

Reducing Waste at Events



**A GUIDE TO WASTE REDUCTION AT
EVENTS IN DESCHUTES COUNTY.**



**SOLID
WASTE**





WHY TOWARDS ZERO WASTE?

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) estimates that approximately 42% of all greenhouse gas emissions stem from the production, transportation, and disposal of goods, food products, and packaging. By reducing, reusing, and recycling, we can conserve valuable resources, reduce energy consumption, and significantly lower carbon emissions, helping to mitigate climate change and lessen our environmental impact.

Oregon has set ambitious waste recovery and diversion goals to reduce landfill waste and promote recycling, composting, and reuse. The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has established statewide materials management targets to cut waste and greenhouse gas emissions, recognizing the vital role of waste prevention in climate action. By 2025, Oregon aims to achieve a 55% recovery rate across all waste streams, with a specific target of 25% recovery for food waste. The state is also working to reduce per capita waste disposal by 15% by 2025 and 40% by 2050, using 2012 levels as a baseline.

The Benefits of Hosting a Towards-Zero Waste Event

Environmental Impact

Minimizing waste at events helps recover the value of unwanted or leftover items by diverting recyclable, reusable, and organics from landfills.

Social Benefits

Planning a zero waste or reduced waste event not only promotes a positive image but also increases engagement and participation. Hosting these events demonstrates leadership in sustainability and encourages others to take action in their own communities, inspiring long-term behavior change.

Economic Cost Advantages

Reducing consumption and prioritizing reuse can lead to significant cost savings for event organizers. Supporting local businesses and organizations that provide sustainable goods and services not only helps reduce environmental impact but also strengthens the local economy.

The idea of planning a towards-zero waste event might seem overwhelming at first, but with a little extra effort in the planning stage, it becomes both achievable and rewarding. This guide provides practical steps and strategies to incorporate waste-reducing practices into both public and private events, making it easier than ever to host an event that is better for the environment, the community, and the economy.

Planning for Towards-Zero Waste

Getting started - The Planning Phase

The first step to strive for a zero waste event is to define the parameters and needs.

- Determine the size of the event and how many folks will be in attendance.
- Consider what types of waste will be generated at the event. Will there be bottles and cans? Will there be drinks served in reusable or disposable containers? Will vendors have cardboard and other specialized waste streams?
- Identify what materials you plan to recycle. What will your attendees be able to bring into the event and what types of materials will be distributed?
- Educate vendors throughout the planning process. Include expectations such as how materials should be separated; and require cooperation and coordination among all vendors and staff to ensure successful separation and collection of materials at your event.
- Do you have staff that can be the “green team” for the event and get stations and signage set up? Will they be able to assist in getting waste to the correct receptacles.

Zero Waste Success Story

In 2024, Hayden Homes Amphitheater green team sorted through 224,377 pounds of waste and were able to repurpose, recycle, compost, or donate 194,867 pounds of that waste – an 87% diversion rate! Concert goers produced an average of 1.6 ounces of landfill waste each. That's the second lowest in the country, according to Live Nation. The amphitheater was also first among all venues in bottle and can recycling.

Best Practices for Toward- Zero Waste Events

- **Strong Vendor Agreements** – Require vendors to use reusables and follow state rules, like the polystyrene ban. Clear communication and enforcement prevent waste. Track vendor materials, as glassware is challenging to manage unless used in bulk at a bar and can be saved to be brought to glass specific roll-carts.
- **Comprehensive Waste Sorting** – Events achieve high waste diversion with clear signage, color-coded bins, and well-labeled waste streams: Landfill, Redeemables, Food Waste, Recycling, and Cardboard. Green teams manage materials, prevent overflow, and reduce contamination, with staffed waste stations being most effective.
- **Reusable Drinkware/Dishware Programs** – Many events eliminate disposable plastic cups by using reusable drinkware programs. For multi-location events, success comes from offering the first drink with a purchased reusable cup or allowing attendees to bring their own. Event centers typically own, wash, and reuse cups.
- **Side-by-Side Signed Waste Stations** - To reinforce waste diversion, every landfill bin should always be placed next to recycling and compost bins. Stand alone trash bins lead to everything being thrown in the landfill. Using large, color-coded signs with both words and images helps attendees quickly identify what goes where. *Signs can be printed for event and are in appendix.*

Vendor Agreements: Partnering for a Towards-Zero Waste Event

Engaging with vendors is crucial for reducing waste at events, as they generate a significant portion of the waste stream. A vendor agreement serves as a tool to inform, educate, and ensure participation in towards zero waste event practices.

