



California's Product Stewardship for Carpet

Enforcement Overview

Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery

Product Stewardship for Carpet Program Overview

California has established an industry-run, statewide program to increase the education, recovery, and recycling of used carpet. The program requires that a carpet stewardship organization be formed to comply with the law. Currently, Carpet America Recovery Effort (CARE) is the only recognized carpet stewardship organization representing carpet manufacturers in California.

Enforcement

CalRecycle provides enforcement oversight of the carpet law. CalRecycle evaluates compliance through various means including, but not limited to site, inspections.

Failure to comply with requirements of the carpet law, and/or submitting false or misleading information, may result in penalties of up to \$10,000 per day.

See details about the carpet stewardship law and monitor CalRecycle's website for product compliance at:

www.calrecycle.ca.gov/carpet

Retailer and Manufacturer Requirements

Retailers and manufacturers are required to:

- Provide access to records, invoices or functionally equivalent billing documents or other records which are used to verify compliance with the carpet law. – *14 California Code of Regulations 18946*
- Collect an assessment when selling a program product. The assessment must be included in the purchase price. – *PRC 42972(c)(3)(B)*
- Make the assessment clearly visible as a separate line item on the customer receipt or invoice. – *PRC 42972(c)(3)(B)*

- Label the assessment with an approved description which can be found on the CalRecycle website. – PRC 42972(c)(3)(B)
- Sell only carpets from compliant manufacturers, approved to sell carpets in California listed on the CalRecycle website. – PRC 42974(b)
- Monitor the CalRecycle website for manufacturer or brand product compliance. – PRC 42974(d)
- Manufacturers only, submit a Stewardship Plan through a stewardship organization or individually to CalRecycle. – PRC 42972(a)

Record Keeping

CalRecycle may ask retailers or manufacturers to provide timely access to records to verify compliance with the carpet law. Relevant records include invoices or functionally equivalent billing documents or other records showing the:

- Name of the carpet manufacturer.
- Date the carpet was purchased from the manufacturer.
- Date the carpet was sold to the consumer or other buyer.

Monitor Website for Product Compliance

Retailers and distributors that sell or distribute carpet in California are required to monitor CalRecycle’s website to determine if the sale of a manufacturer’s carpet is in compliance with the law. CalRecycle’s website maintains a listing of compliant manufacturers and brands that are approved to sell carpet in California.

Assessment

The carpet law requires carpet manufacturers to charge an assessment on all purchases by a retailer, wholesaler, distributor, and importer. These businesses pass the assessment onto the consumer at time of purchase. The carpet stewardship organization sets the assessment as approved by CalRecycle.

CARE’s website for assessment information is at www.carpetrecovery.org.

If you are a ...

- Retailer
- Wholesaler
- Distributor
- Importer
- Manufacturer

...you need to know the law.

Extended Producer Responsibility

Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR), also referred to as Product Stewardship, is a strategy to place a shared responsibility for end-of-life product management on

producers. The Carpet Stewardship program (Assembly Bill 2398, established in 2010) is an EPR [requirement] that carpet manufacturers increase the amount of postconsumer carpet that is diverted from landfills and recycled into secondary products or otherwise managed in a manner that is consistent with the state's hierarchy for waste management practices.

– Public Resources Code (PRC) 42970

More details can be found on the CalRecycle website: www.calrecycle.ca.gov/carpet

California Department of Resources

Recycling and Recovery

1001 I Street, P.O. Box 4025, MS10

Sacramento, CA 95812

Contact Carpet Enforcement directly at:

Phone: (916) 341-6078

Fax: (916) 319-7817

carpetenforcement@CalRecycle.ca.gov