

The Recycling Modernization Act is Now in Effect

As of July 1, 2025, Oregon's recycling system has officially entered a new era. Thanks to the Recycling Modernization Act (RMA), passed in 2021, the entire state is moving toward a single, uniform recycling list, reducing confusion and increasing access.

What Changes are Happening within Central Oregon

The uniform statewide recycling list is now in full effect for our curbside recycling program and drop-off centers. New materials added include pizza boxes, food and beverage cartons, and scrap metal.

Here's what goes in your blue mixed recycling cart or can be dropped off at any recycling deopt:

- Plastic
 - Plastic bottles, round containers, buckets, and rigid plant pots
 - *Caps OK if screwed on. All items must be 2 inches by 2 inches or larger.*
- Metal
 - Aluminum and steel cans and scrap metal
 - *Must be less than 10 pounds and 18 inches.*
- Cardboard and Food and Beverage Cartons
 - Flattened cardboard, packaging boxes, food and beverage cartons (milk, juice, soup, etc.)
 - *No freezer boxes. Pizza boxes must be empty with no food or grease residue.*
- Paper
 - Newspaper, magazines, office paper, egg cartons, mail, paperback books, paper bags, and non-metallic gift wrap

Please **DO NOT** include the following contaminants:

- Batteries, or battery-containing devices of any kind
- Food or liquids
- Plastic bags of any kind, or stretchy plastics, to-go food containers, drinking cups
- Hoses, cords, wires, or sharp objects
- Shredded paper (please recycle separately and take it to a recycling drop off center. Shredded paper is unable to be successfully recovered in the mixed recycling stream).

Why Did the System Change?

For years, recycling lists varied from city to city, and contaminated materials made it harder to turn recyclables into new products.

Now, Oregon has one clear set of rules for what is collected at the curb, and producers of packaging and paper products are helping to fund education & outreach, contamination reduction efforts, and overall system upgrades. This means less confusion for our customers, better access, and less guesswork for all Oregonians.

Watch for an updated recycling guide coming soon and available on our website. If you have any questions, please reach out to our customer service team. We appreciate your patience as we continue to update our information. Visit DEQ for more information on the [Plastic Pollution and Recycling Modernization Act](#)