Drop-off Center Recycling
for the things you can’t put in your curbside recycling cart.

Since introducing roll carts to the curbside recycling program in 2008, residential recycling volumes have increased. Washington County residents have worked hard to make their recycling efforts count. Residents are now encouraged to make sure materials are recycled in the right place. Many materials not included in the curbside recycling program can be recycled at privately operated recycling drop-off centers—things like plastic bags, block foam, used footwear, small appliances and home electronics. Drop-off centers are designed to make it easy for residents to bring in recyclable materials that might otherwise end up as garbage. Take these three easy steps to recycle more and make more room in your garbage can!

Drop-off Center Recycling—
It’s as easy as 1-2-3!
1. Gather materials that you might throw away, such as plastic bags, appliances, cable and phone wires, rechargeable batteries, used cooking oil, electronics—even block Styrofoam.
2. Sort materials for easy drop-off when you get to the center—plastic bags, metals, cardboard, scrap paper, electronics, etc.
3. Visit the recycling center and place materials in the appropriate box.

Whether you want to save resources or simply reduce the amount of garbage you toss—going to a recycling drop-off center is worth the visit. Most items are accepted at no charge.*

Not sure where the closest recycling drop-off center is? Search Metro’s Find a Recycler website (www.OregonMetro.gov/findarecycler) or visit one of the three locations below.

Far West Fibers 503-643-9944
10750 SW Denny Road, Beaverton
6440 SE Alexander Street, Hillsboro
www.FarWestFibers.com

Pride Disposal Company 503-625-6177 13980 SW Tualatin-Sherwood Road, Sherwood
www.PrideDisposal.com

* Call ahead if you have questions about costs and whether specific materials are accepted.
Pre-cycling
Three Simple Steps to Waste Prevention

The old saying, “Use it up, wear it out, make do, or do without” still has relevance today. By going through three simple steps before putting something in your cart, you might find you can do without by ‘pre-cycling.’ Pre-cycling helps us reduce waste by considering our purchases before we buy. This can really keep the money in our pocket and clutter out of the home.

Step 1: Decide what you need
Before making a purchase, consider the following questions:
• Why do I want this?
• How often will I use it?
• What are the alternatives to this product?
• Can I get along without it?
• What will I give up to buy this; free time spent earning money to buy it, maintain it and dispose of it?

Step 2: Find alternatives
Once you’ve decided what you need, look at alternatives:
• Do I already own something that would serve the same purpose?
• Can I make it from something I already have?
• Can I borrow or rent it?
• Can I buy it used?

Step 3: Select the product
Sometimes a new product is the best option. Consider the following when making a purchase:
• Will this product last and for how long?
• Is it repairable?
• It is a classic and will I be happy with it years from now?
• When I no longer want it – what will I do with it?
• Give it away?
Throw it away?
Sell it?
• Is it made of materials that can be reused/recycled into new products?
• Is the packaging reusable or unnecessary?

Pre-cycling strategies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REUSE ACTIONS</th>
<th>EXAMPLES</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Make your own</td>
<td>Scrap paper note pads, canisters from glass jars or plastic tubs, re-label boxes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rent or borrow</td>
<td>Ladders, slide projector, party supplies, yard care and camping equipment, books</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maintain and repair</td>
<td>Automobiles, shoes, clothing, appliances, furniture, tools—everything!</td>
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<tr>
<td>Buy or resell</td>
<td>Kitchenware, appliances, clothing, furniture, toys, musical instruments, sports and camping equipment</td>
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<tr>
<td>Donate or resell</td>
<td>Charitable organizations, rummage or yard sales, consignment shops, classified ads</td>
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<tr>
<td>SHOPPING</td>
<td>EXAMPLES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recyclable products</td>
<td>Cardboard and brown paper bags, aluminum cans, glass jars and bottles, tin cans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buy recycled-content products</td>
<td>Greeting cards, paper, glass jars, aluminum cans, paperboard and cereal boxes, toilet paper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reusable products</td>
<td>Cloth diapers, refillable razors and pens, cloth napkins, towels, and rags, covered food containers, travel mugs, rechargeable batteries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimal packaging</td>
<td>No single-serving products, buy in bulk, bring home leftovers in your own containers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bulk</td>
<td>Buy loose produce, meat from the meat counter, food from self-serve bins, bulk hardware supplies, large blocks of cheese</td>
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</tbody>
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Trim Your Waste Line! Unclutter Your Mailbox Today!

