

Influenced by the European Union's Directive 94/62/EC and the USA's sustainable Packaging Coalition, the MultiMaterial Stewardship (MMS) Programs were established in a number of Canadian provinces in the early 2000s. The MMS Programs are industry-funded, non-profit organisations that operate recycling programs for packaging and printed paper.

Companies with a presence in a province with an MMS Program in place must register, submit reports and pay membership fees to the stewardship program on an annual basis. Those companies that have a physical presence in Canada in a province without an MMS Program but sell into a different province with an MMS Program can become a Voluntary Steward. At present, foreign distance sellers are not obligated but can join the MMS Programs as Voluntary Stewards.

The Green Dot is voluntary to print in Canada, but those displaying it must obtain the license from Green Dot North America.