



## **Important notice about your obligations under the BC Recycling Regulation and how to join the Outdoor Power Equipment Institute of Canada's program**

The British Columbia [Recycling Regulation](#) requires the producers (manufacturers, retailers and/or distributors) of electric outdoor power equipment (OPE), to be part of an approved stewardship program by July 1, 2012, in order to sell/distribute these products in BC.

A Stewardship Program for **OPE** has been developed by the Outdoor Power Equipment Institute of Canada (OPEIC); [www.opec.ca](http://www.opec.ca). The program will start on July 1, 2012. This Stewardship Program is being managed on behalf of OPEIC by Product Care Association (PCA).

### **As a distributor/retailer of outdoor power equipment, what are my obligations under the BC Recycling Regulation?**

In practice, the "first importer" of the product to British Columbia is generally considered to be the legally obligated "producer" in the province. The [Recycling Regulation](#) defines a "producer" as:

*(i) a person who manufactures the product and sells, offers for sale or distributes the product in British Columbia under the manufacturer's own brand,*

*(ii) if subparagraph (i) does not apply, a person who is not the manufacturer of the product but is the owner or licensee of a trademark under which a product is sold or distributed in British Columbia, whether or not the trademark is registered, or*

*(iii) if subparagraphs (i) and (ii) do not apply, a person who imports the product into British Columbia for sale or distribution*

The BC Recycling Regulation requires the "producers" of OPE sold in British Columbia to be part of an approved product stewardship program by July 1, 2012. This program must be funded by the producers participating in the program to provide a recycling option for these products. The producers must comply with program performance measures and reporting requirements outlined by the regulation and approved plan.

### **What types of outdoor power equipment are captured by these requirements?**

The program will initially address electric outdoor power equipment with a power cord, plug and/or battery(ies) as the primary energy source, such as grass trimmers, snow throwers, lawn-mowers etc. A complete list of products is available at [www.opec.ca](http://www.opec.ca). Outdoor power equipment that relies on a fuel-powered engine is not included, but will be accepted at the program's collection sites.



### **How will the program be funded?**

The program will be funded by Environmental Handling Fees (EHFs) applied to the sale of new electric OPE products in BC after July 1, 2012. These fees will be used by the program to fund the management of a collection and recycling system for OPE in BC, as well as applicable reporting to the BC Ministry of Environment. Please visit [www.opec.ca](http://www.opec.ca) to view the fee rates.

### **How can I comply with the regulation?**

OPEIC has submitted a stewardship program to the BC Ministry of Environment to provide a compliance option for all obligated parties. These parties will be able to fulfill their legal obligations by joining the program as a participant. It is the intent of the program for retailers selling electric outdoor power equipment to report sales on these products on a monthly basis and remit the applicable Environmental Handling Fees on those sales to the OPEIC Stewardship Program.

### **How can I become a collection site?**

The Stewardship Program is required to provide a province-wide recycling system for OPE. The Stewardship Program will be partnering with the Canadian Association of Recycling Industries (CARI) as collection sites. These collection sites accept all outdoor power equipment; electric and fuel powered. Distributors/Dealers/Retailers are also encouraged to participate as collection sites or host collection events for OPE on a voluntary basis. By doing so, you may increase your visibility and branding in your community, increase foot-traffic to your retail location(s) and increase your service business.

### **What are the requirements as a collection site?**

The most important requirement is that the public can drop off their OPE at your location at NO CHARGE and that the recovered OPE is delivered to a program designated metal recycler and not landfilled.

### **Where do I get further information on the program, how to register, fee rates, or how to become a collection site?**

Visit [www.opec.ca](http://www.opec.ca) to find out more about the program and your potential obligations or contact Shannon at [memberservices@opec.ca](mailto:memberservices@opec.ca) or toll-free at 1-877-670-2372 ext 219.

You are also encouraged to contact your supplier or manufacturer for more information.