

Food Waste Prevention Week 2026

Partner Sponsorship Program

The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality is committed to reducing food waste and supporting community efforts through its participation in Food Waste Prevention Week. To enhance the impact of local events during this nationwide campaign, DEQ has introduced a competitive sponsorship program for Oregon partners. This process ensures fair and equitable distribution of sponsorships across the state, with priority on supporting food waste prevention programs and providing access to underserved communities. Through these sponsorships, DEQ aims to maximize environmental benefits while enhancing wellbeing across communities in Oregon.

Sponsorship Amount

Selected proposals will receive sponsorship from DEQ for Food Waste Prevention Week 2026. Selected organizations will receive up to **\$2,500** for the implementation of the proposed event or initiative.

Submission

[Submit proposal using this online form](#)

Timeline

- Applications open July 22, 2026
- Applications due **Aug. 12, 2026**
- Notice of selection by Aug. 21, 2026

Goals

Proposals should consider alignment with the following Oregon DEQ & Food Waste Prevention Week goals:

- **Build community:** Foster stronger, more connected communities around food waste prevention
- **Prevent food waste:** Focus on strategies to reduce food waste before it occurs such as smart shopping, upcycled recipes, or eating leftovers
- **Empower individuals:** Provide educational initiatives that equip people with knowledge and tools to prevent food waste at home
- **Reduce lifecycle impacts:** Address the environmental and social impacts across the full lifecycle of food (production, consumption, and waste management)
- **Support food-insecure populations:** Prioritize initiatives that direct food to communities experiencing food insecurity

Eligibility

- To be eligible, an organization must be a registered Food Waste Prevention Week Partner operating within the state of Oregon. Register as a partner via this online form: <https://foodwastepreventionweek.com/partner-and-sponsor-registration/>

- Proposed event/initiative must take place in Oregon

Evaluation Criteria

Applications for interested parties will be reviewed by a committee of DEQ Materials Management staff members, utilizing the following criteria:

Table 1: Evaluation Criteria

Category:	Description:	Score:
Alignment with Goals	The degree to which the proposal aligns with Food Waste Prevention Week goals and DEQ's Food Systems Strategic Plan (see Reducing Food Impacts: A Strategy for Oregon).	1 – 5 points
Community Impact & Engagement	The clarity and effectiveness with which the proposal demonstrates the potential for positive community impact and strategies for engaging the community.	1 – 5 points
Commitment to Diversity, Equity & Inclusion	The strength and relevance of partnerships or collaborations outlined in the proposal, including how these enhance the project's success.	1 – 5 points
Creativity	The extent to which the proposal displays creative approaches for community engagement and/or preventing wasted food.	1 – 5 points

Sponsorship Requirements

- After notice of award, organization will be required to register as a vendor on [OregonBuys](#) to receive sponsorship funds
- Organization will be required to mention DEQ Materials Management in outreach materials, or use official DEQ logo provided by DEQ staff
- Organization will be asked to share photos of the event/initiative and give DEQ permission to use them

Contact

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Oregon Department of Environmental Quality
Materials Management – Life Cycle Programs

Non-discrimination statement

DEQ does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, disability, age, sex, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, or marital status in the administration of its programs and activities. For translations or alternate formats, visit DEQ's [Civil Rights and Environmental Justice page](#).