

# Rural Colorado Government Electronic Recycling



Electronic Device  
Recycling Task Force  
August 24, 2009

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# Overview

- Rural Collection Programs
- Landfill Collection
- Rural E-Waste Issues
- Funding and Infrastructure
- State Financing Models;  
Manufacturers/Retailers
- What is working now
- Recommendations

# Evolution of Rural Collection Programs

- Municipal/Non Profit single day events
- Multiple drop off collection events
- Part time drop off locations
- Full time drop off sites; landfills, non profits
- Recycler hauls e-waste to processor
- Retail collections similar to batteries, tires, oil
- New community segments using/disposing more E devices

# Rural Landfill Collection

- Landfill disposal bans desired
- Concern ban by statute will not be funded
- Require infrastructure w/funding source
- Shipping/recycling costs to Denver >100 mi.
- Drop off fees reduce collection
- CDPHE not enforcing commercial ban
- Businesses embed e waste with trash to avoid paying fees; same w/batteries, paint, HHW

# Rural Collection Issues

- Recycling services far behind front range
- Public wants e-waste recycling drop offs
- Donations or fees do not cover recycling cost
- Rural resort town transients leave e-waste
- MRF in Denver none in southern Colorado

# State Recycling Resources

- Priority Shift-GEO office focused on energy/conservation
  - Office of Energy Management and Conservation is now GEO – focus on energy, renewables, weatherization, conservation, solar rebates, etc.
- Perception: Limited recycling funding for rural CO
  - HB1288 (RREO) sunsets June 2010, CDPHE wants renewed to fund/implement recycling projects
  - 2009 funding \$2.6 million for all Colorado
    - Many rural grant applications incomplete/rejected
    - 2009 allocations 52% front range – 48% rural

# Nationwide Programs

- Mandatory financing states:
  - CA, ME, MD, MN, NC, NJ, NYC, OR, TX, VA, WA, WV, AR, OK soon
    - Covers 125 million US residents (41% of population)
- Disposal Bans
  - NH, RI, AR
- Rural CO landfills supportive of Manufacturing/Retail financing models (CA,ME)

