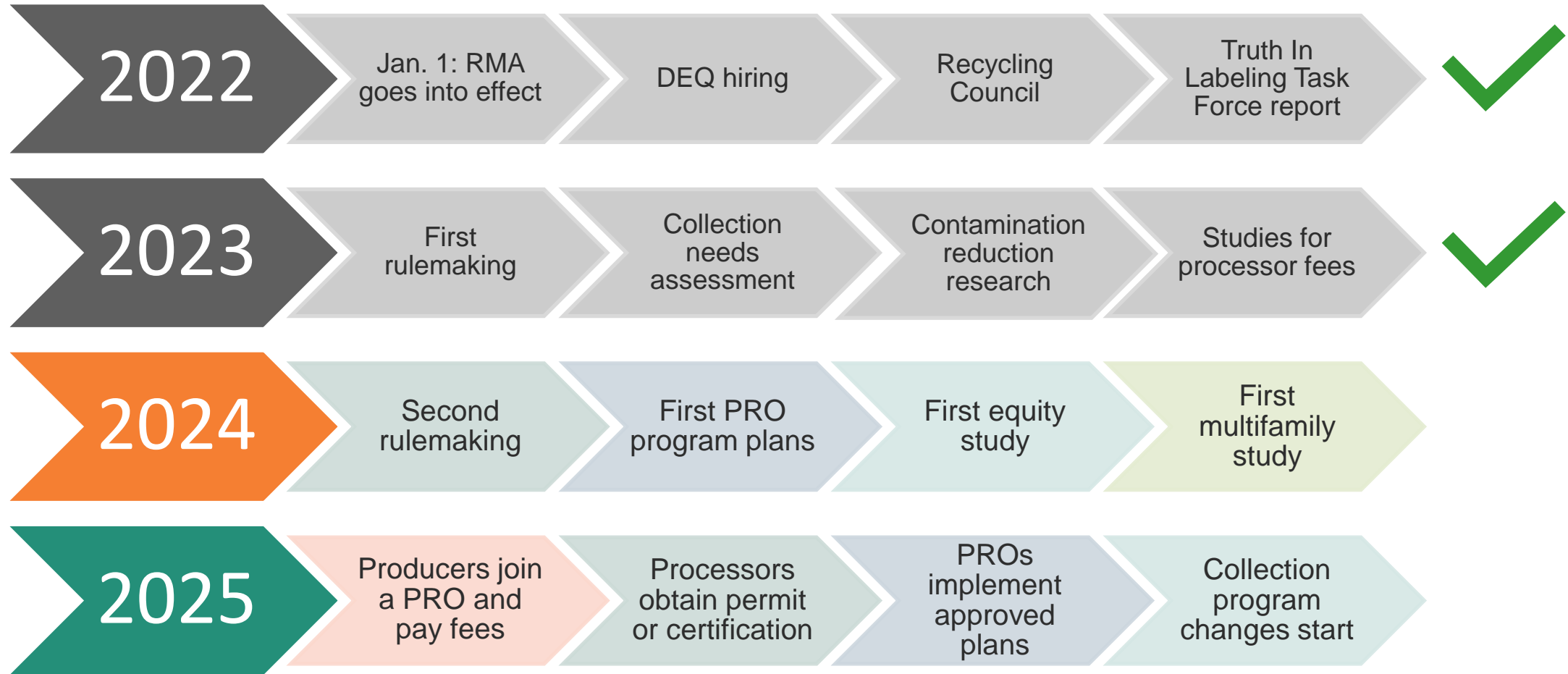


Plastic Pollution and Recycling Modernization Act Update

Senate Interim Committee on Energy & Environment

Abby Boudouris, Senior Legislative Analyst, Oregon DEQ
Arianne Sperry, Recycling Program Implementation Lead, Oregon DEQ
May 30, 2024

RMA -Major Milestones



Opportunity To Recycle and the RMA

Opportunity To Recycle

Portland Metro area, cities with populations of 4,000+ and unincorporated areas within the urban growth boundaries of those cities.

