

Oregon's Recycling Modernization Act:

Roles & Responsibilities

The Recycling Modernization Act (RMA) requires companies that sell packaging, printing and writing paper, and food service ware into Oregon to share responsibility for the recycling system with local governments, recycling processors, and the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ).



Producers

Finance system improvements and ensure responsible recycling, as coordinated under a PRO (Producer Responsibility Organization).



Local Governments

Maintain local responsibility for collection and education.



Collectors

Work with system partners to improve collection access without disruption to service.



Producer Responsibility Organization (PRO)

Circular Action Alliance, as the PRO, administers and implements certain elements of the RMA.



Recycling Processors

Meet new standards and send materials to responsible end markets.



State Government

Provides strong oversight, enforcement, and permitting.



Oregon Recycling Council

Diverse partners advise DEQ and the PRO on important system elements.

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Materials Management: What Gets Recycled & Who Funds It

CAA will share responsibility with local governments to manage recyclable materials in Oregon. Recyclable materials are divided into two lists.



Uniform Statewide Collection List

These materials are managed by local governments and include common items we recycle at home via curbside recycling or at recycling depots, such as newspapers, milk jugs, cardboard, cans, yogurt tubs, etc. Funding for the collection of these materials is primarily covered by ratepayers, while CAA funds expansion of the recycling system and the costs of processing mixed recyclables.



PRO Acceptance List

The materials on the PRO acceptance list are managed through a collection system overseen and funded by CAA. This list includes materials that are not compatible with the commingled recycling stream, such as shredded paper, glass bottles and jars, Styrofoam and more.

What Do Producer Fees Fund?

Producer fees are managed by CAA (as the PRO) and these fees fund numerous projects to improve the effectiveness of Oregon's recycling system, such as:

Infrastructure Improvements

Enable local governments & their service providers, including haulers and recycling depots, to provide the opportunity to recycle for their communities.

Service Expansion

Provide financial support to recycling facilities to modernize equipment for more efficient capture of high-quality materials. Cover the cost to transport recyclables to markets.

Education and Outreach

Create resources for local governments and service providers to educate Oregonians about what and how to recycle.

Accountability

Develop verification systems and fund ongoing studies and audits to ensure recyclables are going to responsible end markets.

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