American households receive 85 billion pieces of unsolicited mail each year—nearly 100 pounds per household.

Lighten the load in your mailbox and eliminate unwanted phone books, catalogs, coupons and credit card solicitations at the source!

Set up a free account and watch your waste line shrink.
https://oregonmetro.catalogchoice.org

OMSI Science Exhibits

Waiting for the sunshine to return after winter can be tiresome, but it doesn’t have to be boring! Explore the Oregon Museum of Science & Industry (OMSI) Earth Hall. They have newly installed science exhibits—Clever Together: Our Everyday Choices and Renewable Energy/Energia Renovable.

Clever together: Our everyday choices
Small, sustainable actions make a big impact when adopted by the hundreds, thousands, or even the hundreds of thousands! Clever Together encourages guests to weigh the environmental, economic and social impacts of their choices. It features engaging interactive displays centered on topics such as food, transportation, product consumption and energy use. Visitors are invited to use “human power” to take a virtual walk or bike-ride through familiar places in the Portland metro region, employ smart sorting tactics to divert waste from landfills, and find ways to save energy in a funky room furnished with everyday home appliances and personal electronics.

Renewable Energy/Energia Renovable
Renewable Energy/Energia Renovable is a new bilingual exhibit that gives OMSI visitors the opportunity to explore how energy from sources like wind, water and sun can support our daily energy needs. Hands-on exhibit features let visitors take the controls of a wind turbine, go inside a solar panel, become the wave that powers a new type of renewable energy, and even try their hand at managing the power grid!

Learn more about available exhibits and hours of operation at www.OMSI.edu.
Careful! It’s Hazardous!

It’s important to never discard toxic chemicals in the sink, on the ground, down a storm drain or in your garbage can. Many home, garden and car-maintenance chemicals can harm people, wildlife and pets, and the environment. From paint and pesticides to solvents and fluorescent lights, Metro accepts various types of household hazardous waste from residents for recycling or disposal for just a $5.00 fee. Bring the products to one of Metro’s two transfer stations year-round, or participate in one of Metro’s household hazardous waste collection events, available March through November.

Even better? Help protect your family and the planet by choosing alternatives for cleaning, gardening, controlling pests and maintaining a beautiful yard. Learn more about toxic trash, including safer alternatives, items accepted by Metro’s household hazardous waste program and proper preparation for recycling or disposal online. [www.OregonMetro.gov/ hhw](http://www.OregonMetro.gov/hhw)

How Does Your Garden Grow?

Enjoy growing your garden and lawn the natural way! Metro’s Natural Gardening program has teamed up with OSU Extension Service to provide residents with free expert advice, workshops, learning gardens, videos, guides and more! Using safer alternatives to toxic chemicals can make a difference in the garden:

- Use compost and mulch to foster fertile soil and reduce the need for water.
- Use tools and a little elbow grease to keep weeds and harmful bugs at bay without the need for toxics.
- Use pest- and disease-resistant native plants to reduce the risk of garden problems.
- Newer nontoxic products can tackle slugs and other garden pests without the use of harmful chemicals.

Resources


Easy Cleaning Without Toxics

With the garage newly organized, it’s easy to spiff up the space using common ingredients that save money and make cleaning safer for people, pets and the planet.

Try this no-wax floor cleaner made from everyday household products: add ½ cup vinegar to 2 tablespoons liquid soap in 1 gallon of hot water. Mix, mop and wipe clean. Find more green cleaning recipes on Metro’s website. [www.OregonMetro.gov/greencleaners](http://www.OregonMetro.gov/greencleaners)

Household Hazardous Waste

Keep household hazardous waste out of all garbage and recycling containers. Instead dispose of hazardous waste and/or sharps, at a Metro permanent drop-off hazardous waste facility or a neighborhood collection event.