Below is sample language to incorporate into vendor agreements:

"By agreeing to be a part of the _____ event, you are agreeing to COMMIT to striving towards-ZERO WASTE - you are agreeing to model a towards-zero waste event for the community!"

- **Compliance with Local/State Regulations:** Vendors must comply with the state Polystyrene Foam Ordinance to minimize plastic waste.
- **Sustainable Foodware:** When reusable plates, cups, and utensils are not feasible, vendors must use paper-based products reducing any single use plastic. Reusables are best to model at events and have seen success at many events in Deschutes County and Oregon.
- **Recycling Commitment:** This event is recycling to support a cleaner, more sustainable future. Vendors must understand recycling in Deschutes County through the 101 document. At your cart, please provide recycling bins for materials such as paper and paperboard, plastic tubs, jugs and beverage containers, tin and aluminum cans.
- **Glass Recycling:** Glass cannot be placed in commingled bins. If you will have glass during the event, let the event manager know.
- **Cardboard Recycling:** Flatten all cardboard boxes and keep them in your area for designated pickup.
- **Organics Collection:** If composting is required at the event, all food scraps must be placed in an organics/food scrap bucket collection bin to be composted. Compostable food ware (plates, bowls, cups, silverware, is not accepted at the composting facility.)
- **Bulk:** Opt for sauces and condiments in bulk or large container kept at safe temperatures. If you must utilize single-use packets of sauces and condiments, please first ask each attendee whether or not they need them before handing them out.
- **Food Donation:** Any excess, unserved food that is still safe to eat should be donated at the end of each day to other vendors or event goers to reduce waste and follow the food waste hierarchy.

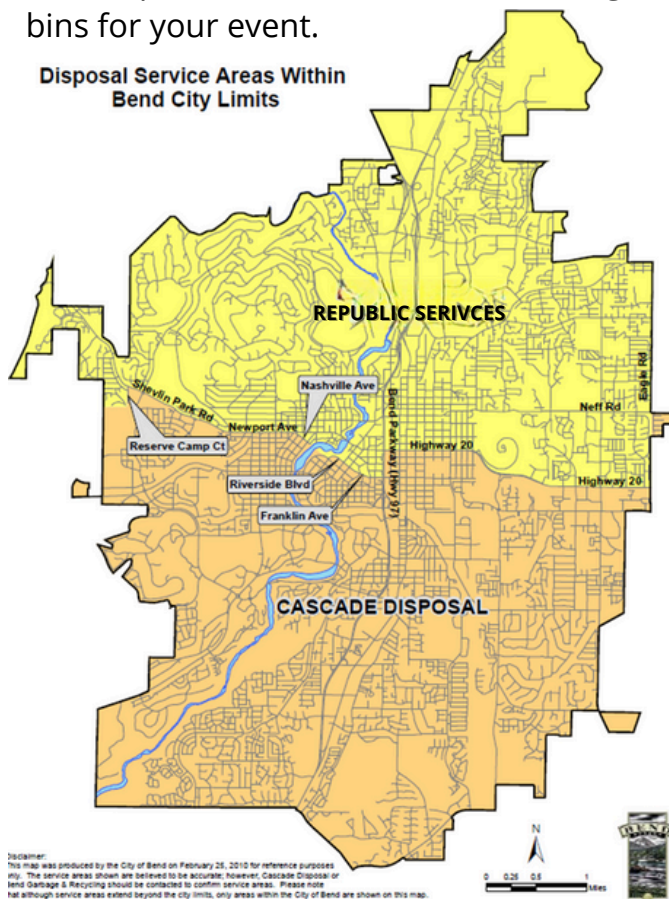
Preferred Materials	Unacceptable Materials
Paper sandwich wrap	Foil or plastic wrap
Paper plates	Plastic or Styrofoam plates
Paper bowls	Plastic or Styrofoam bowls
Wooden cutlery	Plastic cutlery
Paper boxes	Plastic clamshell containers
Bulk condiments	Individual condiment packages
Paper bags	Plastic bags



Event Waste Management

Ordering waste collection containers for the event.

In Deschutes County, two waste haulers collect refuse, wasted food and recycling. Cascade Disposal services south Bend and Sunriver. Republic Services picks up from La Pine, Sisters, Redmond and northern Bend. Contact the service providers to order waste management bins for your event.



