



Multi-State Meeting – Summer 2017

Central States Protective League Activity

Iowa: In coordination with in-state stakeholders, the glass container industry helped lead the fight against bottle bill repeal. Proposed legislation would have rescinded the bottle bill program, and expanded single stream collection of glass and other recyclables for the state.

This would have drastically reduced the quantity and quality of recycled glass secured through Iowa's bottle bill program, glass that is destined for manufacturers throughout the Midwest. CSPL leadership also issued a letter to legislators, highlighting the importance of the bottle bill for the region's glass container manufacturing workforce and plants.

Indiana: In June, the glass container industry participated in the Indiana Recycling Coalition's annual conference. As part of a panel discussion regarding the importance of the glass container manufacturing and recycling industries, Indiana was highlighted as a "Top 3" state. The glass container industry also led a recycling workshop discussion, where representatives from two rural Indiana counties highlighted their efforts to get recycled glass back to in-state glass manufacturers.

GPI and members are also engaged with stakeholders on the future of recycling in Indianapolis, where local officials are now considering city-wide collection for businesses and residents. The current program has a low participation rate (10%), due to it being an "opt-in" only service.

Southeast Protective League Activity

North Carolina: As part of a state partnership, GPI provided a small grant to 2 NC recycling plants (Asheville and Raleigh), to improve the quality of recycled glass at their facilities. In the six months since improvements have been put into place, both plants have seen higher quality glass, less residual waste headed to the landfill and higher revenue for the recycled glass sorted and sold to in-state glass container plants.

Georgia: GPI and members continue to coordinate with the Georgia Recycling Coalition and on the ground stakeholders (material recovery facility (MRF) operators, recyclers, hauler, and local government reps) to keep glass in recycling programs. This spring, leaders in Alpharetta and Fulton County agreed to keep glass recycling as an option for residents, for an additional \$3 per month, per household. Last month, the City of Atlanta teamed up with The Recycling Partnership, who provided resources to more closely monitor contamination of single-stream curbside, where glass bottles can still be put out for recycling.

Virginia: O-I is working with the Virginia Manufacturers Association and other material end users to promote public-private investments in the recycling infrastructure, with the end goal of creating a state grant program for improved glass processing to supply Virginia's glass plants.

Florida: GPI is closely monitoring and has met with in-state thought leaders regarding sustainable materials management activity (SMM), which has the potential to dramatically shift how recycled glass and other recyclables are measured. A move away from traditional weight-based measurement of recyclables may disadvantage glass bottles and jars in future collection program decisions.