

## **Governor Newsom Appoints New CalRecycle Director**

In November 2020, Governor Gavin Newsom appointed Rachel Wagoner as the new Director of California's Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle). Prior to her appointment, Wagoner served as Deputy Legislative Secretary in the Office of the Governor beginning in 2019. She also worked as the Chief Consultant for the California State Senate Committee on Environmental Quality from 2009 to 2018, where she advised state senators on issues related to environmental protection, including waste reduction, environmental justice, pollution prevention and hazardous waste. Wagoner's experience also includes time as the Research Director at the University of Illinois, Chicago School of Public Health from 2008 to 2009 and an Advisor at the Department of Environment for the City of Chicago in 2008. Wagoner was a Consultant for the California State Senate Committee on Environmental Quality from 2007 to 2008, a Consultant for the California State Senate Committee on Health from 2004 to 2007, Director of Legislative Affairs at the California Department of Toxic Substances Control from 2002 to 2004 and a Consultant for the California State Senate Committee on Elections and Reapportionment from 2000 to 2002. Wagoner holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Philosophy with a minor in History from the University of San Francisco.

As the new Director, Wagoner's priorities include addressing the bottle redemption issue, cleaning up after wildfires across the state, working closer with manufacturers and producers to better recycle cans, bottles and other containers, and working to bring recycling and manufacturing jobs back to California from China.

"This is an opportunity to bring those jobs back to the state of California. We need to create that economy here. Not only recycling those materials but creating the new, innovative products that can use those recyclable materials," Wagoner said.