



Survey Background and Introduction

The Recycling Modernization Act (RMA) is updating Oregon's recycling system by providing opportunities to create new recycling programs and by building on existing community programs. RMA leverages resources from producers to create a system where everyone in the state can have the same opportunities to recycle. The law requires producers of packaging, printing and writing paper, and food service ware to share responsibility for the effective handling of their products after use. Producers will pay fees for the covered products they sell or distribute into the state. These fees will be paid to a non-profit group called a Producer Responsibility Organization (PRO).

The PRO will be responsible for administering a producer responsibility program on behalf of producers of covered products under the RMA. Fees collected by the PRO will be used to cover the financial obligations producers have for improving Oregon's recycling system, including funding new and expanding recycling services across the state. Local governments will be eligible for funding to expand recycling opportunities in their communities and to help reduce contamination in the recycling system.

To assess local interest in expanding recycling services, DEQ is required to conduct a Needs Assessment of local governments to identify services necessary to improve recycling in communities across the state. This is the first Needs Assessment survey. DEQ will continue to perform periodic needs assessments in the future to determine local government interest in expanding recycling services.

The purpose of this survey is to gauge interest from all local governments statewide (urban and rural, small, and large) regarding expansion of recycling collection services during the first program plan period, which will run from July 2025 through 2027. This survey is an opportunity to express interest in and the need for recycling service expansion; local governments are not, at this stage, committing to services selected through this survey.

Recycling service expansion may include but is not limited to:

- Providing new on-route collection service to types of customers not currently served (single-family, multifamily, commercial)
- Expanding existing on-route collection service to accommodate the addition of new uniform statewide collection list materials that are accepted for recycling collection (such as a larger roll cart, more frequent collection, etc.)
- Expanding or creating new recycling depots for covered recyclable products (including containers, equipment, new staff, etc.)



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- If necessary and none other is available, establishing a recycling reload facility for reloading recyclables. A reload facility is a facility other than a recycling depot where recyclable materials are received, consolidated, and reloaded into larger containers or vehicles for transportation to a commingled recycling processing facility or responsible end market.

Any expansion of service must be accompanied by a meaningful outreach effort, that includes but is not limited to promotional literature.

Local governments MUST complete this survey and register the types of service expansion they would like to implement to be eligible for funding support from the PRO in the first program plan period from July 2025 through 2027. If local governments do not complete this survey, they will not be eligible for PRO funding for this period.

Local governments are encouraged to work with their service provider(s) to fill out the survey and likely will need to consult service provider(s) to gather the information necessary to complete the survey. It is recommended that local governments discuss the survey responses with their service provider(s) to determine the current level of service and what might be needed to expand service. While local governments are encouraged to work with service provider(s), each local government must submit its own survey to be eligible for funding. A survey submitted by a local government's service provider does not qualify for funding eligibility.

Note: Regardless of whether or not a local government participates in the needs assessment, they are still obligated to meet the requirements of RMA.

After this initial Needs Assessment survey is completed, the PRO will contact each local government that responded and work with them and their service provider(s) to determine the exact service funding and the schedule by which they will be implemented. At that time, participating local governments will commit to moving forward with the implementation of their service expansion plans. Local governments can designate their service provider(s) to coordinate with the PRO later in the process.

The first program plan period is July 1, 2025 to December 31, 2027, which is when local governments can expect to receive funding from the PRO to begin implementing expanded recycling services. There will be additional program plan periods and later rounds of the needs assessment survey. Local governments will also have opportunities in later rounds of Needs Assessments to indicate a need for recycling service expansion.



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For more information, or if you have questions, please visit RecyclingAct.Oregon.gov or contact your Regional Specialist (contact information below).

