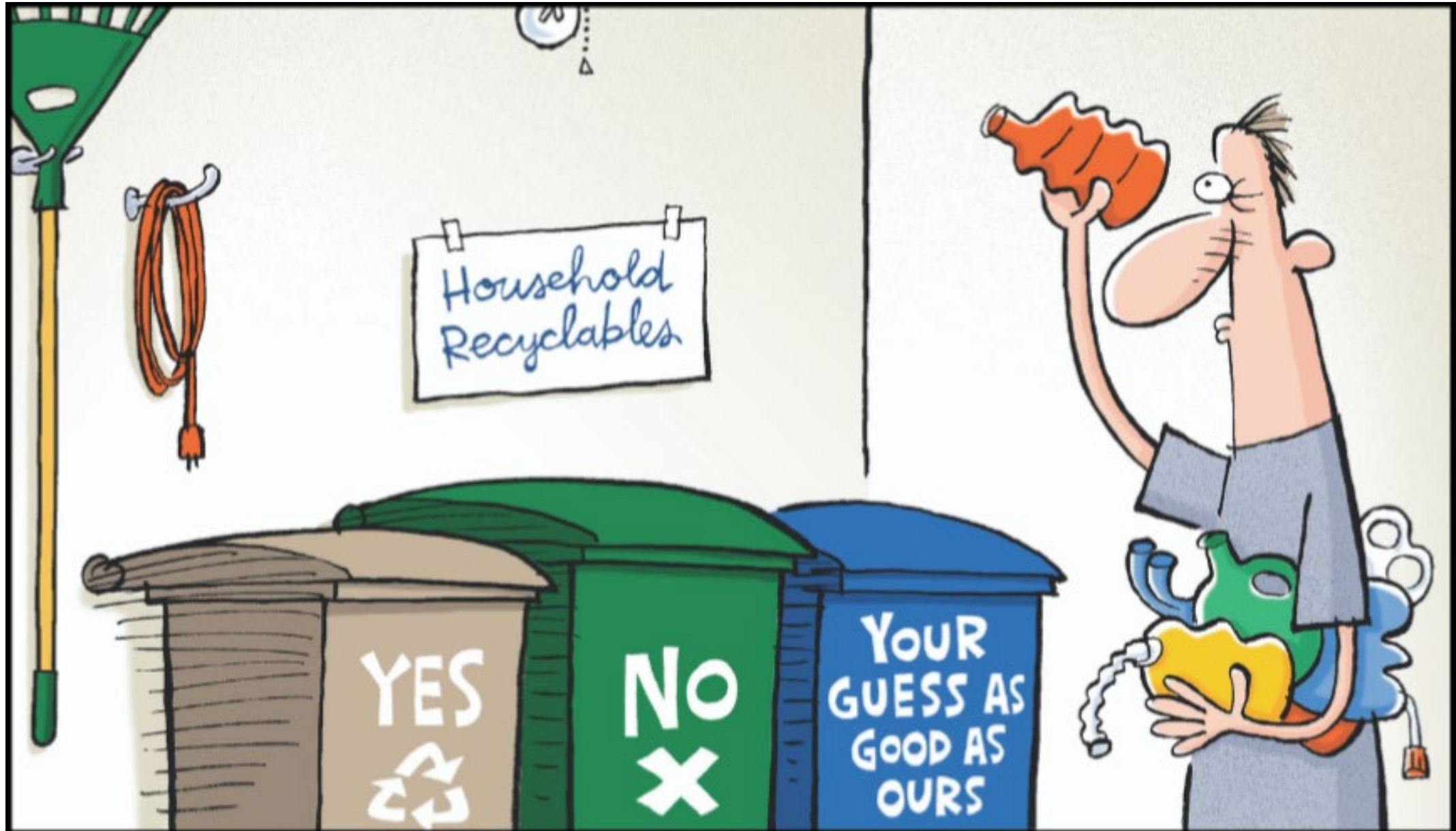


Truth in Labeling Task Force

Section 36 of the Plastic Pollution and Recycling Modernization Act

Jan. 31, 2022

- Please keep yourself muted unless speaking
- Only Task Force Members should have their camera on



The task force shall study and evaluate misleading or confusing claims regarding the recyclability of products made on a product or product packaging. The study must include consideration of issues affecting accessibility for diverse audiences.

- SB582 Section 36 Recycling Modernization Act

Introduction

- Your name
- Who you represent
- Why did you apply for the Truth In Labeling Task Force?





