Policy & Good Data are Drivers for Sustainable Change

Sarah K. Nichols
Sustainable Maine Director
Natural Resources Council of Maine
EESI Waste Policy and Program Briefing 4.20.2021
We waste more than we recycle

...and we are making more waste than ever
Recycle Center Closed Leave Nothing
Municipalities & Our Environment

Packaging
EXTENDED PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY (EPR)
EPR for Packaging works all over the world
EPR for Packaging in Maine

Producers pay fees based on the packaging they sell to consumers in Maine.

Fees go to **New Stewardship Organization** that has contracted with Maine DEP.

Towns get compensated for managing waste created by Producers.

- **Operations & Infrastructure**
- **Public Education**
- **Increasing Access**
Sister Policies to EPR System

Ban problem materials:
And switch to reuse/refill

Create incentives:
Per-unit fees and Deposit-Return

Establish packaging rules:
Recycled content standards
The States Need Better National Data
Thank you!

Visit www.recyclingreform.org for more info on EPR for Packaging in Maine

Reach me at sarah@nrcm.org or (207) 430-0170