Products accepted:

- Household cleaners and disinfectants
- Automotive products (oil, antifreeze)
- Thinners and solvents
- Mercury thermometers and thermostats
- Paints and stains
- Pool and spa chemicals
- Pesticides and poisons
- Art and hobby chemicals
- Aerosol spray products
- Sharps (medical syringes)
- Fire extinguishers
- Propane tanks
- Batteries

Permanent drop-off facilities ($5 fee for up to 35 gallons of material):

- Metro Central Station
  6161 NW 61st Ave, Portland
- Metro South Station
  2001 Washington St, Oregon City

Open year-round Monday - Saturday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Closed major holidays. Call ahead.

Neighborhood collection events: Free household hazardous waste collection events occur from March through mid-November at select locations across the Portland tri-county area. Questions? Call Metro Recycling Information at 503-234-3000, or review their event schedule online at [www.oregonmetro.gov/hhw](http://www.oregonmetro.gov/hhw).

Medical Sharps: Safe Storage/Disposal

Do not put sharps in garbage or recycling containers. Instead use an approved collection container available from a pharmacy, collection service or collection site. These containers are rigid, leak-proof and puncture-resistant, and are clearly marked with the bio-hazard symbol. Dispose of used sharps (medical syringes, lancets and needles) using one of the options below.

1. Pharmacy container exchange program – Many pharmacies offer sharps disposal and container exchange programs.


Secure Drug Drop-off Boxes

Take unwanted, expired or unused medications to a safe, secure drop-box at the Washington County Sheriff’s Office (Hillsboro) and city police Departments in Beaverton, Tigard and Sherwood. Citizens can turn in prescription and all over-the-counter medications, vitamins, pet medications, medicated ointments, drug samples and liquid medications. Hours vary by location; please research before you go. [www.DEAdversion.usdoj.gov](http://www.DEAdversion.usdoj.gov)
How to Prepare Recycling at Home - Know What Goes
Washington County residents can recycle from home using one of two options; subscribe to curbside collection service where they live, or self-haul materials to a recycling drop-off location. The curbside recycling program accepts specific items on the “YES” list for recycling (see chart below). Items on the “NO” list are not accepted in the curbside program and cannot be placed in your curbside recycling container. But... just because they are on the “NO” list does not mean they have to be thrown away. Find a recycler who accepts these materials and take them to a drop-off location.

Preparing Materials for Collection
Below is a table of materials that are accepted in the residential curbside recycling program. Keep the residential curbside recycling schedule on page 6 and mark your recycling collection dates for future reference. If you are unsure when recycling is picked up from your property, contact your collection company (see side column on page 1) to confirm.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mixed Recycling Container</th>
<th>YES!</th>
<th>NO! Keep Out *</th>
<th>Preparation Tips</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Paper &amp; Cardboard</td>
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<tr>
<td>newspapers &amp; advertisements</td>
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<td>magazines &amp; magazine inserts</td>
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<tr>
<td>catalogs</td>
<td>postcards</td>
<td>junk mail/scrap paper</td>
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<tr>
<td>phone books</td>
<td>milk cartons</td>
<td>drink boxes</td>
<td>ae</td>
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<tr>
<td>aseptic drink/soup cartons</td>
<td>paper cartons</td>
<td>cereal/cracker boxes</td>
<td>paper of all colors</td>
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<tr>
<td>coffee cups</td>
<td>disposable plates</td>
<td>plastic newspaper bags</td>
<td>plastic packaging around plastic wrapped magazines/phone books frozen food boxes</td>
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<tr>
<td>contain scrap paper, junk mail &amp; publications in a paper bag &amp; close to prevent littering when container is tipped paper with tape, staples, clips &amp; spiral notebooks OK rinse food residue from cartons</td>
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<td>cardboard, flattened cardboard boxes</td>
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<td>3’X3’ pieces maximum</td>
<td>wax-coated cardboard</td>
<td>take-out food containers</td>
<td>pizza boxes Styrofoam or plastic packaging</td>
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<td>Plastic</td>
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<tr>
<td>plastic bottles</td>
<td>rigid nursery pots</td>
<td>plastic tubes (yogurt-type containers - 6 oz+)</td>
<td>buckets (up to 5 gallons)</td>
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<td>metal &amp; aerosol cans</td>
<td>aluminum/lin/steel food &amp; beverage cans</td>
<td>animal food cans</td>
<td>hair spray/whipped cream cans</td>
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<tr>
<td>aerosol plastic caps</td>
<td>no automotive scrap metal with grease</td>
<td>rinse food cans</td>
<td>place scrap metal &amp; lids inside foods cans &amp; crimp closed</td>
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<tr>
<td>spray paint cans</td>
<td>metal paint &amp; stain cans</td>
<td>no wet paint or stain in can aerosol plastic caps</td>
<td>remove lids</td>
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<tr>
<td>glass bottles &amp; jars</td>
<td>all colors</td>
<td>labels OK</td>
<td>light bulbs</td>
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<td>Motor Oil</td>
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<tr>
<td>motor oil</td>
<td>do not mix with any other liquids</td>
<td>no antifreeze or other liquids place used motor oil in a see-through gallon jug with screw-top cap</td>
<td>set next to mixed recycling container multifamily residents should contact their property manager to determine whether used motor oil is collected at their property</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yard Debris Container</td>
<td>YES!</td>
<td>NO! Keep Out *</td>
<td>Preparation Tips</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>leaves</td>
<td>grass clippings</td>
<td>weeds</td>
<td>garden waste</td>
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<tr>
<td>Holiday Greenery</td>
<td>trees</td>
<td>wreaths</td>
<td>plants</td>
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* Find a recycling drop-off location for many of the items not accepted in the residential recycling program. [www.oregonmetro.gov/findarecycler](http://www.oregonmetro.gov/findarecycler)
### Drop-off Recycling Locations