Oregon's Plastic Pollution and Recycling Modernization Act of 2021 (Senate Bill 582)

Presentation to the Oregon Truth in Labeling Task Force

Cheryl Grabham, Oregon Department of Environmental Quality

Jan. 31, 2022



Modernizing Oregon's recycling system

2017-2018
National Sword:
International
recycling market
disruptions

2018-2020
Recycling
Steering
Committee

Late 2020
DEQ Legislative
Concept and
negotiations

**2021
Legislative
Session**
Additional
negotiations and
amendments
Bill passed in June
Gov. signed in
August

Recycling now...

Public confusion over what can be recycled

Inequities throughout the recycling system

Unstable markets, externalized costs of pollution, and challenging economics

More garbage and less recycling over time

No assurance of responsible recycling

And in the future...

More public education and one statewide collection list

A system that meets the needs of unserved and underserved communities

Producers share responsibility with local governments and ratepayers

Recycling increases as it becomes easier and more accessible

Oversight of producers and processors to ensure responsible recycling

Public confusion



Frozen food box

Very confident it can be recycled

Somewhat confident



Paper coffee cup



Public confusion



Square plastic tub

Very confident it can be recycled Somewhat confident



Plastic berry container



Lids



Plastic to-go container



Contamination



Consequences of contamination

1. Impacts on facility workers (health and safety)
2. Higher costs for processing facilities . . .
. . . sometimes leading to reduction in service
3. Higher costs for end markets. . .
. . . sometimes undermining willingness to use recycled wastes

Consequences of contamination

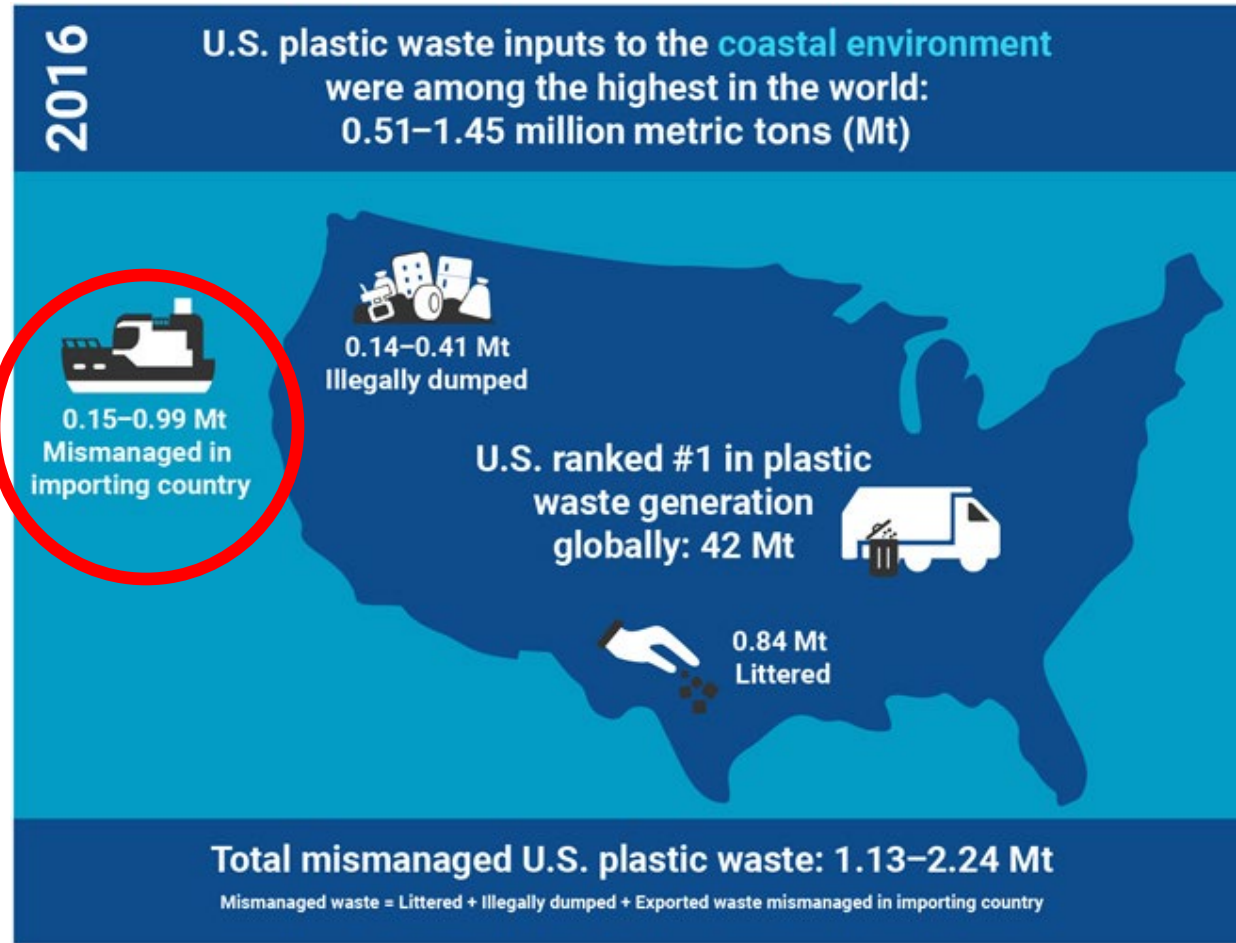
1. Impacts on facility workers (health and safety)
2. Higher costs for processing facilities . . .
. . . sometimes leading to reduction in service
3. Higher costs for end markets. . .
. . . sometimes undermining willingness to use recycled wastes
4. Downstream environmental and social impacts