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541-382-2263



CASCADE DISPOSAL
Bend, Oregon

541-382-6660

Diversion rate is the percent of the total waste that doesn't go to the landfill. If your diversion rate is 80%, that means only 20% of your waste went to the landfill. The higher the number the better!

Waste collection needs

Depending on the size of the event, organizers will need to order roll-off garbage containers or larger yard containers. All ideas below are based on estimates from other events and waste diversion efforts.

96-Gallon Roll Carts

Holding 7 household bags of waste, these containers are ample for small events of 50-500.

3/6 Yard Container

A 3-yard waste container holds up to 600 pounds of debris or 18 standard 30-gallon trash bags. Ideal for small events. A 6 yard container holds around 36 trash bags and holds up 6,000 to 8,000 pounds. These choices are best for events with 500-1500 attendees.

10-Yard Container

Holding 10 cubic yards of debris—about three pickup truckloads or 60 standard trash bags or 3-4 pickup truck loads—this container is great for medium sized events for 2,000 - 4,000 folks.

20-Yard Container

A 20-yard container holds about six pickup truckloads or 120 trash bags. This capacity would be ideal for a medium sized multi-day event or a large day event with 5,000-8,000 folks.

30-Yard Container

With a 30-cubic-yard capacity, this container holds up to 4 tons (8,000 pounds) or 180 trash bags. Suitable for large day events or weekend festivals. This sized dumpster is used at events like Winterfest (10,000 attendees over the weekend) or single day at Cascade Equinox.

The more diversion, the smaller the container needs.

Event Recycling and Composting

What Can You Recycle at Your Event?

Most event waste—like disposable cups, plates, cutlery, and napkins—belongs in the trash. When recyclables are dirty or mixed with trash, they can contaminate the entire batch, making it unusable. It is important prior to your event, to consider what types of recyclable materials will be generated at your event and how to divert them from the waste streams.

Remember that ALL disposable dishware, cutlery, and napkins go in the garbage, regardless of what they're made of, or whether they have a label that says "recyclable," "biodegradable," or "compostable."

Commonly, the only items at events that can be recycled are:

- plastic or glass bottles
- metal cans
- paper fliers
- cardboard from vendors
- plastic food tubs and jugs from vendors

Recycling Collection Needs

Now that you have determined what items you will have for recycling it is time to get the correct type bins for the event.

96-Gallon Commingled Recycling Roll Carts

Holding 7 household bags of recycling, these containers are ample for small events of 50-1,000. Acceptable material in roll carts are all the recyclable items listed above. For small events, these can be placed next to waste containers or in a location for green teams to add items too. Note, plastic bags **cannot** be placed in these containers. Items need to be clean and dry to be added to these carts and cardboard must be flattened.

3/6 yard Recycling Commingle Containers

This choice is best for events with 1,500-3,000 folks at the event and lots of recyclables. It is also important to determine if you will have a separate cardboard container and if you will be keeping redeemable bottles/cans out of the cart. These larger containers will be effective if there is paper recycling, and/or vendor specific plastic food tubs and jugs that are collected.

10-Yard Container

Holding 3-4 pickup truck loads—this container is great for large events for 3,000 - 5,000 folks.

20-Yard Container

A 20-yard container holds about six pickup truckloads. This capacity would be ideal for a multi-day event or a large day event with 5,000-10,000 folks.

30-Yard Container

This container holds about nine pickup trucks worth of recycling. Suitable for large day events or weekend festivals. This sized dumpster is used at weekend events, like Winterfest 10,000 attendees over the weekend, or single day at Cascade Equinox. 15,000 - 20,000 attendees.



Event Recycling and Composting

Green Teams

Green teams help minimize waste, improve recycling rates, and promote sustainable event practices. They play a key role in setting up and managing recycling at events by:

- Planning & Setup – Assessing waste needs, coordinating with haulers, and placing clearly labeled recycling stations in high-traffic areas.
- Education & Outreach – Training volunteers, providing signage, and engaging attendees on proper sorting.
- Monitoring & Maintenance – Checking bins, reducing contamination, and ensuring recyclables are collected properly.
- Post-Event Follow-Up – Tracking waste diversion, sharing results, and recommending improvements for future events.

Cardboard Recycling

Recycling cardboard conserves resources, reduces waste, and lowers costs. It saves trees, cuts energy and water use, and prevents methane emissions from landfills. Economically, it reduces disposal fees and supports jobs in the recycling industry. Highly recyclable, cardboard can be reused multiple times, making it a practical and sustainable choice for businesses and individuals.