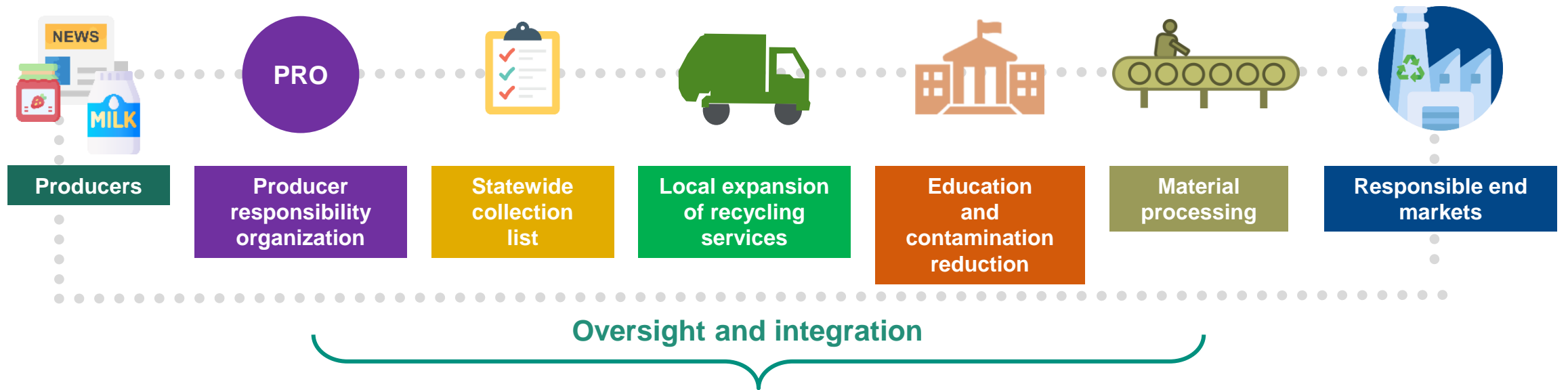
On-route collection of recyclables from garbage service customers.

Supplemental services, such as enhanced promotion or yard debris collection.

Sites that accept garbage from the public such as landfills or transfer stations.

Provide a depot solid waste disposal site or more convenient location where the public can deliver recyclables.

Overview of the RMA



Scope of the RMA

Examples of items in scope (packaging, printing and writing paper, and food serviceware)



Examples of exempted products under the RMA



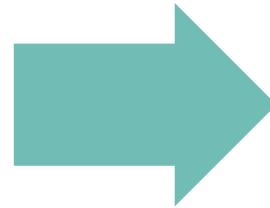
Examples of items covered by the Bottle Bill



Who is the obligated producer?

Items sold at physical retail in OR

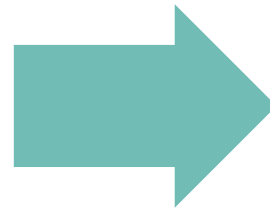
Sold in packaging under the manufacturer's own brand or in packaging without a brand.



Producer

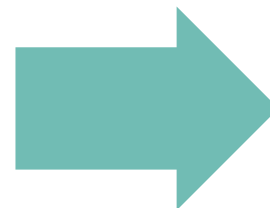
The brand owner/manufacturer of the packaged item.

The item is manufactured by a person other than the brand owner



The licensee of the brand or trademark under which a packaged item is used, sold, or distributed into Oregon, whether or not the trademark is registered in this state.