Contamination abroad



Megan Ponder/The Story of Plastic

Recycling and marine plastic waste



<https://doi.org/10.1126/sciadv.abd0288> (2020)

Oregon Recycling Modernization Act: How it will work



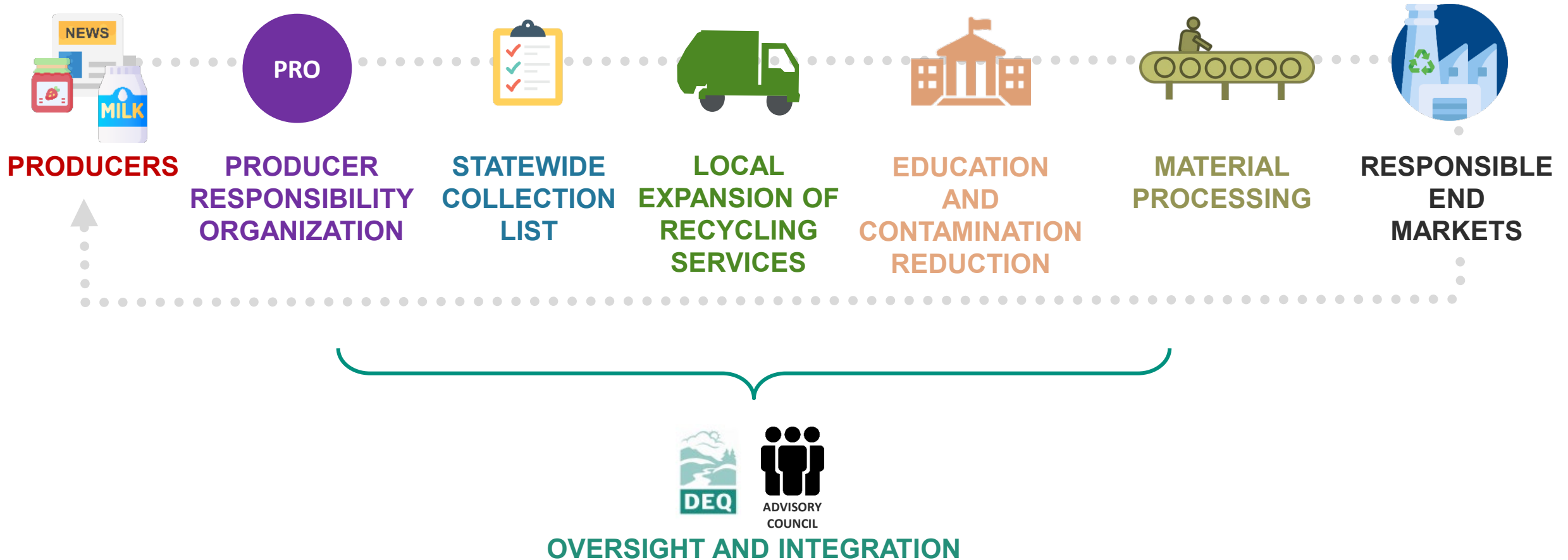
Oregon Recycling Modernization Act: How it will work



Oregon Recycling Modernization Act: How it will work



Oregon Recycling Modernization Act: How it will work



Addressing recyclability claims

The Act:

- Removes mandate to label plastic packaging using “resin identification code” (Section 58)
- Creates Truth in Labeling Task Force (Section 36)



Elements to reduce contamination

1. Uniform statewide collection list and other material acceptance lists (Section 22)
2. Consistent and culturally-responsive communications (Section 14)
3. Generator-facing programming to reduce contamination (Sections 28, 13(4))


