

calls for industry to collect 58,490 phones this year. However, yesterday the Ministry reported that through September 205,203 phones had been collected.

While the program is off to a faster than expected start, the cell phone industry estimates the Ecuadorians discard nearly 2 million handsets annually and that as many as 9 million broken or unwanted are available for recycling.

Get more information at

<http://www.ambiente.gob.ec/mas-de-200-mil-equipos-celulares-en-desuso-se-recolectaron-hasta-septiembre-del-2013/>.

Statistics & Trends

Washington E-Waste Collection Program Reaches 200 Million Pound Milestone

Washington state's E-Cycle program, which is funded by covered device manufacturers, was launched in 2009 to collect waste TVs, computers and monitors.

Last week, the Washington Department of Ecology announced the program has now collected more than 200 million pounds of devices. It also noted that the per capita electronics recycling level is expected to hit to 6.7 pounds this year, among the highest of US state programs.

Recycling of covered devices is free to households, small businesses, school districts, small governments and charities.

The Washington Department of Ecology announcement is posted at

<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/news/2013/272.html>.

2012 Scottish Household Recycling Data Shows Only Slight Gains Over 2011

The Government of Scotland has proposed that the country recycle/compost at least 50% of its household waste next year, and 70% by 2025. However, data released by the Scottish EPA on Monday, shows the 2012 rate at only 41.2%, a modest 1.1% increase over 2011.

Scotland generated 2,500,836 tons of household waste in 2012 and recycled/composted 1,029,109 tons. Landfill disposal accounted for 1,382,208 tons of household waste - 55.3%. 85,613 tons was recovered as energy - 3.4%.

Download the 2012 Scottish household waste and recycling data at

http://www.sepa.org.uk/waste/waste_data/waste_data_reports/lacw_reporting/household_waste_reporting.aspx.

US Aluminum Can Recycling Rate Hits 67 Percent

The US Aluminum Association, Can Manufacturers Institute, and Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries issued a joint announcement last week that the recycling rate for aluminum can in the United States in 2012 was 67%. The organizations said US manufacturers produced 92 billion cans last year and recycled 62 billion cans, some of which were imported.

US aluminum can recycling peaked in 1992, then hit a 20-year low in 2004. Since then the rate has been increasing.

The industry groups have set a voluntary goal to recycle 75% of US aluminum cans by 2015.

The US aluminum can recycling rate announcement can be found at http://www.isri.org/ISRI/Whats_New/2012/Aluminum_Can_Continues_Leadership_in_Sustainable_Packaging_as_Most_Recycled_Beverage_Container.aspx.

Recylum Creates Eco-Responsible Electricians Club To Boost Waste Lighting Collection

Most commercial lighting equipment is installed and replaced by electricians and building maintenance professionals. To encourage electricians to separate and help recycle waste lighting equipment and lamps from other waste streams, the French lamp compliance scheme Recylum announced on Friday it has launched the Club des Electriciens Eco-Responsables (Club for Eco-Responsible Electricians).

Electricians who join the organization (membership is free) receive a quarterly newsletter on relevant environmental news and information, a membership certificate and the chance to attend special events such as a weekend at the Festival of Lights in Lyon and networking with other green-minded electricians.

Get more information at <http://www.recylum.com/communiqués-de-presse-recylum/loccasion-du-salon-interclima-elec-2013-recylum-lance-club-electriciens-eco-responsables/>.

National Zero Waste Council Launched In Canada

Earlier this month at Metro Vancouver's 2013 Zero Waste Conference, a Canadian national council was launched. Richmond Mayor Malcolm Brodie is the council's first chair, and board members include a Toronto city council member, the CEO Recycling Council of BC, the Waste Prevention Manager of the British Columbia Ministry of Environment, and the Waste Reduction Program Manager for Wal-Mart, among others.

The council plans to implement a zero waste national communication campaign; promote best practices and facilitate knowledge exchange between industry, government and other key stakeholders; and promote policy harmonization to facilitate improved product and packaging design.

More information is available at <http://www.metrovancouver.org/region/ZWCouncil/ZWCouncilDocs/NZWCBrief.pdf>.

Green Chemistry Center Launched In Washington State

On Monday, the Green Chemistry Center was launched in Washington with the support of the Department of Ecology. A 21-member advisory board has been appointed including representatives from academia, industry, environmental organizations and government.

According to the Department of Ecology, the new center will help facilitate green chemistry and engineering solutions throughout product life cycle stages, expand the adoption of green chemistry into higher education curriculum and professional training and "*support hazard assessments and movement towards 21st century toxicology including computational toxicology to inform and inspire market-driven solutions and innovations.*"

Get more information at

http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/hwtr/P2/GreenChem/greenchem_ecy.html.

Business Initiatives

CWTA Plans To Expand Provincial Cell Phone Recycling Program

Earlier this month, the Canadian Wireless Telecommunications Association received approval from the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador to operate its Recycle My Cell program. The program has been operating in the province unofficially since 2009. Now having government approval, Recycle My Cell plans to expand its collection network and will receive support from the province's Multi-Materials Stewardship Board.

Since 2005, CWTA and its member companies have collected more than 3,800,000 cell phones and other mobile communication devices across Canada.

Approval from the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador comes day before the start of Waste Reduction Week in Canada.

The CWTA announcement is posted at <http://cwta.ca/blog/2013/10/17/recycle-my-cell-strengthens-commitment-in-newfoundland-and-labrador/>.

Waste Sweden's Mixed Paper and Packaging Collection Pilot Proves Successful

Yesterday, industry association Avfall Sverige (Waste Sweden) reported on a pilot it sponsored to increase paper and packaging recycling. The pilot was conducted in Halmstad, a city on Sweden's southwest coast. The pilot used 55 apartment buildings and 124 single-family residences to test the use of "yellow barrel" collection in which paper and packaging are commingled for curbside pickup then sorted later (versus consumer sorted paper and packaging).

Among the results of the pilot, the amounts of paper and packaging disposed with trash were reduced significantly, particularly for apartment buildings, and the amount of contamination in the paper-packaging commingled collection was low - both sought after results. Avfall Sverige says simplifying packaging and newspapers collection for households will increase recycling.

More information is available at

<http://www.avfallsverige.se/nyhetsarkiv/nyhetsvisning/artikel/enkelt-med-egen-tunna-foer-aatervinning/>

The Green Perspective

EWG Publishes New "Dirty Dozen" List Of Endocrine Disrupting Chemicals

On Monday, the US-based Environmental Working Group (EWG) published its latest "dirty dozen" list of *"the most problematic hormone-altering chemicals that people are routinely exposed to."*

"The scientific data and reports that exist on this information needs to be made easy to read, easy to understand, and broken down in a way that empowers people to become activists," said Shaney Jo Darden, founder of an organization called Keep A Breast Foundation. *"I am positive that this Dirty Dozen Endocrine Disruptor guide will be able to do just that."*

The list includes bisphenol A (BPA), dioxin, atrazine, perchlorate, arsenic, lead, mercury and as chemical groups phthalates, flame retardants, perfluorinated chemicals, glycol esters and organophosphate pesticides. Advice is also provided on how to reduce exposure to these chemicals.

The EWG list is posted at

<http://www.ewg.org/research/dirty-dozen-list-endocrine-disruptors>.

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