If your event is going to have vendors that will have cardboard packaging, ordering a cardboard collection bin can support diversion rates. Cardboard must be flattened and placed in commingle carts or a dumpster collection. Green Teams are essential in collection and education of vendors. It is important to clearly label where cardboard will be collected and ensure that the bins do not take in any other material. Cardboard can be placed in commingle roll carts as well as 3-6 yard containers.

Bottle and Can Recycling/Redemption

Oregon's Bottle bill redemption program covers most glass, metal, and plastic beverage containers for soda, water, beer, and other drinks. Oregon's redemption system has one of the highest recycling rates in the country, exceeding 80%, helping to keep bottles and cans out of landfills and the environment. Programs like Oregon's BottleDrop demonstrate that people are more likely to recycle when they see a direct benefit

- Most events have bottles and cans that can be redeemed for deposit or recycled. There should be clearly signed collection containers next to every garbage collection container.
- Best practices are to use smaller more clearly identifiable containers and transfer materials into containers for collection. This prevents contamination and allows green teams to assist in sorting.
- The cans and bottles can be donated to organizations to sort post event. List of organizations to contact about collection can be found in the appendix.
- Please note, plastic bags CANNOT be placed in commingle streams.
- Deschutes County's EventCycle Solutions has Clear Stream containers that can be borrowed for events. Information in appendix.



Event Recycling and Composting

Commingled Recycling

Oregon's commingled recycling system allows residents and businesses to place recyclable materials into a single bin, making recycling more convenient. The collected materials are then sent to a Materials Recovery Facility (MRF), where they are sorted, processed, and sent to manufacturers for reuse. Recycling containers can be 96-gallon roll off or dumpster rentals. This type of recycling is minimum at events but can often assist in diversion through the vendors.

Accepted Materials:

- Paper & Cardboard – Newspaper, magazines, office paper, and flattened boxes **NOT** coffee cups.
- Metal – Aluminum cans, and tin cans.
- Plastic – Rigid plastic containers, tubs, jugs and bottles. Must be free of food residue. **NOT** beverage cups.

Challenges & Considerations:

- Contamination – Non-recyclable items like coffee cups, food and beverage cups. Proper sorting and reducing contamination are crucial for an effective system.

This type of recycling is minimum at events but can often assist in diversion through the vendors. Vendors should be provided information about local recycling. Please see [Deschutes County Recycling 101](#) in this document.

Glass Recycling

If your event will have glass from the bar or food vendor, you can order 96-gallon roll off containers for glass only.



Food Scrap Collection for Composting

Food scraps make up a large portion of event waste, and diverting them from landfills helps reduce methane emissions and conserve landfill space. Setting up compost collection stations with clear signage allows event organizers to minimize environmental impact and promote sustainable waste management.

In Bend, Sisters, and Redmond city limits, food waste collection is available in roll off containers.

However, composting facilities across Oregon do not accept “compostable” packaging or service ware. An Oregon DEQ study also found that compostable food service ware often has a higher carbon footprint than conventional plastics, making it a less sustainable option.

For best results, collect food scraps directly from vendors or through waste stations if using reusable dishware at the event.



Staffing, Waste Stations and Signage

Staffing

Even with great signage, each waste station should be either staffed or monitored to ensure consistent sorting. Consider peak times of use for emptying or replacing containers for smooth operation.

- **Zero Waste Lead** - This person can champion efforts, manage logistics and keep everyone on track. They manage shifts, create schedules for collection, liaise with vendors, ensure all bins and stations are signed and all service dumpsters are signed and placed in accessible locations green team and vendors.
- **Waste collectors and monitors** - These folks will monitor waste stations. They remove contamination, empty full bins and sort materials at the larger collection sites.

Event map with waste stations- The Zero Waste lead should create a sign map with where to place waste stations and garbage and recycling bins throughout the event space to assist in the collection and monitoring. If your event is large, creating zones can assist the crew in collection and monitoring.



Waste and Recycling bin loan program

Deschutes County offers EventCycle Solutions a portable waste and recycling bin lend program. The number of attendees determines how many collection stations you'll need:

- Under 100: 1
- 100-250: 2
- 250-500: 2-4
- 500-1,500: 4
- 1,500 - 2,500: 4-8
- 2,500 - 5,000: 8-12
- 5,000 - 10,000: 12-40 (this depends on the size of the event footprint)

A collection station should have garbage and recycling containers together. Set up stations in convenient locations and make them easy to spot with a sign, flag, or balloon. Limit the number of stations so they're easier to monitor



Waste stations

Waste stations should be placed in high traffic and high use areas such as near food carts, bar area and eating areas. Waste stations and ClearStream bins are available through Deschutes County Department of Solid Waste.