Elements to reduce contamination (continued)

4. Permitting and certification of commingled processing facilities (Sections 19, 37, 38)
5. Contamination management fee (Section 24)
6. Shared responsibility (processors and producers) to direct material to responsible end markets, disclosure (Sections 12, 15, 37, others)
7. Eco-modulation of fees to encourage more recyclable design (Section 11)

Compostable packaging

The Act:

- Establishes “Truth in Composting” policy (Section 41)
- Requires a report to the Legislature on compostable packaging (Section 44a)



A Message from Composters Serving Oregon:

Why We Don't Want Compostable Packaging and Serviceware

Every year, the Pacific Northwest's compost industry turns hundreds of thousands of tons of yard and food wastes into nutrient-rich compost for agriculture, nurseries, landscaping businesses and home gardens. The quality compost products that we create develop healthier and more resilient soil, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, recycle materials, conserve water, and may reduce the use of synthetic fertilizers, pesticides and herbicides.

"Compostable" packaging and serviceware items increasingly ending up in our facilities. These are the environmental benefits of successful composting.

Here are nine reasons why we don't want to our facilities:

- 1 They don't always compost:** Not all "certified" quickly as we need them to. This is because of Those conditions are not always replicated in if items don't fully compost. The result is a finite "compostable" material.
- 2 Contamination happens:** As a consumer, you programs accept compostable products, non-o materials then must be removed, either at the is with finished compost). Either way, the cost product, which makes the compost industry less
- 3 They hurt resale quality:** We don't want to put packaging and serviceware, and our consumer value of our product, making it difficult and less environmental benefits aren't realized.
- 4 We can't sell to organic farmers:** Farmers of standards prohibit the use of many different as "USDA Organic". Accepting packaging and compost to organic farmers.
- 5 They may threaten human and environment well as other consumer packaging may contain these chemicals may then transfer to ground impacts. While some chemicals of concern are have been outlawed, and alternatives are not a plastic packaging can contaminate finished co buyers. We want to keep our compost clean a**

6 It increases our costs and makes our job harder: Some of us have accepted compostable packaging in the past, and found that loads of compostable packaging require us to change our processes, adding water, using more energy and spending additional resources to produce finished compost. Some types of compostable packaging mostly degrade into carbon dioxide and water and leave behind little of value for all of the extra effort required.

7 Just because something is compostable doesn't mean it's better for the environment. Oregon DEQ has found that compostable serviceware often has a larger (life time) environmental footprint than non-compostable items". For example, compostable materials may require more fossil energy use, release more greenhouse gases, or result in more ecological loads than their non-compostable counterparts, mostly due to how they're made. The research confirms what scientists already know: that what materials are made of, and how they're made, may be more significant than whether they're composted vs. landfilled. "Composting" and "compostable" are not the same idea. Composting is a beneficial treatment option for organic wastes, but "compostable" is not a guarantee of low impact.

8 In some cases, the benefits of recycling surpass those of composting. Some items, like paper bags, can be either composted or recycled. Generally speaking, the recycling of manufactured materials (such as packaging) back into new products or packaging can provide greater overall environmental benefits than composting does.

9 Good intentions aren't being realized. Compostable items often cost more – sometimes up to five times as much as non-compostable alternatives. That's a lot of money spent on products that might not actually help the environment – money that could be spent in more productive and beneficial ways.

Not only do compostable products often cost more to purchase, they also drive up the costs to operate our facilities and impede our ability to sell finished compost. Compostable packaging is promoted as a means of achieving "zero waste" goals but it burdens composters (and recyclers) with materials that harm our ability to efficiently process recovered materials. Reusable dishware is almost always a better choice for the environment. If you must use single-use items, please don't put them in your compost bin.

We need to focus on recycling organic wastes, such as food and yard trimmings, into high-quality compost products that can be used with confidence to restore soils and conserve resources. Compostable packaging doesn't help us to achieve these goals. We need clean feedstocks in order to produce quality compost.