Counties	Name and Address	How to Contact
Eastern Region		
Baker, Crook, Deschutes, Gilliam, Grant, Harney, Hood River, Jefferson, Klamath, Lake, Malheur, Milton-Freewater, Morrow, Sherman, Umatilla, Union, Wallowa, Wasco and Wheeler	Laurie Gordon 475 NE Bellevue, Suite 110 Bend, OR 97701	Office: 541-633-2029 Cell: 541-408-7842 Laurie.Gordon@deq.oregon.gov
Northwest Region		
Opportunity to Recycle - Clatsop Other Issues - Clackamas, Multnomah and Washington	Lexi Meek 700 NE Multnomah St., Suite 600 Portland, OR 97201-4987	Office: 503-229-5790 Cell: 503-319-5681 Lexi.Meek@deq.oregon.gov
Opportunity to Recycle - Columbia, Tillamook Other Issues - Clackamas, Multnomah and Washington	Gretchen Sandau 700 NE Multnomah St., Suite 600 Portland, OR 97201-4987	Cell: 503-915-6786 Gretchen.Sandau@deq.oregon.gov
Western Region		
Coos, Curry, Douglas, Jackson, Josephine and Lane	Cathy Brown 165 East Seventh St., Suite 100 Eugene, OR 97401	Office: 541-687-7325 Cell: 503-753-6153 Cathy.Brown@deq.oregon.gov
Benton, Lincoln, Linn, Marion, Polk and Yamhill	Cat Rhoades 4026 Fairview Industrial Drive SE Salem, OR 97302	Office: 503-378-5089 Cell: 503-446-7410 Cathie.Rhoades@deq.oregon.gov



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Survey Instructions

The survey asks questions on the types of recycling service expansion requested, as well as current recycling services in your community. Implementation details such as the number of carts or equipment specifications are not required for this Needs Assessment.

Local governments are encouraged to work with their service provider(s) to obtain answers for the survey, but each county and city must complete and submit its own survey to be eligible for funding. Local governments may also want to consult other stakeholders such as non-profits or environmental groups. It is recommended that local governments, service providers and other stakeholders review the Needs Assessment questions together before completing the online survey.

If you are a County completing this survey on behalf of multiple unincorporated areas or county areas, please use the following steps.

1. Begin by identifying the recycling expansion services needed in each area. For example, areas A and B only want to open a new depot. Areas C, D, and E only want to expand curbside recycling. Area F wants to open a new depot and expand curbside recycling.
2. Complete the surveys using either Option 1 or Option 2 below.

Option 1: Individual Surveys

1. Complete a separate survey for each area (i.e., one survey for area A, one for B, one for C, etc.). Identify the area for which you are completing each survey when prompted.

or

Option 2: Grouped Surveys

1. A single survey can be completed on behalf of areas within the county that are requesting the same recycling expansion services. In the example above, since areas A and B are requesting the **same** service, complete **one survey** on behalf of both areas A and B. Please be sure to list the areas (A and B) for which you are completing this survey when prompted.



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2. Since areas C, D, and E are also requesting the **same** service (but a different service than areas A and B), complete **one survey** on behalf of areas C, D, and E. Please be sure to list the areas (D, C, and E) for which you are completing this survey when prompted.
3. Since area F is requesting a different service, complete **one survey** on behalf of area F. Please be sure to list the areas (F) for which you are completing this survey when prompted.

Your progress will be saved as you answer each question. You can return to the survey to complete it as needed.

This survey is scheduled to close on April 14, 2023 at 11:59pm.

If you have questions or need help completing this survey, please contact RethinkRecycling@deg.oregon.gov or your Regional Specialist.