If neither of the above identifies an obligated producer



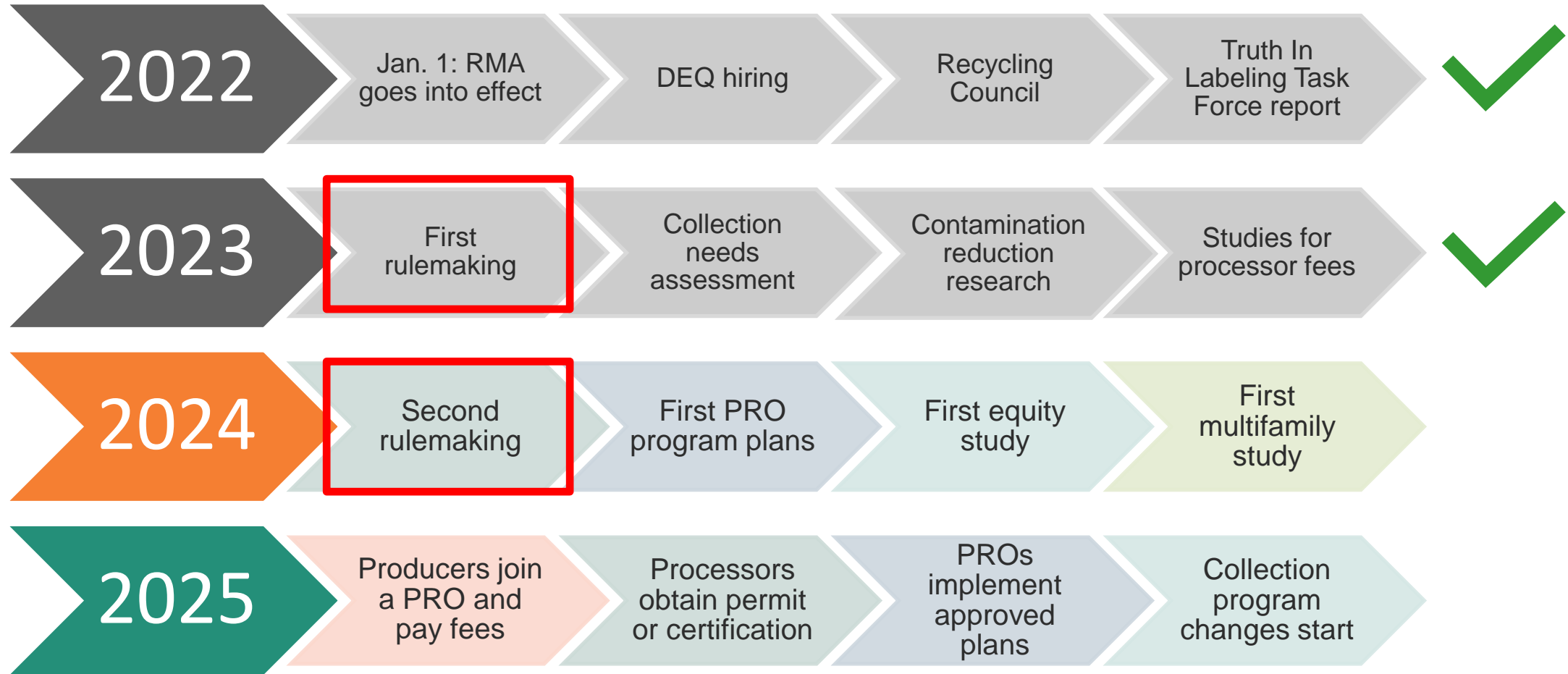
The person that imports the packaged item into the United States for use in a commercial enterprise that sells, offers for sale or distributes the item in this state.

Small Producer Exemption

“Small Producer” Definition: ORS 459A.863(32)

- Don't need to register with a PRO or pay fees
- Encompasses several types of producers, including those that meet either of the following two de minimis thresholds:
 - Less than \$5 million annual global revenue
 - Less than one metric ton of covered product sold into Oregon annually
- Other types of producers exempt as small producers:
 - Beverage producers with less than five tons of covered product sold into Oregon annually
 - Restaurants
 - Single retail establishments
 - Nonprofits and public entities

Rulemaking Processes



Rulemaking 1 Rules



Conforming updates to existing OTR rules.



Recycling acceptance lists.



Convenience standards, performance standards and collection targets for PRO Acceptance List recyclables.