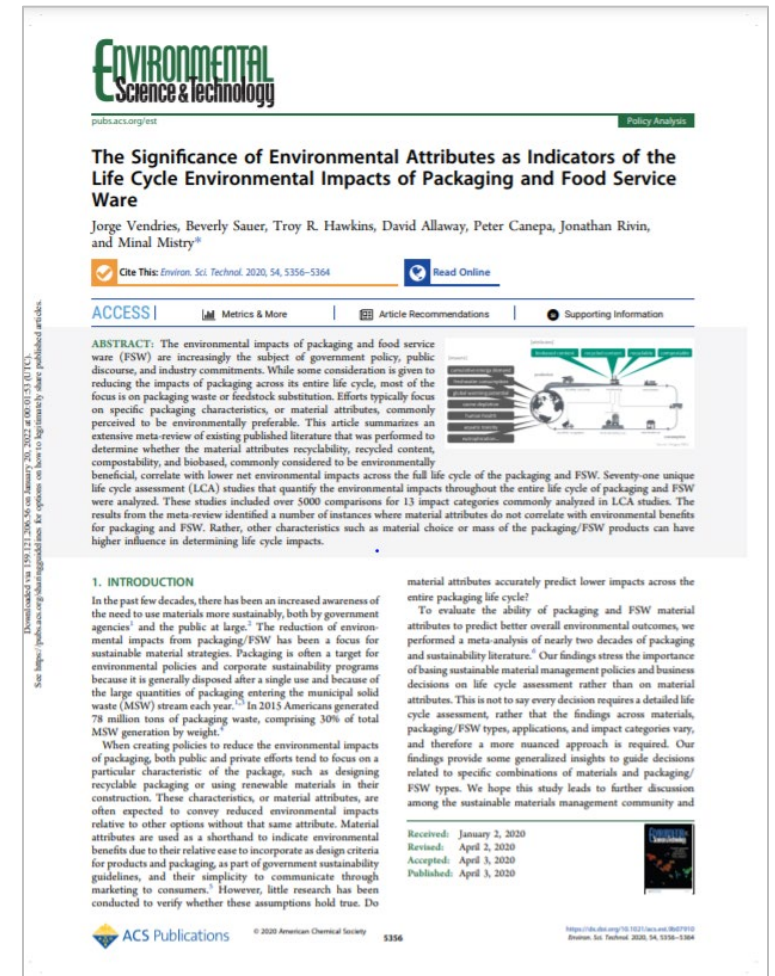
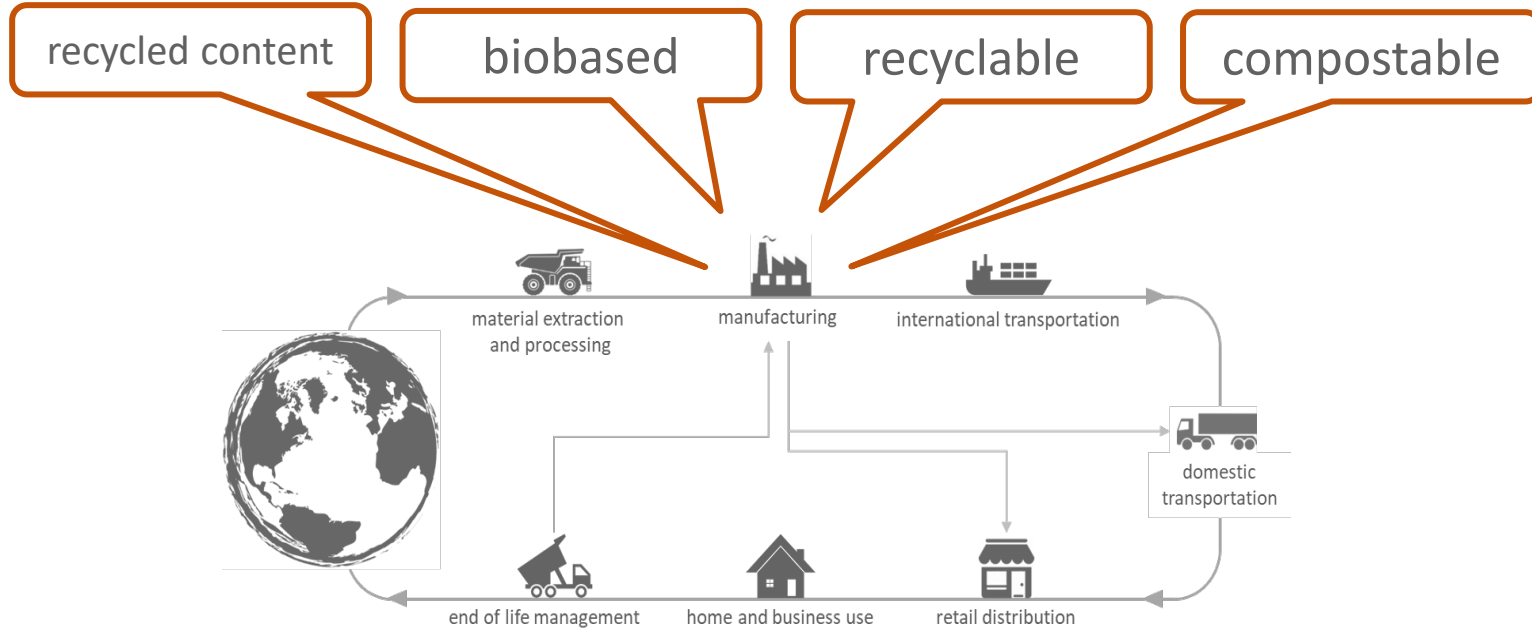
Please help us protect the environment and create high quality compost products by keeping "compostable" packaging and serviceware out of the compost bin.