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1. Respondent Information

Name:

Title:

Local Government Name:

Wasteshed / County Name:

E-Mail:

Phone Number:

List service provider(s) that offer recycling services, if known:

2. Type of Area Served by the Request (select all that apply)

- ☐ City
- ☐ City urban growth area managed by the county
- ☐ County
- ☐ Other or Unincorporated Area (please list or describe)



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3. Population of area(s) served by the request:

**4. What are the existing recycling services in your community?
(Select all that apply)**

- ☐ Single-family on-route recycling collection
- ☐ Multifamily on-route recycling collection
- ☐ Commercial on-route recycling collection
- ☐ Recycling depot(s)
- ☐ Recycling reload facility
- ☐ None
- ☐ Other or unknown (Please describe or explain)



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5. Is your jurisdiction interested in expanding recycling services in 2025 - 2027?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Unsure

6. If no, please explain your decision:

Please confer with your service provider(s) and your watershed representative before selecting “No”.

Selecting “No” will make you ineligible for funding in this round of the Needs Assessment and expansion funding will not be available until the next round which will begin in 2027.

If you select “Unsure,” please contact your regional specialist to discuss the survey and your responses.

If you selected “Yes,” please proceed to the following questions.

If you selected “Yes” to Question #5, which service expansion is your jurisdiction requesting? (Select all that apply):

7. New on-route recycling collection (Example: Startup expenses such as new trucks or containers. Note: ongoing operational costs will not be covered/reimbursable by the PRO.)

- ☐ Adding single-family route(s)
- ☐ Adding multifamily route(s)
- ☐ Adding commercial route(s)

8. Expanding on-route recycling collection to accommodate new materials (Examples: expanding service to add new customers, increasing service collection, using more or larger containers in order to collect the uniform statewide collection list of materials. Note: ongoing operational costs, including staffing, will not be covered/reimbursable by the PRO.)

- ☐ Collection truck(s)
- ☐ Collection containers, roll carts or both
- ☐ On-board contamination monitoring equipment and software (for upgrading collection programs that do not already have equipment in place)
- ☐ Staff safety equipment (e.g., goggles, safety vests, work boots, etc.)
- ☐ Other (please describe)



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9. New recycling depots

- ☐ Collection containers
- ☐ Signage
- ☐ On-site monitoring equipment (e.g., cameras to monitor for contamination or illegal dumping)
- ☐ Equipment to move and load recyclables for shipment
- ☐ Equipment to compact and bale recyclables for shipment
- ☐ Hiring and training staff
- ☐ Staff safety equipment (e.g.: may include., goggles, safety vests, work boots, etc.)
- ☐ Ongoing operational costs, including staffing
- ☐ Land
- ☐ Storage
- ☐ Other (e.g., paving, fencing, other improvements). Please describe.

10. Expanding existing recycling depots

- ☐ Collection containers
- ☐ Signage
- ☐ On-site monitoring equipment (e.g., cameras to monitor for contamination or illegal dumping)
- ☐ Equipment to move and load recyclables for shipment
- ☐ Equipment to compact and bale recyclables for shipment
- ☐ Hiring and training staff
- ☐ Staff safety equipment (e.g., may include goggles, safety vests, work boots, etc.)
- ☐ Ongoing operational costs, including staffing
- ☐ Land
- ☐ Storage
- ☐ Other (e.g., paving, fencing, other improvements) Please describe.



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11. **New recycling reload facility, if needed.** A reload facility is a facility other than a recycling depot where recyclable materials are received, consolidated, and reloaded into larger containers or vehicles for transportation to a commingled recycling processing facility or responsible end market.

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Unknown (please explain)

12. **Expanding existing recycling reload facility**

- ☐ Equipment to move and load recyclables for shipment
- ☐ Equipment to compact and bale recyclables for shipment
- ☐ Hiring of new staff, if needed, or expansion of staff hours
- ☐ On-site monitoring equipment (e.g., cameras to monitor for contamination or illegal dumping)
- ☐ Staff safety equipment (e.g., may include goggles, safety vests, work boots, etc.)
- ☐ Ongoing operational costs, including staffing
- ☐ Land
- ☐ Storage
- ☐ Other (e.g., paving, fencing, other improvements). Please describe.



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13. Estimated number of new on-route recycling collection customers to be served. Only provide this information if known.

Single-family (households)

Multifamily (units)

Commercial