (TWRRA)* Works**



Tennessee adopts the TWRRA, requiring companies, in and out of state, to be responsible for reuse, recovery and/or recycling programs for packaging. The program will be implemented over three years.

Producers form an independent non-profit Producer Responsibility Organization (PRO) to implement and manage packaging waste reduction, reuse, recovery, and recycling strategies.

An Advisory Board, representing Tennessee communities and stakeholders, is formed to consult with and provide oversight of PRO. TDEC also oversees.

The PRO conducts a statewide needs assessment to analyze and identify improvements to recycling infrastructure and services. The PRO then proposes reduction and recycling goals and creates a plan with a timeline to reach performance goals.

Producers pay annual dues to the PRO based on the amount and type of packaging used. The dues are structured to incentivize companies to reduce unnecessary packaging, implement reuse strategies, and increase use of recycled materials. Dues cover 100% of reasonable costs to provide convenient, effective recycling services statewide.

The PRO contracts with and pays recycling service providers and local governments to provide free and convenient recycling for packaging to all residents and businesses across the state. A list of minimum materials that must be recycled is maintained statewide under the program. The PRO funds recycling education programs and litter remediation.

TDEC oversees the program and approves the PRO plan. An independent advisory board of stakeholders reviews and makes recommendations to the PRO and TDEC on the needs assessment, PRO plan, and other decisions. The PRO reimburses the state for administrative and oversight costs

The PRO annually submits progress reports providing transparency to the State, including data on recycling rates, investments made to improve Recycling, the use of recycled content in products, and third-party audited financial reports

***Imagine what the Tennessee Waste Reduction Act Will Do for Tennessee businesses and communities!***