Thanks for your cooperation!



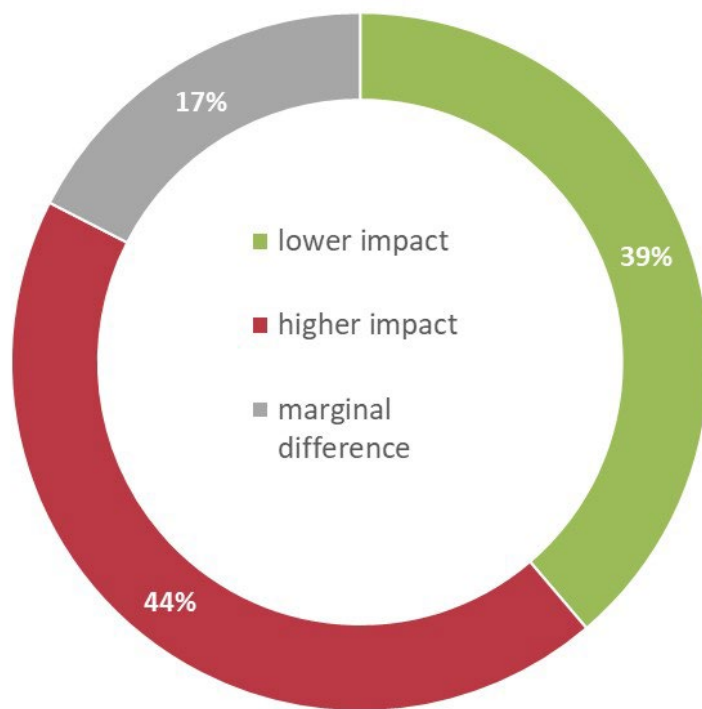
*See <https://www.deq.state.or.us/2017/01/01/compostable/>

Oregon DEQ material attributes research



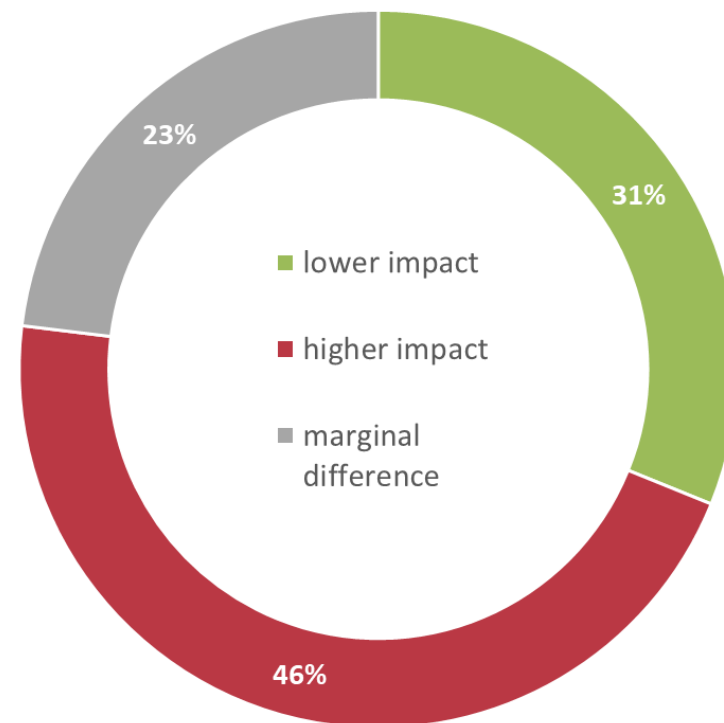
Review of “recyclable” and “compostable” packaging

recyclable packaging that is recycled vs. packaging of different material not recycled, with lower recycling rate, or not recyclable



>520 comparisons reviewed

compostable packaging that is composted vs. non-compostable packaging landfilled, incinerated (WtE), or recycled