Requirements on PROs, including fees to DEQ, responsible end markets, coordination in the event of multiple PROs, and more.



Standards for compensating local governments for transportation, contamination reduction, and new or expanded collection services.

Recycling Acceptance Lists

- Local Gov't Acceptance List
 - Includes Uniform Statewide Collection List (materials that can be collected commingled)
- PRO Recycling Acceptance List
- Materials assessed against 11 statutory criteria
- Goal is to recycle *better*, not just more

Only at depots and collected segregated from other materials (not commingled):

Scrap metal including large appliances and

Fact Sheet

Oregon Adopted Recycling Acceptance Lists

Updated December 2023

Beginning July 2025, all Oregon community members and businesses throughout the state can recycle a consistent set of materials. The Oregon Environmental Quality Commission adopted the following recycling acceptance lists on Nov. 16, 2023. These 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.

Local government acceptance lists

DEQ requires local governments to collect the following materials under their Opportunity to Recycle obligations in the modernized system.

Uniform statewide collection list

To be collected at depots and on-route collection, and suitable for commingled collection:

Corrugated cardboard (uncoated and recycle-compatible coated; clean pizza boxes OK)	All kraft paper (brown paper bags, mailers)
Paperboard packaging (e.g. cereal, cracker and medicine boxes)	Molded pulp packaging (e.g. egg cartons, but not food serveware or flower pots)
Polycosted cartons (e.g., milk cartons), aseptic cartons.	Tissue paper used as packaging (not facial or sanitary tissue)

Translation or other formats
Español | 中文 | 繁體中文 | Пускод | Tiếng Việt | العربية
800-452-4011 | TTY: 711 | deqinfo@deq.oregon.gov

State of Oregon
Department of Environmental Quality

Recycling Lists—Statutory Considerations

The stability, maturity, accessibility and viability of responsible end markets

Environmental health and safety considerations

The anticipated yield loss for the material during the recycling process

The material's compatibility with existing recycling infrastructure

The amount of the material available

The practicalities of sorting and storing the material

Contamination

The ability for waste generators to easily identify and properly prepare the material

Economic factors

Environmental factors from a life cycle perspective

The policy expressed in ORS 459.015(2)(a)-(c)

ORS 459A.914

Local Government Acceptance List:

Uniform Statewide Collection List

Corrugated cardboard



Molded pulp packaging



Paperboard boxes



Newspaper and magazines



Plastic bottles



Plastic tubs



Kraft paper



Cartons



Office and other paper



Aluminum cans



Steel cans



Scrap metal



Paper back books, telephone directories



Tissue paper and gift wrap



Nursery pots



Plastic buckets, pails, storage containers



PRO Recycling Acceptance List

- Required parallel system of “collection points” for recycling of materials not suitable for commingling
- Materials, convenience standards, performance standards established in rule



