



Upcoming meetings and reminders:

- April 11, 2023, from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. | Rulemaking Advisory Committee Meeting 6 ([Register in advance](#))
- April 14, 2023 | Final day to submit the local government needs assessment survey by midnight
- April 17, 2023, from 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. | Recycling Council Meeting ([Register in advance](#))
- April 24, 2023, from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. | Commingled Recycling Processing Facility Technical Workgroup Meeting ([Register in advance](#))

General updates:

Recycling Council

Oregon's Recycling Council last met on March 6 to review recycling acceptance lists, receive an update from DEQ staff on how equity is being incorporated into RMA implementation, and discuss implementation timeline.

The next meeting will be held April 17 from 10:30 p.m. – 12:30 p.m. Public input is welcome during Recycling Council meetings! Please visit the [Recycling Council website](#) to register for meetings and review the agenda.

First Rulemaking Process

The first Rulemaking Advisory Committee has met five times and reviewed rule concepts addressing Producer Responsibility Organizations, local government compensation, material acceptance lists, and convenience and performance standards for PRO collections.

The sixth and final Committee meeting is scheduled for April 11 from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. Public input is welcome during the meeting. Find the meeting agenda and register in advance on [DEQ's rulemaking website](#).

Local government recycling service expansion

The Recycling Modernization Act will make funding available to local governments to expand recycling collection services. Local governments that wish to be eligible for the first round of funding must fill out a needs assessment survey by April 14, 2023.

To learn more and to view a copy of the survey, visit the [Local Government Recycling Collection Expansion Needs Assessment page](#). Slides and a recording of the January information sessions can be found under the “Information sessions” heading.

MRF Fees and Permit and Certification Programs

The Commingled Recycling Processing Facilities technical workgroup met on Feb. 23, 2023. DEQ convened this informal workgroup to bring partners' knowledge and insight into the research process that will help develop the Contamination Management Fee, the Processor Commodity Risk Fee, and the recycling processor permit and certification programs. The next meeting is April 24th from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. For more information and to register in advance, please visit the [DEQ Commingled Processing Facilities website](#).

DEQ Publishes Overview of Scenario Modeling (Economic and Environmental Assessment)

DEQ recently published a report prepared by Cascadia Consulting Group with Bell & Associates and Circular Matters. The report satisfies a requirement in ORS 459A.914 to evaluate economic and environmental consequences when considering materials for inclusion in recycling acceptance lists. One feature of the report is a limited but novel assessment of indirect costs, such as quantifying economic impacts resulting from reductions in pollution. While these indirect costs are often excluded from traditional economic decision making, the report finds that they are comparable in magnitude to direct costs such as labor, transport, and equipment. To view the report, please visit the [Recycling Material Acceptance List website](#).

Team Highlights:

DEQ thanks [Hannah Carleson](#) for her work with the Materials Management team as a graduate student intern! Check out our Q&A with Hannah to learn more about her internship experience.

Commented [GD1]: Did you confirm that this is the photo Hannah wants to use? She may have an updated one as part of her job search.

Commented [RD2R1]: Good question! This is the photo that she submitted to me and requested that we use in the newsletter.

Commented [GD3R1]: thanks for confirming.



- What first sparked your interest in recycling and/or materials management?

When I was a kid, my dad and many adult members of my community were Master Recyclers and were very involved in volunteering and community service. This, and elements of environmental education I received in school steered me towards this materials management path. I saw how people interacted with things on both ends of the spectrum, from single use objects littered in nature, to precious family heirlooms that people kept their whole lives and moved with them from place to place. These relationships with “stuff” fascinated me, and have shaped my interest in public service, materials management, and figuring out how people interact with the world. I took the Master Recycler certification course in 2018 and never looked back!

- What was your favorite part of working with the team?

My favorite part of being on the Product Stewardship team has been the collaborative nature of the work. While brainstorming ideas and creating materials together, I felt my input was appreciated and my contributions were meaningful. As a future materials management professional, this experience will help me view the forthcoming changes with multiple lenses, keeping in mind the priorities of various stakeholders as we work together towards Oregon’s new recycling system.

- What are you most excited about for the future of recycling in Oregon?

Enabling communities to recycle! Rural and small communities will have better access to recycling services at no additional cost to the consumer. Oregon residents have the will to recycle, and the expansion of services in our communities will make it easier to recycle more things at home or close to home.

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 \(Ley de modernización del reciclaje: cronograma de participación pública\)](#)

For all other inquires, contact RethinkRecycling@deq.state.or.us.