>620 comparisons reviewed

Solutions

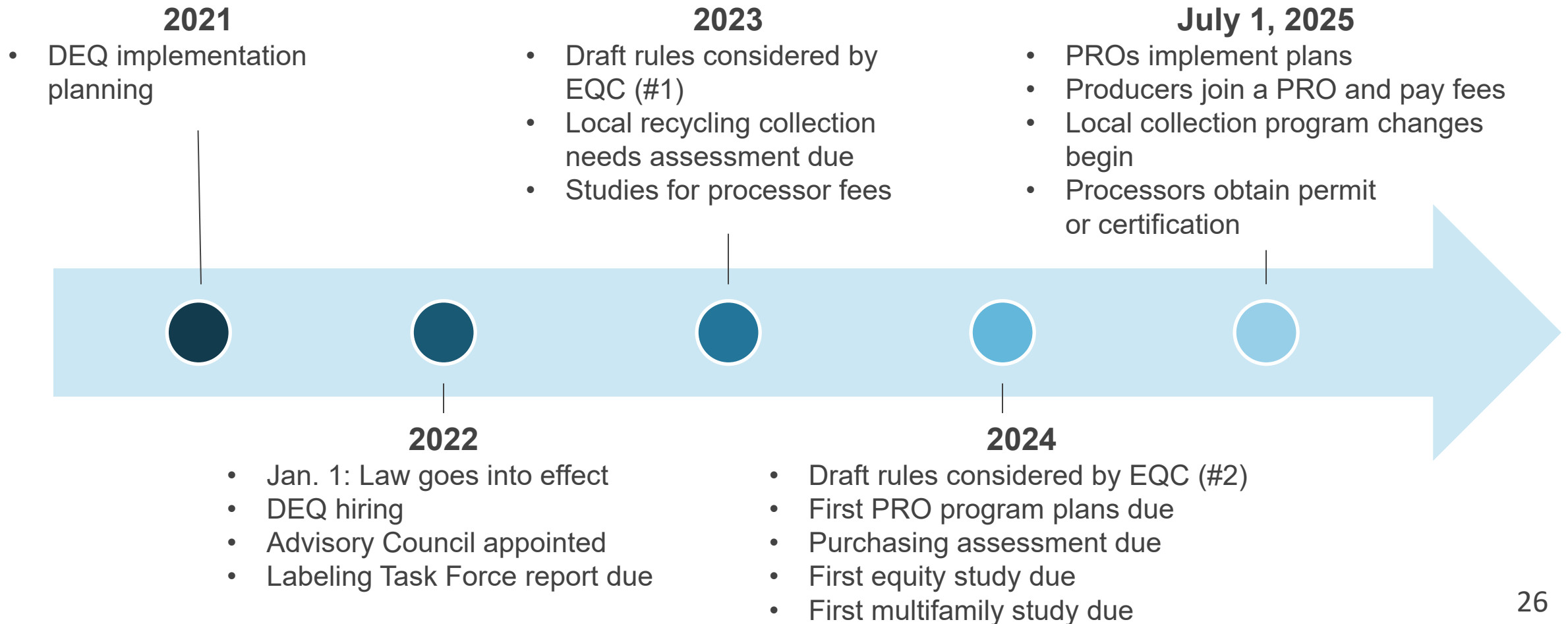
The Act:

- Requires consistent standards for the evaluation and disclosure of impacts (Section 33)
- Incentivizes voluntary evaluation and disclosure (Section 11)
- Mandates evaluation and disclosure by largest producers (Section 33)



Key dates

Stakeholder engagement, project planning and research extend throughout implementation.





Thank you!

cheryl.grabham@deq.oregon.gov

More information and subscribe for updates: RecyclingAct.Oregon.gov

Task Force Draft Rules

The task force will operate in accordance with the Oregon Constitution, applicable statutory provisions, and general parliamentary law. The task force may provide recommendations and conduct other duties outlined in the applicable enabling legislation. Items explicitly required by the law are italicized below and cannot be changed.

1a. Chair

The task force shall elect one of its members to serve as chairperson. The role of the chair is to preside over task force meetings; develop meeting agendas; interact with agency staff providing support to the task force; if necessary, appoint subcommittee members; and serve as spokesperson for the Task Force.

1b. The Task Force shall appoint a vice chair to take over the role of chair when the chair is absent.

2. Quorum

A majority of the voting members appointed to the task force shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

3. Meetings

The task force shall meet at times and places specified by the call of the chair or a majority of the voting members of the task force. Meetings shall be open to the public. The Task Force shall accept written and oral comments at meetings.

4. Task force Action

Official action by the task force requires the approval of a majority of the voting members of the task force. A task force member may vote by telephone or digitally. If a task force member requests, voting may be by roll call.

