AG CONTAINER RECYCLING COUNCIL

Connecticut

34 Years Program Operating Nationwide (Since 1992)	***268,000,000+ lbs.*** National Collected Since 1992	***10,000,000+ lbs.*** National Average / Year	***47 States*** Served by ACRC Contractors

ACRC Program

ACRC is a not-for-profit trade association representing the agricultural chemicals industry. Founded in February 1992, ACRC funds, operates, and promotes a nationwide producer-responsibility program for the collection and recycling of triple- or pressure-rinsed, empty, one-way rigid HDPE plastic agricultural chemical containers (all types, up to 55 gallons) — including crop protection, animal health, specialty pest control, micronutrient, biologicals, fertilizer, and adjuvant/surfactant containers. With over 70 Regular (manufacturers and formulators of agricultural products) and Affiliate (manufacturers of HDPE plastic containers or container components) Members, the program is entirely funded through member dues — a true producer-responsibility model that has operated successfully for over three decades.

Connecticut Program

In Connecticut, ***RPM eco*** serves as ACRC's contractor, collecting containers from retailers, applicators, and farmers statewide.

Stewardship Plan

Core Principles	*ACRC's Existing Practices*
Producer-funded stewardship	ACRC has operated a fully funded, member-financed stewardship program since 1992 that collects and manages HDPE ag chemical containers nationwide and has never required state or municipal funding.
Convenient, statewide collection coverage	RPM eco, ACRC's designated Northeast Territory contractor, provides free container collection service throughout Connecticut. ACRC has over 2,500 collection sites nationwide.
Reduce environmental and human health impacts through waste reduction, reuse, recycling	Mandatory triple-/pressure-rinse protocol (ANSI/ASABE S596, developed with ACRC's involvement) achieves 99.99%[1] active-ingredient removal before containers are chipped and recycled. Reuse-first practices are an option for larger containers designed as returnable/refillable under EPA regulations.
Responsible end markets	Collected containers are triple rinsed, chipped, and then recycled into approved productive end uses, such as agricultural drainpipe, landscape edging, nursery pots, industrial pallets, and other durable products, all rigorously vetted by the ACRC Technical Committee.
Public education, outreach, and communication	Bilingual (English/Spanish) triple-rinsing videos, free brochures, posters, and checklists; multilingual "Clean Means Clean" visual aids; presentations to universities, extension agencies, ag chemical trade associations, and aerial applicators; and promotion at major agricultural events nationwide.
Measurable performance and annual reporting	Annual member sales surveys are compared against pounds collected; ACRC has tracked national program tonnage continuously since 1992 and reports collection data by contractor territory, including Connecticut.

Continuous Growth

- Encouraging and educating growers and applicators to recycle containers with ACRC contractors
- Identifying additional Connecticut locations that could serve as ACRC collection sites
- Strengthening outreach partnerships - agricultural agencies, extension services, retailers, and applicator associations
- Connect manufacturers of approved HDPE end-use products with ACRC program contractors

[1] EPA 40 CFR 156.146; 165.25; 2006 Container and Containment Rule