Hazardous Waste Management Program

Vape Waste Policy
2027 Legislative Preview

Washington Chemical Policy Forum
October 29, 2026
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What can we expect next session?

- Fiscal challenges
- EPR for HHW, including vapes
- Ban on disposable vapes
- Overlap with tobacco bills

EPR for HHW

- Requires producers of moderate risk waste to participate and pay into in a stewardship organization(s) to sell covered products in WA.
- Defines a list of priority product categories to start and allows Dept. of Ecology to add new products by rule. **Vape products are one of 6 categories.**
- Requires the stewardship organization to **cover all costs** of collection, transportation, processing, education, administration, and end-of-life handling of covered products.

EPR for HHW

- Includes an equity study to inform access to collection, transparency of final disposition sites, and education and outreach to vulnerable populations and underserved communities.
- Bans disposal of covered products outside of the stewardship program.
- Requires covered products to be labeled with manufacturer name and brand, and instructions not to dispose in garbage, recycling or wastewater.

What is on priority list?



Automotive Products



Gas Cylinders



Pesticides



Vapes



Marine Flares



Flammable Liquids

Disposable Vape Ban

A legislator has expressed interested in sponsoring, modeled after CA bill passed this year, which:

- Starting in 2027 bans single-use, battery-embedded nicotine vapes that cannot be refilled or recharged

- What Remains Legal in CA:

  --Refillable pod systems

  --Rechargeable devices with replaceable pods/cartridges

  --Cannabis vapes (exempted after amendments)

- Civil penalties typically $500 per violation, with escalating fines for repeat offenses depending on enforcement authority.

Join the Chemical Policy Forum's Vape Waste Working Group! We share timely information and discuss policy solutions to end vape waste.

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