

# Legislative Updates

## Plastic / Gas-Powered Lawn Equipment

October 2025



Advocates for Transforming  
Landscaping in New Jersey

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# Plastic Focused Legislation

Targeted state and local legislation 2025 - 2026

- Skip the Stuff
- Packaging & Paper Product Stewardship Act (EPR)
- Construction Waste Containment
- Artificial Turf Fields



# SKIP the Stuff: AKA “Accessories Upon Request”

- **Senate Bill 3195** sponsored by Smith & Mukherji; co-sponsored by Greenstein, Zwicker, McKeon & Timberlake;
  - Passed out of Senate Environment
  - Referred to Senate Budget Committee
- **Assembly Bill A5157** sponsored by Collazos-Gill, Donlon, Haider; co-sponsored by Calabrese, Park, Reynolds-Jackson
  - Referred to Assembly Commerce Committee
  - Ordinances enacted in 26 municipalities; resolution in one
  - Model ordinance available
  - Clean Water Action NJ website - See RedBank study



# SKIP the Stuff - AKA “Accessories Upon Request”

- Single-use cutlery and condiments provided upon request (take-out orders; default no utensils)
- Dine-in establishments of 10+ must provide reusable cutlery & condiments
- Utensil dispensers must dispense a single item
- Applies to Schools (5 yr delay), food courts (2 yr delay), stadiums
- Fines: 1st warning; 2nd: \$2.5K; 3rd and subsequent: \$5K
- Fines collected shall go to Clean Communities / Municipality



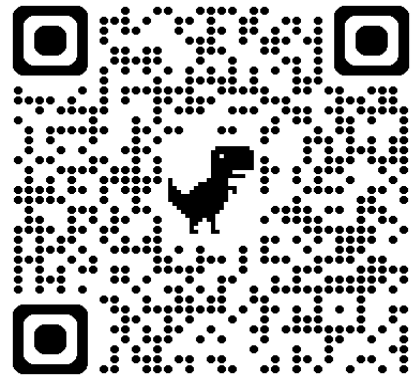
# **SKIP the Stuff - Let's Get this over the Finish Line**

**Support** legislation through an ordinance or resolution;

**Sign** Clean Water Action petition to Senate / Assembly leadership

**Educate** others on the Triple Impact (Restaurants, Consumers, Environment, Health)

- [Find useful facts, FAQs and other info here](#)



# Packaging and Paper Product Stewardship Act EPR: Extended Producer Responsibility

- **Senate Bill 3398** sponsored by Sen. Bob Smith
  - Passed out of Environment & Energy Committee 06/25
  - **Assembly Bill A5009** sponsored by .Collazos-Gill, Kennedy, Hall, Haider, Park, Reynolds-Jackson
- Resolutions in support passed in 4 towns; League of Municipalities supports legislation
- Model resolution available



# Packaging and Paper Product Stewardship Act EPR: Extended Producer Responsibility



- Mandates packaging reduction by 50% over 10 years.
- Reduces 14 categories of toxins from packaging.
- Saves municipalities and tax payers money from waste hauling (90% of recycling costs)
- Increases recyclability of packaging.
- Addresses environmental injustices
- Eliminates “greenwashing” and loopholes of “chemical recycling”.
- Generates new jobs



# EPR: What Can EC's do to Help?

**Crunch the Numbers** and determine how much your municipality is paying to process recyclables

Example: Westfield \$720K annual for 2x month recycle pickup

**Support** legislation through a resolution

**Educate** others why excessive packaging (especially plastic) impacts our health, environment and wallet

**Encourage**

**Beyond Plastics** website for more info





# Construction Dust Containment: A Bill is Coming!

- Assembly Bill to be introduced this fall - Collazos-Gill & Swift
- Twenty-One (21) municipal ordinances /resolutions passed t
- Gathering interest in other states
- Reduces exposure of microplastics and other waste dust that would otherwise get into our air, waterways and land.
- Requires containment procedures when cutting PVC pipes, manufactured wood, masonry.