Please CALL AHEAD for a full list of materials accepted, operating hours, and any applicable charges.

* Please call ahead regarding refrigerated appliances.

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<td>Aloha Garbage Company</td>
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<td>American Landscape Supply, Hillsboro 503-645-6909</td>
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<td>Batteries Plus, Beaverton &amp; Tualatin 503-646-8892</td>
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<td>Best Buy, Hillsboro, Beaverton &amp; Tualatin <a href="http://www.bestbuy.com">www.bestbuy.com</a></td>
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<td>Best Buy in Town, Hillsboro 503-645-6665</td>
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<td>C&amp;M Recyclers, Tualatin 503-380-4180 <a href="http://www.cmrecyclers.com">www.cmrecyclers.com</a></td>
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<td>EcoBinary LLC, Beaverton 503-352-4991 <a href="http://www.ecobinary.com">www.ecobinary.com</a></td>
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<td>EG Metals, Hillsboro 503-693-8939 <a href="http://www.egmetalrecycling.com">www.egmetalrecycling.com</a></td>
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<td>Far West Fibers, Beaverton &amp; Hillsboro 503-643-9944 <a href="http://www.farwestfibers.com">www.farwestfibers.com</a></td>
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<td>Forest Grove Transfer Station 503-249-8078, press 1</td>
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<td>Goodwill Stores &amp; Drop-offs 503-649-5424 goodwill.org</td>
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<td>Grimms Fuel Company, Tualatin 503-692-3756 <a href="http://www.grimmfuel.com">www.grimmfuel.com</a></td>
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<td>Home Depot, Beaverton, Hillsboro, Sherwood &amp; Tigard <a href="http://www.homedepot.com">www.homedepot.com</a></td>
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<td>Landscape Products &amp; Supply, Hillsboro 503-846-0881</td>
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<td>Lowe’s, Hillsboro &amp; Tigard <a href="http://www.lowes.com">www.lowes.com</a></td>
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<td>Metro Transfer Stations, Portland &amp; Oregon City 503-234-3000 <a href="http://www.oregonmetro.gov">www.oregonmetro.gov</a></td>
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<td>Northwest Environmental Recycling, Cornelius 503-357-6090 <a href="http://www.nercocompost.com">www.nercocompost.com</a></td>
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<td>Pride Disposal, Sherwood 503-625-6177 <a href="http://www.pridesposal.com">www.pridesposal.com</a></td>
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<td>Salvation Army <a href="http://www.salvationarmyusa.org">www.salvationarmyusa.org</a></td>
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<td>Simply Marvelous Recycling, Hillsboro 503-841-0452 computers-recycling.com</td>
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<td>Willamette Resources Industry, Wilsonville 503-570-0626 <a href="http://www.republicservices.com">www.republicservices.com</a></td>
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<td>WoodCo Fuel, Aloha 503-649-5430 <a href="http://www.woodcofuel.com">www.woodcofuel.com</a></td>
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Can’t find what you need? Locate a facility that will accept your materials by logging on to Oregon Metro’s website www.OregonMetro.gov/findarecycler.