Rulemaking 2 (Proposed) Rules



Recycling processor permitting standards and fees



Living wages and supportive benefits



Waste prevention and reuse fee



Standards for evaluation and disclosure of impacts / Ecomodulation



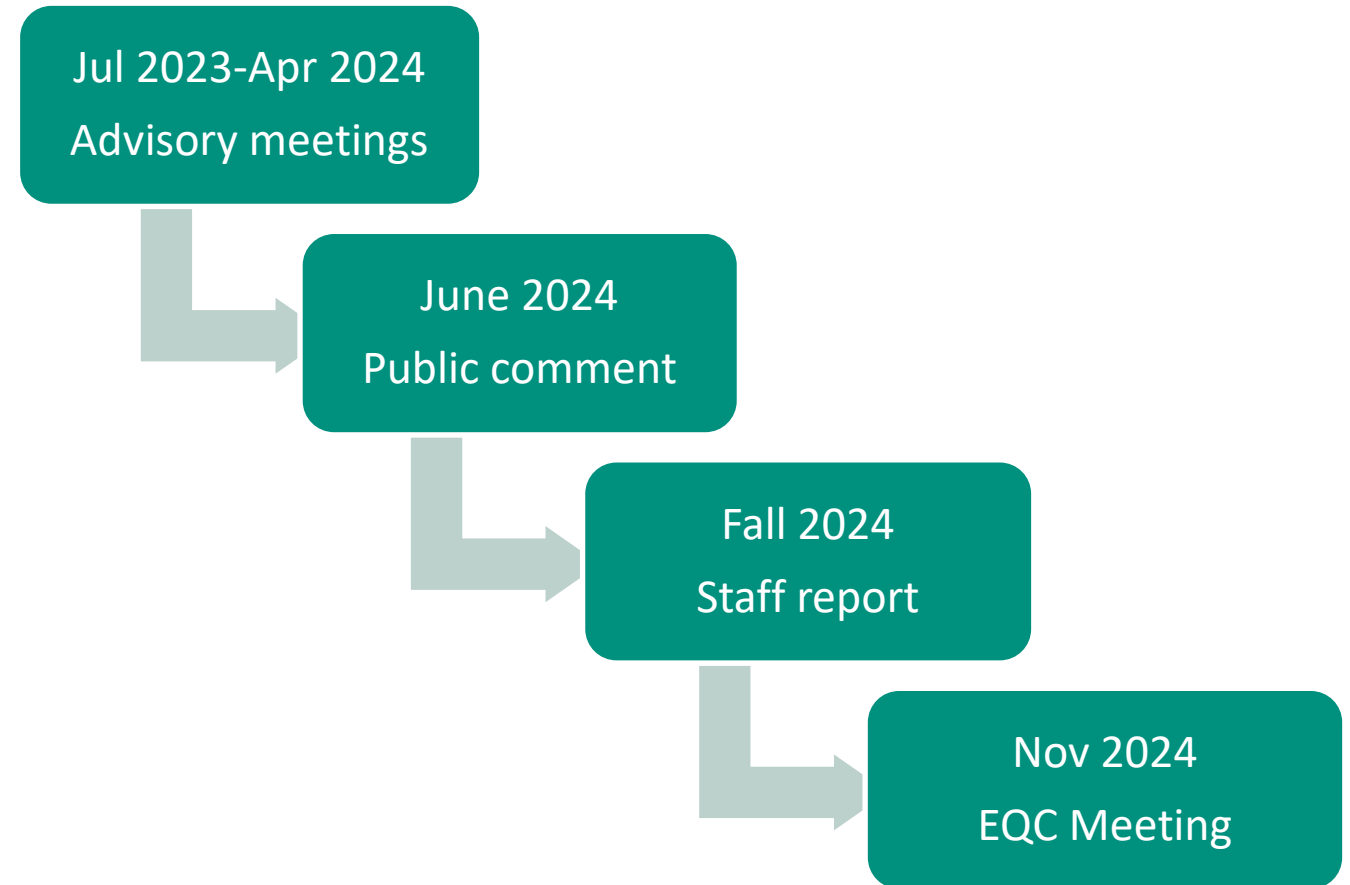
Covered product exemptions



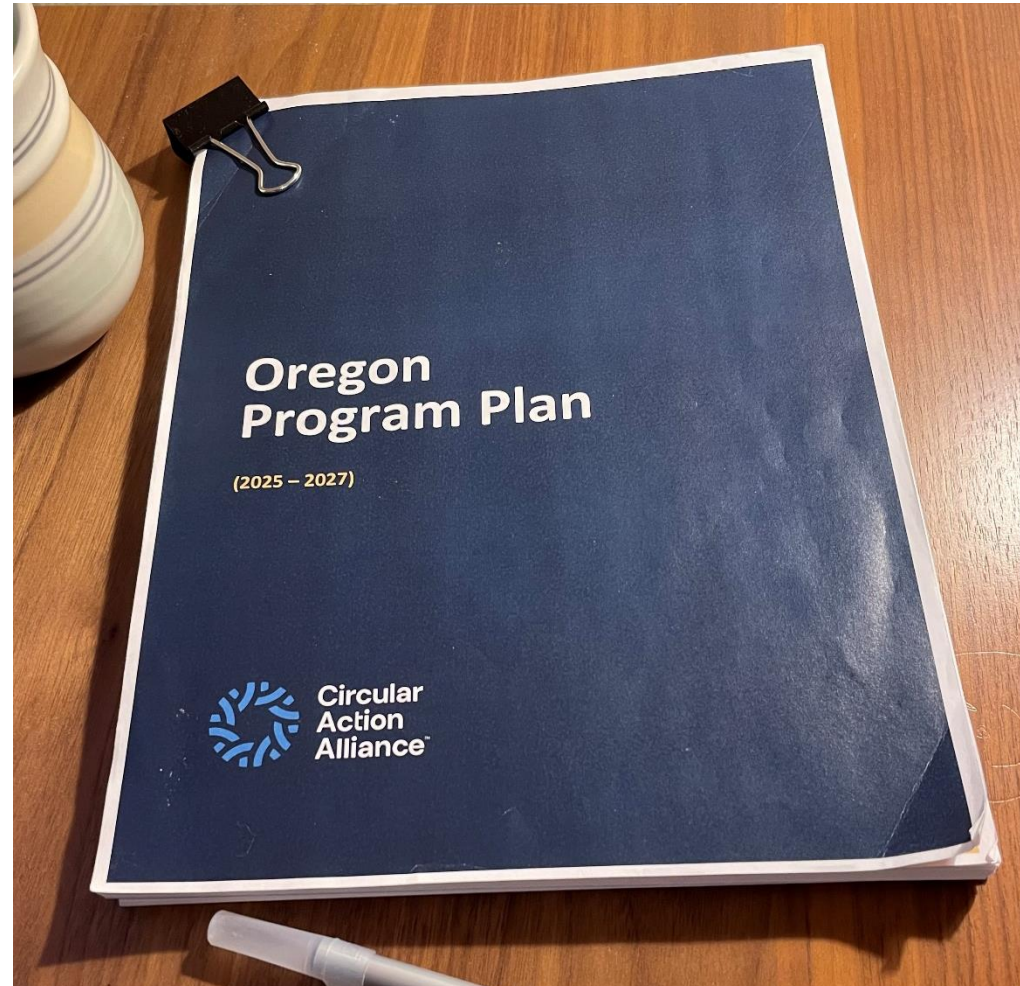
Contamination reduction programming

Timeline for second rulemaking

- Advisory committee meetings complete
- Public comment period opens June 1
- Public hearings June 27
- EQC meeting November



PRO Program Plan



PRO Program Plan Review

Plastic Pollution and Recycling Modernization Act

Recycle Right!

Reciclar Correctamente

RECYCLING IN OREGON

LOCAL GOVERNMENT
RESOURCES

MODERNIZING OREGON'S
RECYCLING SYSTEM

Life Cycle Impact Evaluation

The Plastic Pollution and Recycling Modernization Act will update Oregon's outdated recycling system by building on local community programs and leveraging the resources of producers to create an innovative system that works for everyone. The Oregon legislature passed the Recycling Modernization Act (Senate Bill 582) during the 2021 legislative session. The new law became effective Jan. 1, 2022 and recycling program changes will start in July 2025.

About the new law

This system-wide update will make recycling easier for the public to use, expand access to recycling services, upgrade the facilities that sort recyclables, and create environmental benefits while reducing social and environmental harms, such as plastic pollution. Producers and manufacturers of packaged items, paper products and food serviceware will pay for many of these necessary improvements and help ensure recycling is successful in Oregon.

 [Sign up for text or email updates via GovDelivery](#)



New! Proposed Producer Responsibility Organization Plan

Submitted by [Circular Action Alliance](#). Public comment on the plan is open now until May 31, 2024 at 5 p.m. The period for public comment has been extended from 40 days to 61 days.

[Submit your comment](#)