

Upcoming meetings and reminders

- Feb. 14, 2024, 9:00 a.m. | Fifth Rulemaking Advisory Committee meeting (Register in advance)
- Feb. 28, 2024, 1:00 p.m. 3 p.m. | Recycling Council meeting (<u>Register in advance</u>)
- March 14, 2024, 9:00 a.m. | Sixth Rulemaking Advisory Committee meeting (Register in advance)
- March 21, 2024, 10:00 a.m. | RMA Webinar for Local Governments (<u>Register in advance</u>)
- March 31, 2024 | Due date for PRO program plans

Second rulemaking process

At its next meeting on Feb. 14, 2024, the Rulemaking Advisory Committee will discuss standards and methods for the evaluation and disclosure of the life cycle impacts of covered products. These standards and methods will be used by the top 25 producers in the state to evaluate the environmental impacts of 1% of their covered products. DEQ is proposing to apply the same standards and methods to producers seeking ecomodulated fee bonuses for voluntary disclosures or substantial reduction of environmental impacts.

For more information and to register to attend Rulemaking Advisory Committee meetings, visit the <u>Recycling 2024 Rulemaking website</u>.

Recycling Council

The next meeting of Oregon's Recycling Council is Feb. 28, 2024 from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. The Council agenda will include updates on RMA projects and an overview of the Council's role in the PRO Plan review process. Public input is welcome during Recycling Council meetings! Please visit the Recycling Council website to register for meetings and view the agenda.

RMA webinar for local governments

DEQ is hosting a webinar on the RMA designed especially for local governments. DEQ will present information and timelines focused on the local government's unique role in implementing Oregon's new recycling system, including new obligations, new funding, and opportunities to engage.

The webinar will be held via Zoom on Thursday, Mar. 21 at 10:00 a.m. Please <u>register</u> in advance for the webinar and note your RMA questions on the registration form to help staff focus the presentation on topics of interest to attendees.

The presentation will be recorded for those unable to attend.

PRO program plans due end of March

PRO program plans are due to DEQ on March 31, 2024. Thereafter will follow a 120-day plan review process. Four prospective PROs initially submitted letters of intent to become a PRO in Oregon, but three of the four have subsequently withdrawn these letters (AmeriPRO, H2 Compliance, and, most recently, Reverse Logistics Group). This leaves Circular Action Alliance as the only prospective PRO with an active letter of intent on file with DEQ.

DEQ announces initial list of Specifically Identified Materials

Following consultation with the Recycling Council, DEQ named nine types of covered products to the inaugural list of Specifically Identified Materials. These designations create several obligations for Producer Responsibility Organizations with the intent to improve environmental outcomes. SIM designations and the reasoning behind them can be viewed here.

DEQ issues guidance on ecomodulated fees

In advance of the Mar. 31, 2024, PRO program plan due date, DEQ published <u>guidance</u> <u>on ecomodulated fees</u>. The guidance is intended to help PROs develop a proposed approach to ecomodulating the fees of producer members in a way that will deliver continual reduction of the environmental and human health impacts of covered products as required by Oregon's statute.

Adopted recycling acceptance lists available online

In November, the Oregon Environmental Quality Commission adopted statewide recycling acceptance lists slated to take effect when the RMA launches on July 1, 2025. A <u>fact sheet</u> containing the adopted uniform statewide collection list and PRO acceptance list can be found on the RMA website. Please note that the recycling acceptance lists may change over time. For example, producer responsibility organizations may propose to add materials to the uniform statewide collection list in their program plans.



Learn more

Want to understand how the Recycling Modernization Act will change the future of recycling in Oregon? Start by viewing the videos on the main RMA web page. Now in Spanish!

Reach out

Still have questions? We're here to help! Email the RMA team at RethinkRecycling@deq.oregon.gov.