# Construction Waste: Join the Wave!



**Help Move Momentum:** Join the “Another Town Stops the Dust” by speaking to your Town Council in support of an Ordinance / Resolution

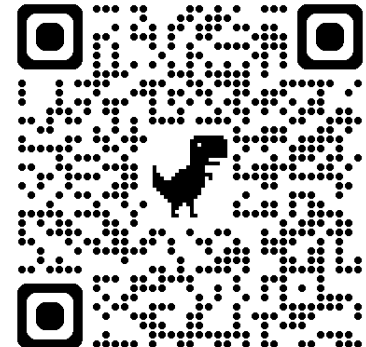


**Contact** elected officials to support statewide legislation

**Educate** others why construction waste is more than a nuisance

**Visit** NJ Construction Dust website for more informatio

<https://sites.google.com/surfrider.org/njplastic/construction-dust-1>



# Artificial Turf Legislation

**Senate Bill 3783** sponsored by Sen. Mukherji & McKnight

- Prohibits municipalities, school districts, and State departments and agencies from purchasing, installing, or using artificial turf.
- Referred to Environment & Energy Committee

**Senate Bill SR113** sponsored by Sen Mukherji

- Urges DEP to cease funding synthetic turf field projects and prioritize investing in natural grass playing fields.
- Referred to Environment & Energy Committee

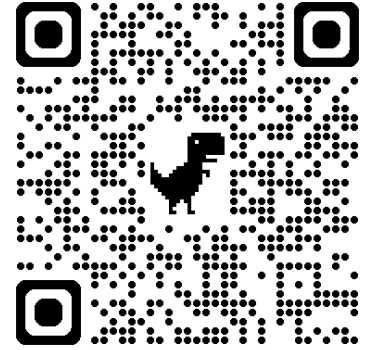
# AT Fields: You can Prevent a Green Field!



**Present the FACTS** to your mayor, town council, school board of ed and school administrators

- Bipartisan support- Show them the economic analysis & heat impacts
- Share the Verona Published Study: [ATurf Verona Case Study](#)

**Pass** local ordinances to put a moratorium or full ban on AT



**Support Legislation** that would ban artificial turf and prohibit Green Acres from funding artificial turf development through a resolution

**Fields being considered in your town?** Join Sierra Club NJ monthly Coalition Call for strategies to prevent plastic fields

# Fighting Toxic Artificial Turf

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**Tell Your Municipalities to Support  
Natural Grass over Artificial Turf!**

→ [sc.org/NoToxicTurf](https://sc.org/NoToxicTurf)



# Gas Powered Landscaping Equipment Legislation

**S217** sponsored by Sen. Smith

- Prohibits sale and use of gas leaf blowers in NJ
- Tax Credit to commercial providers
- Pending Senate Budget and Appropriations Review

**A2319** sponsored by Asw Swain, Asm Calabrese and Asw Hall

- BPU to establish rebate program for purchase of electric or battery operated GLBs
- OLS fiscal estimate completed but costs were indeterminate

Both bills will be filed for a carry over into 2026

Eight (8) municipalities have full or seasonal bans enacted



# GLBs: Who Wants less Noise, Air, Soil Pollution?

*We need more towns to pass ordinances!*

**Lead by example:** Encourage your town and school district to move to battery-operated landscaping equipment

**Educate** your residents why gas powered landscaping equipment is a health, environmental, quality of life and social justice issue

**Contact** elected officials to support proposed statewide legislation

**Designate** an EC member to attend the quarterly ATL-NJ meeting



# Looking for Additional Support?

Follow BeyondPlasticsNJ Instagram: **@BEYONDPLASTICSNJ**

Reach out to [beyondplasticsnj@gmail.com](mailto:beyondplasticsnj@gmail.com)

And

Follow ATL-NJ on FACEBOOK @  
**ADVOCATESTRANSFORMINGLANDSCAPING**

Reach out to [atlnewjersey@gmail.com](mailto:atlnewjersey@gmail.com)



**THANK YOU!**