5. Recording

Meetings of the task force shall be recorded and made available upon request.

6. Amending the Rules

These rules may be changed by an affirmative vote of the majority of the voting members of the task force, but at least one day's notice of any proposed change shall be given in writing to each member of the task force.

Elect chair



Break



Background information

- Questions on any of the informational documents sent out before the meeting?

CA SB 343 Background for the Truth in Labeling Task Force

In 2011, the California Assembly passed SB 343 to address the labeling of products and packaging. The law aims to ensure that consumers have the information they need to make informed choices and to reduce the amount of waste that ends up in landfills. The law also aims to ensure that consumers have the information they need to make informed choices and to reduce the amount of waste that ends up in landfills.

How SB 343 works

- The law requires manufacturers to provide information on their products and packaging that is clear, concise, and easy to understand.
- The law also requires manufacturers to provide information on their products and packaging that is clear, concise, and easy to understand.

Assembly Bill 343 (2011) - Department of Environmental Quality

Summary of recycling labels for the Truth in Labeling Task Force

Recycling labels are a key tool for consumers to identify products that are made from recycled materials. This document provides a summary of the various recycling labels that are currently in use in California.

CA Recycle Right

The labels are based on the [California Recycle Right](#) program. The program is designed to help consumers identify products that are made from recycled materials.

Label	Material	Percentage
♻️	Plastic	10%
♻️	Paper	10%
♻️	Aluminum	10%
♻️	Steel	10%
♻️	Other	10%

Assembly Bill 343 (2011) - Department of Environmental Quality

Menu of Potential Options for the Truth in Labeling Task Force

This document outlines a menu of potential options for the Truth in Labeling Task Force. These options are designed to help consumers identify products that are made from recycled materials.

1. Require manufacturers to provide information on their products and packaging that is clear, concise, and easy to understand.
2. Require manufacturers to provide information on their products and packaging that is clear, concise, and easy to understand.
3. Require manufacturers to provide information on their products and packaging that is clear, concise, and easy to understand.
4. Require manufacturers to provide information on their products and packaging that is clear, concise, and easy to understand.

Assembly Bill 343 (2011) - Department of Environmental Quality

Recycling Labeling Laws Today - Truth in Labeling Task Force

This document provides an overview of the current recycling labeling laws in California. It includes a table of the various recycling labels that are currently in use in California.

Label	Material	Percentage
♻️	Plastic	10%
♻️	Paper	10%
♻️	Aluminum	10%
♻️	Steel	10%
♻️	Other	10%

Assembly Bill 343 (2011) - Department of Environmental Quality

Assembly Bill 343 (2011) - Department of Environmental Quality

Assembly Bill 343 (2011) - Department of Environmental Quality

Assembly Bill 343 (2011) - Department of Environmental Quality

Assembly Bill 343 (2011) - Department of Environmental Quality

Survey responses



Please share what labeling-related topics you most want to discuss during the Task Force?

- Understanding what other states, especially California are doing.
- Who is liable for mislabeling?
- What does “recyclable” mean
- Consistent, accurate and reliable labeling for all recycling users
- Labels for compostable/degradable packaging



After reading the draft proposed menu of options, do you have other ideas you'd like added?

To align or not to align (with CA SB343)? (and how)
That is a question.

Proposed calendar

Jan. 2022	Feb. 2022	March 2022	April 2022	May 2022	June 2022
Meeting	Meeting(s)	Meeting(s)	Meeting(s)	Meeting(s)	6/1/2022 report due
<p>Decide on decision-making procedures and community agreements</p> <p>DEQ background presentation</p> <p>Election and assignment of roles</p>	<p>Short legislative session.</p> <p>Meeting TBD</p>	<p>Discuss Issues</p>	<p>Work toward recommendations</p> <p>Review draft report</p>	<p>Review final report</p>	<p>Submit the final report and accompanying two-pager to the Legislature and required committees.</p>

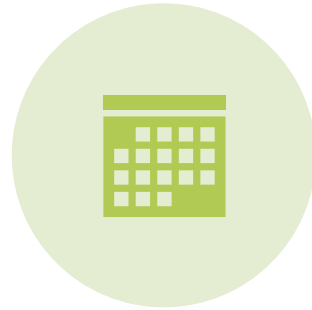
The road ahead



TOPICS TO EXPLORE?



GUEST SPEAKERS?



MEETINGS?



CONTENT IN FEB AND
MARCH?

Next steps

Look for emails
from the chair/
Alex

Notes from this
meeting will be
sent out and
posted