**Additional Regional Facilities**
- Metro Transfer Stations (Oregon City & Portland)
- Additional Recycling Centers
- Collection Centers
- Recycle Centers
- Metal Recycling Centers
- Car Recycling Centers
- Glass Recycling Centers
- Paper Recycling Centers
- Electronic Recycling Centers
- Plastic Recycling Centers
- Batteries Plus
- Best Buy
- EcoBinary LLC
- Far West Fibers
- Goodwill Stores & Drop-off Sites
- Home Depot
- Lowe’s
- Pride Disposal
- Willamette Resources Industry
Collection Service in Unincorporated Washington County

Who collects my garbage and recycling? Collection of recycling, yard debris and garbage is done by private companies in Washington County. There are 12 private companies that have service certificates, or franchises granted by the County Commissioners and/or City Councils, to collect from residents and businesses. These franchises are based on exclusive service areas.

Regulatory oversight The County and cities establish the rates charged by these 12 collection companies. Service level standards such as frequency of collection and customer communications are also established by local jurisdictions.

Billing and establishing service Collection companies bill homeowners, landlords and businesses directly. To start service, contact the collection company assigned to your area. To find who provides your service, contact the Washington County Solid Waste & Recycling Program at 503-846-8609 or log on to www.WashingtonCountyRecycles.org and select Garbage Haulers. Click on Service Providers to access an interactive tool that identifies who collects your garbage and recycling based on your address.

Types of service and frequency The collection company provides garbage and recycling collection service to residential (single-family and multifamily) and commercial* customers. Yard debris collection is part of single-family service in urban areas.

Residents Within City Limits Each city government regulates garbage and recycling collection services within its limits. This includes setting rates and establishing rules under which the collection companies operate. If you live in a city, please contact your city office or your collection company directly for more information about collection services.

Banks 503-324-5112 • cityofbanks.org
Cornellius 503-337-9112 • ci.cornelius.or.us
Durham 503-639-6851 • durham-oregon.us
Forest Grove 503-992-3200 • forestgrove-or.gov
Hillsboro 503-681-6219 • hillsboro-oregon.gov
King City 503-639-4082 • ci.king-city.or.us
North Plains 503-647-5555 • northplains.org
Sherwood 503-625-5772 • sherwoodoregon.gov
Tigard 503-639-4171 • tigard-or.gov
Tualatin 503-692-2000 • tualatinoregon.gov

Commercial and residential rates are available online at www.WashingtonCountyRecycles.org

Collection Services by Area

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rural</th>
<th>Urban</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Garbage</td>
<td>Weekly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yard Debris</td>
<td>Not Available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recycling</td>
<td>Monthly (Red Bins)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glass</td>
<td>Monthly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Every-Other-Week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Every-Other-Week (Rollcarts)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Monthly Residential Garbage Cart Options

- 20-Gallon Container
- 32-Gallon Container
- 60-Gallon Container
- 90-Gallon Container

* Commercial and residential rates are available online at www.WashingtonCountyRecycles.org

2013 Curbside Collection Calendar

Contact your collector for your pick-up schedule.

Place container at curb by 6 a.m. My pick-up week is:

Recycling – GREEN  Ward Debris – GREEN  RED

City of Banks
City of Beaverton
City of Cornelius
City of Hillsboro
City of King City
City of North Plains
City of Sherwood
City of Tigard
City of Tualatin
City of King City
City of Hillsboro
City of King City
City of North Plains
City of Sherwood
City of Tigard
City of Tualatin

www.WashingtonCountyRecycles.org
Did you know using worms to compost your organic food waste (called vermicomposting) can help generate a nutrient-rich soil amendment for your plants while keeping some of your food waste from going into the garbage? These little red worms are not only a fun experience for the kids, but can help provide an education to the whole family about reducing their waste.