Signage is linked in the document below. For specific changes needed for your event email: jackie.mueller@deschutes.org

APPENDIX

EventCycle Solutions

Portable and lightweight recycling and waste bin lending program

Vision-Empowering events to waste less, recycle more, and create a sustainable experience in Bend.

The EventCycle Solutions is a free waste station lending program designed to elevate community awareness and participation in recycling and sustainability at events. This was made possible through Visit Bend's Sustainability funding.

By integrating sustainable waste management into events, EventCycle Solutions supports Bend's commitment to environmental responsibility, reinforcing the city's values while encouraging eco-friendly behaviors among attendees and increasing diversion rates, decreasing materials that are sent to the County Landfill and increasing recycling.

This self contained cargo trailer has:

- 40 - Clearstream bottle and can collection bins with lids and signage
- 40 - Clearstream waste collection bins with lids and signage
- 6 - Waste station sorting stations and banners
- 2 - Transporters
- Sandbags

Bags are provided with bins. Bin loans are subject to availability. Your reservation will be confirmed by email. Pick up and drop off information will be provided with your reservation confirmation. For more information or questions, call 541-317-4761



Waste Sorting station



Containers with lids



Transporter



Sand Bags

Deschutes County

Recycling 101

Deschutes County, spans 3,055 square miles, with a population of over 180,000, and includes the cities of Bend, Redmond, La Pine, and Sisters. The 620 tons of daily waste is taken to Knott Landfill, while all recyclables are baled and shipped to the Portland region for processing.

Recyclable

Glass



Glass bottles and jars (green, clear and brown). No broken glass. Put glass items in a separate bin.

Metal



Aluminum, tin and steel cans, empty aerosol cans, scrap metal (less than 10 pounds and 18 inches).

Plastic



Plastic round food containers tubs (6 oz. or larger), jugs, and bottles (6 oz. or larger), plant pots (4-inch diameter or larger), buckets (5 gallons or smaller).

Paper



Newspapers, egg cartons, magazines, catalogs, flattened cardboard boxes, food and beverage cartons, scrap paper and paper board.

NOT Recyclable in commingle

Plastic bags



Plastic produce containers



Plastic takeout



Takeout boxes



Plastic cups, lids and straws



Plastic lids



Hot drink cups



Plastic Clamshells



This is a Towards Zero Waste Event!

A "towards zero waste event" minimizes landfill waste through composting, recycling, and reusables, aiming to divert nearly all waste from landfills.

**Do not throw out dishware or
silverware. It is all reusable!
Scrape all food scraps into
designated bins!**



Upstream waste fact

For every 1 lb of waste you throw away, 71 lbs were created upstream during production.

Recycling fact

\$700 million worth of aluminum cans are dumped in the garbage each year. Not to mention, in 2018 alone, Americans generated 1.9 million tons of aluminum waste from containers and packaging.

This is a **TOWARDS ZERO WASTE** Event!

All dishware and silverware will be washed and reused. All food scraps and napkins will be composted. Please do not throw out any food scraps or dishware.

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Food waste fact

In 2022, Oregon wasted 968,000 tons of food, which is enough to fill garbage trucks from the northern to southern borders of the state.

Waste generation

In 2022, Oregonians threw away 3.7 million tons of waste, which is about 1,724 pounds per person.

HYDRATION STATION SYSTEMS

WATER MONSTER RENTAL SHEET



WATER MONSTER RENTALS

<https://eventwaterstations.com/>

341-520-6847

INFO@HYDRATIONSTATIONSYSTEMS.COM

DESCRIPTION	EQUIPMENT	DELIVERY/SET UP/ REMOVAL	TOTAL
PRICING FOR A ONE DAY EVENT WITH DELIVERY, SET UP AND REMOVAL	\$300	350	\$650
PRICING FOR A TWO DAY EVENT WITH DELIVERY, SET UP AND REMOVAL	\$550	350	\$900
PRICING FOR A THREE DAY EVENT WITH DELIVERY, SET UP AND REMOVAL	\$775	350	\$1,125
PRICING FOR A THREE DAY EVENT WITH DELIVERY, SET UP AND REMOVAL	\$1,000	350	\$1,350

CALL FOR PRICING ON MULTIPLE SYSTEMS - TANKS, HOSES, FILTERS, TOUCHLESS SPOUTS, AUTO SHUT OFF FLOAT, WATER FLAG.



