

Materials Management: Senate Bills 245 and 263; Policy Option Package 132



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Quality

Materials Management Program

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DEQ is a leader in restoring, maintaining and enhancing the quality of Oregon's air, land and water.

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Senate Bill 263 would update waste prevention and recycling requirements and goals.

Despite steady increases in material recovery, many high-value materials are still thrown away, and materials collected for recycling are often contaminated. Opportunities to benefit from reducing waste in the first place are often missed.

Modernizing Oregon's decades-old recycling and waste prevention laws and goals will better measure environmental outcomes and guide state, local and private actions to increase and improve material recovery and prevent waste. Senate Bill 263 would:

- Expand program options cities and counties can use to provide opportunities for recycling and waste prevention beginning in 2016.

Increase requirements for larger cities, cities closer to Portland, and their counties. Nearly all affected cities and counties already exceed current requirements. SB 263 would capture these gains but require few program changes for these larger communities.

Add no new requirements in smaller communities and those further from Portland, but provide more options and greater flexibility in meeting existing requirements.

- Replace 2% waste prevention credits used to meet washed recovery goals with new waste prevention program elements beginning in 2016.
- Require landlords to provide tenants opportunities to recycle beginning in 2022.
- Update local waste recovery goals for 2025. Goals proposed were requested by each county.
- Update statewide goals.

Increase waste recovery goal from 50% to 52% by 2020, and to 55% by 2025.

Set new recovery goals for high-impact materials by 2020: 25% of food; 25% of plastics; and 12% of carpet.

Increase waste generation goal to 15% below 2012 levels by 2025, and to 40% below 2012 levels by 2050.

- Authorize the EQC to adopt alternative washed recovery goals to expand options for counties to meet recovery rates.

Senate Bill 245 would provide adequate, stable funding for materials management programs.

Program revenue comes from tipping and permit fees assessed on tons of solid waste disposed in Oregon. Revenue has declined sharply since 2008 with declines in disposal. At the same time, operating costs have increased and fees have not changed since 1994. Without fee increases, DEQ must continue to cut staff and programs.

Senate Bill 245 would increase tipping fees from \$0.81 to \$1.18/ton. DEQ is separately requesting budget approval to increase permit fees by rule to fund solid waste permit activities at current levels. Orphan site fees for cleanup of hazardous releases from abandoned landfills remain unchanged.

Proposed Fee Increases (per ton)		
Fee Type	Current Fee ('94 - '15)	Proposed Fee ('16 - '21)
Tipping fee	\$0.81	\$1.18
Permit fee (by rule)	\$0.30	\$0.58
Orphan site fee	\$0.13	\$0.13
Total	\$1.24	\$1.89

These state fees are a very small portion of overall garbage rates. The proposed increases would likely increase monthly garbage rates for households with basic garbage service by 4 to 7 cents per household.

Senate Bill 245 would also:

- Extend fees to a few waste streams not currently paying full fees: waste used as landfill cover (50% of tip fee) or taken to construction & demolition and tire landfills and compost facilities (potential), beginning in 2019.
- Authorize the Oregon Environmental Quality Commission to adjust tipping fees – within defined limits – to stabilize funding

in response to inflation and fluctuations in disposal tonnage.

- Require DEQ to report to the Legislature in 2022 on longer-term program funding options.

Public involvement

Senate Bills 245 and 263 were developed with extensive input from more than 100 stakeholders during 22 meetings over 14 months. DEQ also held more than 30 meetings with interested parties in most of Oregon's counties, particularly on Senate Bill 263.

Policy Option Package 132 would authorize DEQ to use this additional fee revenue to fund seven existing, unfunded positions.

These positions would focus on high-priority projects to improve waste management and recycling systems; reduce toxic chemicals in products, homes and the environment; prevent waste; and help Oregon businesses save money and reduce waste and environmental impacts through voluntary programs.

Many of these projects would benefit local governments through restored and enhanced programs and grants for household hazardous waste collection, waste prevention and reuse, recycling, composting and waste recovery.

Outcomes from Senate Bills 245 and 263 and Policy Option Package 132

Senate Bills 245 and 263 and Policy Option Package 132 together would generate revenue and update laws to build a solid foundation for implementing Oregon's [2050 Vision and Framework for Action](#) for sustainable materials management. Together, these bills would help the public and private sectors to conserve resources and energy and reduce pollution by:

- Reducing exposure to toxic chemicals in products, homes, schools and the local environment
- Increasing and improving prevention and recovery of high-impact materials such as food and plastics
- Increasing opportunities for individuals and business to prevent and recover waste
- Helping businesses reduce waste and gain efficiencies
- Improving recycling markets
- Growing the marketplace for green products through incentives
- Focusing state and local government and industry purchasing on lower-impact products

- Increasing food security by capturing edible food waste
- Increasing employment opportunities
- Measuring environmental outcomes for more informed decision-making
- Increasing public awareness about the environmental impacts of products

About the 2050 Vision for Materials Management

The Oregon Environmental Quality Commission adopted the *2050 Vision and Framework for Action* to help shift focus from managing wastes at the end of life, or time of discard, to identifying the most significant impacts occurring over the full life cycle of products and actions to reduce them. The Vision is:

Oregonians in 2050 produce and use materials responsibly; conserving resources • protecting the environment • living well



Materials management takes a comprehensive view in identifying and reducing environmental impacts across the full life cycle of materials, from resource extraction and manufacturing to transport, use and disposal. For many products, impacts from production are much greater than impacts from disposal.

Download the full document and learn more about the program at:

www.oregon.gov/deq/LQ/Pages/SW/MaterialsManagement.aspx.

For more information please contact:

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Alternative formats

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