



## Upcoming meetings:

- April 20, 1:30 - 3:30 p.m. – Truth In Labeling Task Force Meeting #5: [Register in advance for this meeting \(Agenda\)](#)
- April 28, 10:30 a.m. – 3 p.m. – Technical Workgroup on Materials Lists Meeting #2: [Register in advance for this meeting](#)
- May 4, 2 - 4 p.m. – Truth In Labeling Task Force Meeting #6: [Register in advance for this meeting](#)
- May 11, 9 – 11 a.m. – Oregon Recycling System Advisory Council Meeting: [Register in advance for this meeting](#)
- May 16, 2 - 4 p.m. – Truth In Labeling Task Force Meeting #7: [Register in advance for this meeting](#)
- May 23, 2:30 – 4:30 p.m. – Truth In Labeling Task Force Meeting #8: [Register in advance for this meeting](#)

## General updates:

### Material Lists (Section 22) update

[Work is underway](#) to implement requirements of ORS 459A.914 (Section 22 of the Recycling Modernization Act), involving evaluation of materials for possible inclusion in statewide recycling lists. DEQ staff are evaluating materials against criteria in ORS 459A.914(3). This evaluation includes review of more than 30 responses to the Department's [Request for Information](#) (which closed in March), an evaluation of the economic and environmental impacts of numerous potential future recycling scenarios,

and consultation with a [Technical Workgroup](#). That Workgroup held its first meeting on March 23 and will meet next on April 28. These current research efforts will continue through the spring and summer; DEQ plans to develop and share draft rule concepts with a Rulemaking Advisory Committee this fall and will also consult with the Oregon Recycling System Advisory Council later this year.

### **DEQ begins work on Oregon's waste and recycling composition study**

DEQ is in the process of hiring a contractor to conduct the field work for a new comprehensive solid waste composition study, the ninth such study DEQ has conducted since 1992. The studies will provide valuable data needed for implementing parts of the Recycling Modernization Act. There will be five main parts to the study:

1. Composition of waste at disposal sites in Oregon
2. Rigid plastic resin identification
3. Residential food and organics collection composition in Deschutes, Lane, and Marion Counties
4. Inbound commingled recycling study
5. Outbound commingled recycling sorting study

As has been true for all past waste and recycling composition studies, this study will only be possible through immense assistance from disposal sites, collection companies, and recycling processors. DEQ expects to begin field work for the study in July 2022. For more information, including detailed descriptions of the five parts, [visit our waste composition webpage](#). For questions, contact [Peter Spendelow](#) or [Justin Gast](#).

### **DEQ invites prospective Producer Responsibility Organizations to reach out**

DEQ is seeking diverse perspectives on policy proposals to help implement the [Plastic Pollution and Recycling Modernization Act \(SB 582\)](#). To this end, DEQ invites prospective producer responsibility organizations – including entities considering forming a producer responsibility organization to implement a producer responsibility program under the Recycling Modernization Act – to contact DEQ for more information and to learn about opportunities for engagement.

Opportunities for engagement may include:

- Being considered for appointment as a member of an upcoming rulemaking advisory committee to provide input on potential administrative rules; or
- Helping DEQ understand what guidance producer responsibility organizations would find helpful when developing a producer responsibility program plan.

To contact DEQ as a prospective producer responsibility organization, please email [michael.lee@deg.oregon.gov](mailto:michael.lee@deg.oregon.gov) with the subject line, "Recycling - Prospective producer responsibility organization."

### **DEQ hires new Program Plan Lead**

DEQ is excited to announce that Nicole Portley will join the Recycling Modernization Act

team to develop programs and policies related to producer responsibility organizations. Nicole has 17 years of experience in the non-profit sector managing environmental projects focused on industry behavior change, including through the use of sustainability and product stewardship standards. Most recently, as Marine Program Director for Pacific Environment, Nicole worked with colleagues in Vietnam and China to advance policies to curb the impacts of plastic pollution. Nicole begins her role at DEQ on May 2.

**Want to learn more about the Recycling Modernization Act and find opportunities for engagement?**

More information is available at the following resources:

- [Implementation Timeline \(Cronograma de implementación\)](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions \(Preguntas y respuestas frecuentes\)](#)
- [Fact sheet \(Hoja informativa\)](#)
- [Public Involvement Timeline \(Ley de modernización del reciclaje: cronograma de participación pública\)](#)

Interested in being considered for participation in rules advisory committees or other advisory groups? Complete our [Stakeholder Interest Form](#).

For all other inquires, contact [RethinkRecycling@deq.state.or.us](mailto:RethinkRecycling@deq.state.or.us).