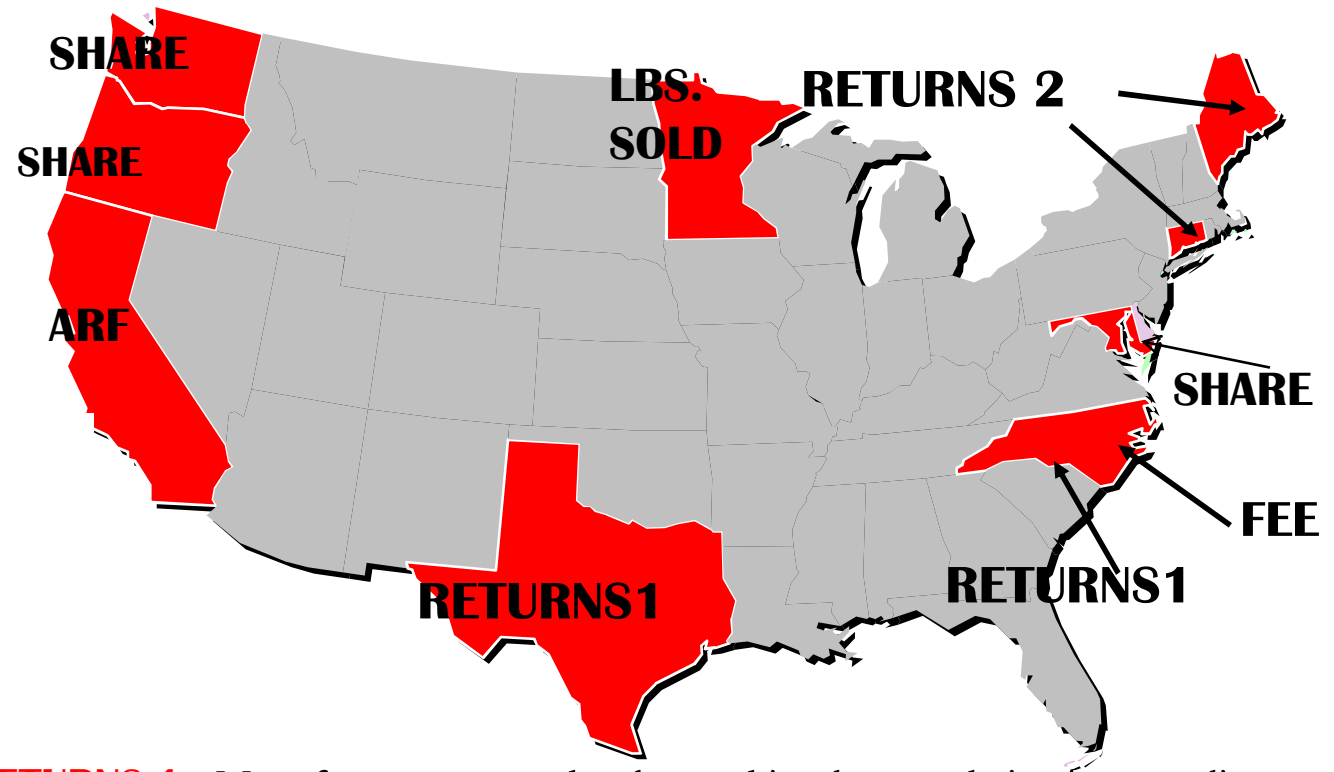
# Financing Models

**ARF** – E-Waste Recycling Fee at point of sale

**FEE** - Manufacturer Registration Fee (can be reduced Through take-back program)

**SHARE** - Manufacturers must finance a program to collect & recycle their brand's share of covered products, either collectively or independently

**LBS. SOLD** - Manufacturer pays registration fee, collection and recycling of e-devices based on lbs/yr.



**RETURNS 1** - Manufacturers must develop and implement their own recycling programs for their own returned products (TX requires program to collect from consumers, NC requires program to collect from collectors).

**RETURNS 2** - Manufacturers pay for transportation and recycling of their own branded products collected by others plus a pro rata share of all orphan products



# Overview of State Models

## California

- Manufacturers collect/remit ARF on direct sales (\$6, \$8, \$10 depending on screen size),
- Manufacturer retain 3%, 97% goes to state-operated recycling infrastructure,
- 20,000+ retailers with 30,000+ retail locations (300 large = 90%)
- Retailers only sell branded products that meet Restriction of Hazardous Substances (RoHS) restrictions for heavy metals.

# Maine

## Manufacturers/Retailers

- Choose recycling plan & method of payment:
  - Pay consolidator to count your claimed brands + orphans
  - Pick up representative pile of return share by weight + orphans
  - **OR**, have your brand products separated + orphans for pickup by chosen recycler

- *As of December 2007, 394 brands claimed by 167 manufacturers*
- *Does not cover desktop computers*

# Connecticut

- Similar to ME, but includes desktops and printers
- State must approve recyclers, they submit bills to manufacturers for their brands collected + orphan share
- Retailer may not sell covered products if manufacturer is not registered and part of an approved plan

# Maryland/West Virginia

- Manufacturers pay a \$10,000 initial annual registration fee
  - \$5000 annual fee thereafter, or if desired, manufacturers may set up take-back programs and pay only a \$500 annual fee
  - Collected fees go to state funds for grants to local governments
- Retailers may not sell brands of computers that don't contain brand labeling or have not paid a registration fee.
- Covers desktops, laptops, TVs, monitors

# How Are They Doing?

- California (Point of sale)
  - 1.79 lbs/capita in 2005, 65 million lbs
  - 3.5 lbs/capita in 2006, 128 million lbs
  - 5.1 lbs/capita in 2007, 185 million lbs
- Maine (Manufacturer pays for pickup/processing directly)
  - 3.1 lbs/capita in 2006, 3.85 million lbs
  - 3.51 lbs/capita in 2007, 4.63 million lbs
- Maryland (Registration fee collected for grants)
  - 1.2 lbs/capita in 2006, 6.2 million lbs *[not program stats]*
  - 1.5 lbs/capita in 2007, 8.7 million lbs *[not program stats]*

# What Works Now in Rural CO

- Permanent free drop off centers
- Attracts e waste from outside the community
- Public values e waste holding it longer and want to recycle
- E-waste ban and drop off fees not causing illegal dumping in Mesa County
- Electronic recycling website options available to the public

## Recommendations from Rural CO

- Ban consumer e-waste disposal w/funding
- Fund recycling costs via retail sales fee or manufacture financing model w/State control
- Rural CO supportive of CA/ME type models
- Need public education and outreach programs
- Eliminate fee at collection events/landfills will increase public participation
- Save shipping costs by back hauling e-waste in empty big box semi trucks to Denver facilities

# THANK YOU!



SUMMIT COUNTY GOVERNMENT  
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