



## Creating an Efficient & Effective Cylinder Recycling Program - 7 Keys to Success

1. **Establish an industry-led, collaborative process.** An industry-led approach is important because gas cylinder producers know the specifics of the cylinders, their distribution channels, and their customers better than anyone and are best positioned to find the most effective, efficient ways to manage these programs.
2. **Focus on outcomes rather than process.** By identifying desired outcomes rather than mandating processes, producers can develop innovative approaches based on their knowledge of their products, distribution networks, customers, and other factors. Experience with cylinder recycling in Ontario, Canada found that prescriptive approaches were not workable and that industry-led strategies were more efficient.
3. **Engage diverse stakeholders.** The industry-led strategy should gather input from a wide range of stakeholders with interests in recycling of gas cylinders. Stakeholder groups may include local governments, retailers, waste management service providers, energy-from-waste facilities, propane distributors, state parks and private campgrounds, and state government.
4. **Build on best practices.** The Connecticut law is based on lessons learned from a program in Ontario, Canada, which has evolved from process-based approach to an outcomes-based approach. We will also model our approach on successful programs in other industries, such as [Call2Recycle](#) (battery recycling) and [PaintCare](#) (recycling leftover paint).
5. **Promote continuous improvement to enhance service and streamline operations.** By giving cylinder producers flexibility to create and update collection plans in collaboration with stakeholders, the Cylinder Collective legislative model promotes ongoing learning and new efficiencies.
6. **Ensure accountability.** While the industry will lead the process, program success must include effective collaboration between both industry and state through monitoring and enforcement.
7. **Establish a level playing field with achievable timelines.** All plans should start at the same time in a state, and everyone would play by the same rules. Ensure adequate time to establish contractual relationships with collection sites and service providers.

By following these keys for success, industry and policymakers can collaborate to pass meaningful, effective EPR laws to benefit residents, stakeholders – and the environment.