

Draft National Strategy to Prevent Plastic Pollution: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency April 2023 Report



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The United States Environmental Protection Agency (“EPA” issued an April 2023 report titled:

Draft National Strategy to Prevent Plastic Pollution (“Report”)

The *Report* was prepared by EPA’s Office of Resource Conservation and Recovery and is stated to be part of its series on “Building a Circular Economy for All.”

The *Report* is described as identifying voluntary actions that can be implemented in the United States with the objective of:

. . . eliminating the release of plastic waste from land-based sources into the environment by 2040.

EPA is stated to be seeking how it can work collaboratively with stakeholders to:

. . . prevent plastic pollution and reduce, reuse, recycle, collect, and capture plastic and other waste from land-based sources.

The *Report* identifies three draft objectives:

- Objective A: Reduce Pollution During Plastic Production
- Objective B: Improve Post-Use Materials Management
- Objective C: Prevent Trash and Micro/Nanoplastics from Entering Waterways and Remove Escaped Trash from the Environment

The *Report* states that it supports EPA’s attempt to shift to a circular approach for plastics management in the United States. In order to do so, EPA cites the following needed actions:

- Understanding the effectiveness of programs and policies in preventing plastic production through reducing, reusing, collecting, and capturing plastics from land-based sources.
- Improving the United States capacity to reuse and refill products.
- Increasing data availability and conducting lifecycle assessments to understand the environmental, economic, social, and health impacts attributed to plastics.
- Addressing and improving consumer outreach and understanding the proper management of plastic and other waste.
- Improving the wastewater/stormwater management and capture systems.

The *Report* poses a number of questions for which it seeks input in regard to these issues.

A copy of the *Report* can be downloaded [here](#).