**What is worm composting?**
Composting is the process where organisms such as bacteria, worms and insects help turn fruit and vegetable waste into a nutrient-rich soil amendment called compost. Worm composting uses red worms in an enclosed container to create worm castings, or vermicompost.

**Getting started—**

**Needed equipment & resources**
- A worm bin—a container that is wide and shallow (store-bought, created by hand, or repurpose a trunk or drawer)
- Red worms (contact Metro Recycling Information 503-234-3000)
- Bedding (shredded newspaper, coconut fiber, dry leaves or straw)
- Fruit and vegetable scraps from your kitchen

**Setting up a worm bin**
Creating an enclosure for your worms to compost food waste is easy. Fill the container three-quarters full with moistened bedding. Add the worms. Pull aside some of the bedding, bury the food waste and cover it up. Instructions to make a wooden worm bin by-hand or convert a plastic tote bin (new or salvaged) can be found at Metro’s website below. Select “Composting with worms” and locate resources linked at the bottom of the web page. [www.oregonmetro.gov/compost](http://www.oregonmetro.gov/compost)

**Where to place your bin**
Worms prefer temperatures between 55 and 80 degrees Fahrenheit. If you have an outside bin, place it in the shade during the summer and insulate it during the winter. Winterizing can include filling the bin with straw, covering with a tarp and using solid foam insulation beneath the lid and along the sides.

**Food waste – What do worms eat?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YES</th>
<th>NO*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vegetable scraps</td>
<td>Meat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fish</td>
<td>Coffee grounds and filters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dairy products</td>
<td>Tea bags and filters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grains</td>
<td>Limited amounts of bread (no butter or mayonnaise)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crackers, rice, pasta</td>
<td>Fruit peels or pulp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greasy or oily foods</td>
<td>Pet waste</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* to avoid odor or pest problems, do not compost items in the NO list.

**Worm Bin Basics booklet – free resource**
Learn more about how to feed and care for your worms and troubleshoot problems. Request a free [Metro Worm Bin Basics booklet](http://metro.washtington.or.us) from Washington County or download a copy from Metro’s website.[recycle@co.washington.or.us](mailto:recycle@co.washington.or.us) 503-846-8609

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**Summer Entertaining and Picnics!**

Summertime is just around the corner! Will there be a graduation party or picnic in your future? Take time now to include choices that save time and money, improve recycling and prevent generating extra trash. Set an example for others to follow at their events.

Here are some ideas to help year-round celebrations be more creative and less wasteful.

**Shopping—Make a plan**
- Carefully plan your menu and know which ingredients you don’t already have on hand.
- Buy/order in bulk to reduce packaging—talk with your butcher, baker and/or caterer.
- Finger food and snacks eliminates the need to use utensils.
- Get creative! Serve salads in vegetable or fruit rinds, such as a watermelon boat!
- Portion control—know what equals a portion so you won’t have too many leftovers to send home with guests.
- Food donation—if your caterer brought too much food, ask them to donate the leftovers to a community food kitchen to feed others.

**Serving—Keep it simple**
- Use durable serving ware (plates, utensils, cups, serving dishes, etc.) and fabric napkins.
- Dress tables in fabric or vinyl tablecloths.
- Serve family-style—large containers such as coolers, pitchers and bowls for condiments, snacks, desserts, drinks, etc.
- Use towels, rags and sponges instead of paper towels.
- Bring your own (plate, utensil, cups).

**Setting up—Decorations/Invitations**
- Send guests online invitations or make invitations from repurposed materials.
- Borrow or rent items that you’ll only need once.
- Use what you have—vases, baskets, lanterns, banners, centerpieces, bowls, etc.

**Sharing—Pass it on**
- Offer to share your durable party ware and decorations with others for their events.

**Cleaning up—Recycle to reduce**
- Recycle glass, plastic bottles, and metal cans/containers.
- Label all garbage and recycling containers and set in convenient areas.
- Use the buddy system; set each garbage can next to a recycling bin.
- Put vegetables and fruit peelings into your backyard compost pile
- Use durable plates and utensils to reduce the amount of garbage you throw out.
Oregon E-Cycles
Free Electronics Recycling Program
Oregon E-Cycles is a free, easy and environmentally responsible recycling program for computers, monitors and TVs. The program is financed by electronics manufacturers and jointly implemented with the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ).

