

Green Mission News

October 2014 Green Mission News

What's in the News ...

New Call in the Circular Economy

At its latest meeting, Mistra's Board decided to announce funding for a new research and innovation programme to foster development of a circular economy.

'We find that there is great interest in the circular economy, and this initiative comes at exactly the right time. Deliberate design of new products so that they last longer and can be maintained, repaired and upgraded will reduce the volume of new raw materials society needs,' says Mistra's Chief Executive Ake Iverfeldt.

Read the Article : [Mistra.org](#)



External Article Links:

- Shorewood homeowners around Lake Minnetonka take steps to save bee population
<http://hometownsource.com/2014/08/25/shorewood-homeowners-around-lake-minnetonka-take-steps-to-save-bee-population/>.
- "Green Memes"
<http://greenmemesteam.tumblr.com/>
- A community garden at Miles Davis Magnet Academy could be a model
www.dnainfo.com/chicago/20140919/englewood/garden-at-miles-davis-magnet-good-model-for-other-schools-rahm-says
- Grow Little Garden Brings Urbanites Closer to Nature
<http://thejakartaglobe.beritasatu.com/features/grow-little-garden-brings-urbanites-closer-nature/>
- Ingredient Investigation: What is maltodextrin?
http://cumberlink.com/news/health/ingredient-investigation-what-is-maltodextrin/article_5e08f308-3799-11e4-8d18-0019bb2963f4.html
- Investing in a sustainable food and farm future
<http://thehill.com/blogs/congress-blog/economy-budget/217291-investing-in-a-sustainable-food-and-farm-future>

- World Wildlife Foundation's Living Planet report
http://assets.worldwildlife.org/publications/723/files/original/LPR2014_low_res-2.pdf?1412025775

- Agroecology website deluxe
<http://agroeco.org/publications/>

- Regenerative Farming
<https://www.thecarbonunderground.org/regenerative-farming/>

- The Value of Going Round in Circles
<http://www.jdsupra.com/legalnews/the-value-of-going-round-in-circles-60864/>

- New call in the circular economy
www.mistra.org/en/mistra/news/news-archive/2014-09-12-new-call-in-the-circular-economy.html

- What's the answer to life? Cycling, nature and a pinch of Einstein
<http://www.cambridge-news.co.uk/s-answer-life-Cycling-nature-pinch-Einstein/story-22850045-detail/story.html#ixzz3FrLay6hN>

The Original Tree Huggers: womensearthalliance.org
<http://womensearthalliance.blogspot.com/2013/04/the-original-tree-huggers-lets-not.html>

Community Resilience Chat #1: Rebuilding the Foodshed (1 hour, video)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XNTjZECVawo>

- We Can Run the Planet on 100% Renewable Energy
<http://ecowatch.com/2014/09/10/solutions-grassroots-tour-renewable-energy/>

- Eric Lombardi: Reducing waste reduces emissions
http://www.dailycamera.com/letters/ci_26469056/eric-lombardi-reducing-waste-reduces-emissions

- To Solve Climate Change, Look to the Soil
www.sustainablebusiness.com/index.cfm/go/news.display/id/24913

- Interface's Quest to Make Carpetmaking Cleaner
www.businessweek.com/articles/2014-09-04/interface-targets-zero-waste-in-carpetmaking

- How to keep up with the evolving recycling system
www.greenbiz.com/blog/2014/08/19/how-keep-evolving-recycling-system

- The similarity between circular economy and water stewardship
For both water stewardship and circular models the business model is clear but words must become actions to prevent them living and dying as buzzwords
www.theguardian.com/sustainable-business/2014/sep/05/the-similarity-between-circular-economy-and-water-stewardship

- Let's Be Perfectly Clear: The Plastics Scorecard

A new scorecard tells us about the toxic chemical footprints of everyday plastics.

But the game between industry and consumers is still rigged.

www.onearth.org/articles/2014/09/can-a-plastics-scorecard-really-be-the-game-changer-that-consumer-health-advocate

- Michael Braungart: Waste Incineration is not a rational choice (page 20)

<http://www.recyclingmagazin.de/PDF/rm0003.pdf>

- The cost of GMO labeling? Less than a penny a day, says Consumers Union analysis

FoodNavigator-USA.com

The cost to consumers of requiring labeling of genetically modified food is \$2.30 per person annually, or less than a penny a day, says new analysis

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Full Length Article Below:

Governor Brown Signs Legislation to Ban Single-Use Plastic Bags

<http://gov.ca.gov/news.php?id=18742>

September 30, 2014

SACRAMENTO – Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. today signed the nation’s first statewide ban on single-use plastic bags – SB 270 – aligning state law with ordinances passed by a growing number of local governments in California to reduce plastic waste.

“This bill is a step in the right direction – it reduces the torrent of plastic polluting our beaches, parks and even the vast ocean itself,” said Governor Brown. “We’re the first to ban these bags, and we won’t be the last.”

The legislation, authored by Senator Alex Padilla (D-Pacoima), prohibits grocery stores and pharmacies from distributing single-use plastic bags after July 2015 and enacts the same ban for convenience stores and liquor stores the following year. It will also provide up to \$2 million in competitive loans – administered by CalRecycle – to businesses transitioning to the manufacture of reusable bags.

Thus far, over 120 local governments in California have passed ordinances banning single-use bags in some fashion, with widespread support from community and environmental groups. SB 270 is supported by many of these same groups, along with local governments, businesses and labor organizations.

“I applaud Governor Brown for signing SB 270 into law. He continues to lead our state forward with a commitment to sustainability. A throw-away society is not sustainable.

This new law will greatly reduce the flow of billions of single-use plastic bags that litter our communities and harm our environment each year. Moving from single-use plastic bags to reusable bags is common sense. Governor Brown's signature reflects our commitment to protect the environment and reduce government costs," said Senator Padilla.

"The California coast is a national treasure and a calling card for the world, helping us attract visitors and business from around the globe. Removing the harmful blight of single-use plastic bags, especially along our coastline and waterways, helps ensure the kind of clean and healthy environment we need to have a stronger economy and a brighter future," said Assembly Speaker Toni Atkins.

"SB 270 is a win-win for the environment and for California workers. We are doing away with the scourge of single-use plastic bags and closing the loop on the plastic waste stream, all while maintaining – and growing – California jobs. As we further develop our green economy, SB 270 will be a model for balancing the health of the planet with the preservation of people's livelihoods," said Senate President pro Tem-elect Kevin de León, a joint author of the bill.

"For nearly 10 million Californians, life without plastic grocery bags is already a reality. Bag bans reduce plastic pollution and waste, lower bag costs at grocery stores, and now we're seeing job growth in California at facilities that produce better alternatives," said Californians Against Waste executive director Mark Murray.

"California is the first state in the U.S. to ban the most ubiquitous consumer item on the planet, in an effort to drive consumers towards sustainable behavior change. Data from the over 127 local plastic bag bans has proven that bans are effective at reducing litter and changing consumer attitudes, and have refuted industry's claims of apocalyptic impacts on jobs and poor communities. A state plastic bag ban saves taxpayers the huge amount of money spent on litter cleanup, and protects the environment," said Clean Seas Coalition and Seventh Generation Advisors director Leslie Tamminen.

"SB 270 is a great victory for all of California. We've seen locally that plastic bag bans lead to cleaner water and healthier wildlife, keeping trash off our beaches and out of our creeks. The success of bag bans in our local communities has empowered state legislators to make the right decision for the health of California's waterways. Governor Brown's signature of this statewide bag ban is an important moment for our state, demonstrating that California is once again willing to take the lead on important environmental issues," said Save the Bay executive director David Lewis.

For full text of the bill, visit: <http://leginfo.ca.gov/bilinfo.html>.