What is accepted:
Anyone can bring seven or fewer computers (desktops and laptops), monitors and TVs at a time to participating Oregon E-Cycles collection sites for free recycling. All computers, monitors and TVs—regardless of brand, age or condition—are accepted. NOTE: computer peripherals (keyboards, mice, etc.) and other types of electronics are not included.

Oregon E-Cycles collection sites are located statewide and operate year-round. Washington County collection locations (list may not be inclusive):

• Best Buy (Beaverton, Hillsboro and Tualatin) - no console TVs or tubes >32"
• EcoBinary, LLC (Beaverton)
• Far West Fibers (Beaverton and Hillsboro)
• Goodwill Stores and Drop-off sites (multiple sites)
• Hillsboro Landfill (Minter Bridge Rd)
• Metro Central Transfer Station (NW Portland)
• Pride Disposal (Tualatin-Sherwood Rd)
• Salvation Army Stores and Drop-off sites (multiple sites)
• Standard TV & Appliance (Beaverton)

Erase hard drives.
Oregon E-Cycles assumes no liability for personal or confidential information left on computers. It is recommended that you erase all data before recycling. Reformattinf your drive or deleting files does NOT destroy your data. [TechSoup.org](http://www.TechSoup.org) provides articles about deleting personal information from your electronic devices. Go to [TechSoup.org](http://www.TechSoup.org) and search for “clean hard drives” for these two articles: *Avoid Data Theft: Clean Your Old Hard Drives* and *Obliterate Your Hard Drive Data with Disk-Wiping Software*.

Disclaimer: The Department of Environmental Quality does not endorse any of these data security solutions.

Don’t throw away $$— redeem water bottles!
Water bottles now have a five cent deposit. Make a point to redeem your containers and claim your nickel! As of January 2009, Oregon expanded its landmark bottle bill to include a refundable deposit on all water and flavored water bottles under three liters. While many bottles are being redeemed, we still have a ways to go. Help boost the recycling numbers and make a little change for your pocket!!

Redemption deposit on the following containers:

- beer and malt beverages
- carbonated mineral waters
- carbonated soft drinks
- still water
- flavored water

Waste—By the DEQ Numbers
According to Oregon Department of Environmental Quality’s 2011 Material Recovery and Waste Generation Report, the most recent available data:

- Oregonians generated nearly the same amount of waste in 1997 as 2011—6.8 pounds per capita daily.
- In 1997 only 35% of the waste generated was recovered, where as 48.5% was recovered in 2011.
- The Metropolitan area’s recycling recovery rate in 2011 was 53% (broken down into three categories: 64% recycled, 17% recovered for energy, 19% composted)

Dealing with electronic waste
Many electronic items, including computers, monitors and televisions, contain hazardous materials and must be recycled properly. Picture tubes, called cathode ray tubes (CRTs), contain three to eight pounds of lead. Circuit boards contain lead, cadmium, mercury and other hazardous materials.

Proper storage and transportation of materials for recycling
To preserve salvage value, keep electronic products indoors and dry prior to recycling. Do not take computers, televisions and monitors apart. This will not reduce the recycling fee and creates risk of shock or implosion of the CRT. Handle products carefully (as you would a new product) during storage and delivery to a recycling drop-off location.

Reusing computers
Some used computers still have value and can be fixed for reuse. However, new operating systems must be purchased if the used computer does not have the operating system purchase certificate with it. This added expense keeps many computers from being reused. If you would like your computer to have a second life, provide paperwork, CDs or software along with your used computer.

Remove any personal information and data from the computer before reuse or recycling. Software products are available that can help you remove information.

Source: Metro Regional Government website

Did You Know?

**25.9 million**
pounds of computers, monitors and televisions recycled by Oregonians in 2011 using the Oregon E-Cycles program

**6.71 pounds**
of electronic waste recycled in 2011 per capita in Oregon

* Source: The Oregonian, 5/16/12

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