SUSTAINABILITY

Reduce single use plastic bottles by providing cold filtered water refills.



GREENER

- Help reduce single use plastic bottles
- Encourage participants to refill their bottles
- Convert to "Paper Cup-free" running races
- Custom **WATER MONSTER** offers a more green powered advertising billboard.



AFFORDABILITY

Hydration stations greatly cost less than disposable water bottles.



Trifold shared with all zero waste volunteers before the Sisters Folk Festival.

Importance of Volunteers

Hey there! Thanks for being a ZERO WASTE GOALIE!

We're excited to have you helping out. Here's a quick guide to help you during your shift



As a zero waste volunteer, you play a HUGE role in helping reach this REDUCED WASTE goal

For this event to truly minimize waste, our recycling and compost streams MUST be free of contamination.

So..... It is extremely important that folks dispose of the right items in the correct bins to avoid contamination and help us reduce as much waste as possible.

Towards Zero Waste

Waste reduction is an important component of a healthy, sustainable community.

At SFF Presents we are striving to reduce waste at all events, this year and going forward.

These efforts are being supported through generous grants from The Environmental Center, in Bend and Can'd Aids' Crush-It Campaign.



Can'd Aids
CRUSH IT CRUSADE

At Big Ponderoo, we collectively diverted 54% of waste to recycling, redeemable or composting. This is an amazing figure as the average US festival saves 8% of waste reaching landfill.

Let's aim for even better at SFF!

SFF Presents
(541) 549-4979
info@sistersfolkfestival.org
PO Box 3500 PMB 304
204 W. Adams Ave
Sisters, OR 97759



A guide for Zero Waste Goalies



SFF Presents Initiative

Towards Zero Waste

Your task is to oversee a reduced waste station and educate festival goers on what is and is not recyclable, what is compostable and what is landfill trash.

We are collecting 4 separate streams for:
Trash
Food Compost
Recyclables
Cans & Bottles (redeemable)

What can we recycle?



The following could be recycled IF cleaned first

plastic bottles and jugs over 6oz, caps off

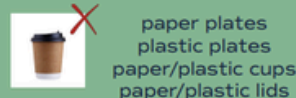


aluminium cans
tin cans
foil
jar lids



Change out bins when about 2/3rds full. Gloves, aprons, handsanitizer are provided.

What can't we recycle?



paper plates
plastic plates
paper/plastic cups
paper/plastic lids

food containers
clamshells
Styrofoam
bakery boxes



tissue paper
Saran wrap
plastic bags

Food Compost

All food can go in the special compost bin.
Note that only food is compostable. No other materials, even if marked compostable.



Redeemable Drink Cans & Bottles

Redeemable items (empty) should go in the designated bin.

CARDBOARD ONLY

SÓLO CARTÓN



PLEASE FLATTEN



CASCADE DISPOSAL

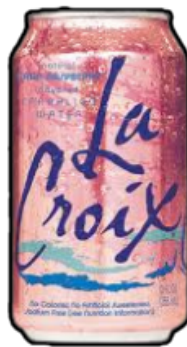
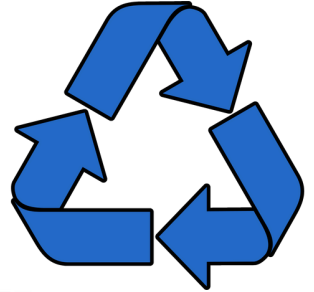
Bend, Oregon



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CANS & BOTTLES

BOTELLAS Y LATAS



PLEASE EMPTY LIQUIDS FIRST.
Primero vacíe los líquidos.



CASCADE DISPOSAL

Bend, Oregon



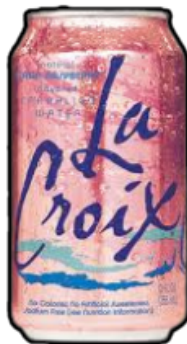
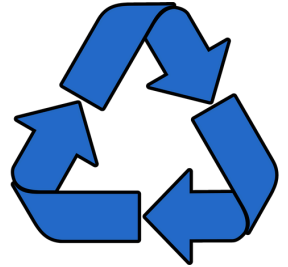
REPUBLIC
SERVICES

CANS & BOTTLES

BOTELLAS Y LATAS



NO CUPS



PLEASE EMPTY LIQUIDS FIRST.
Primero vacíe los líquidos.



CASCADE DISPOSAL
Bend, Oregon

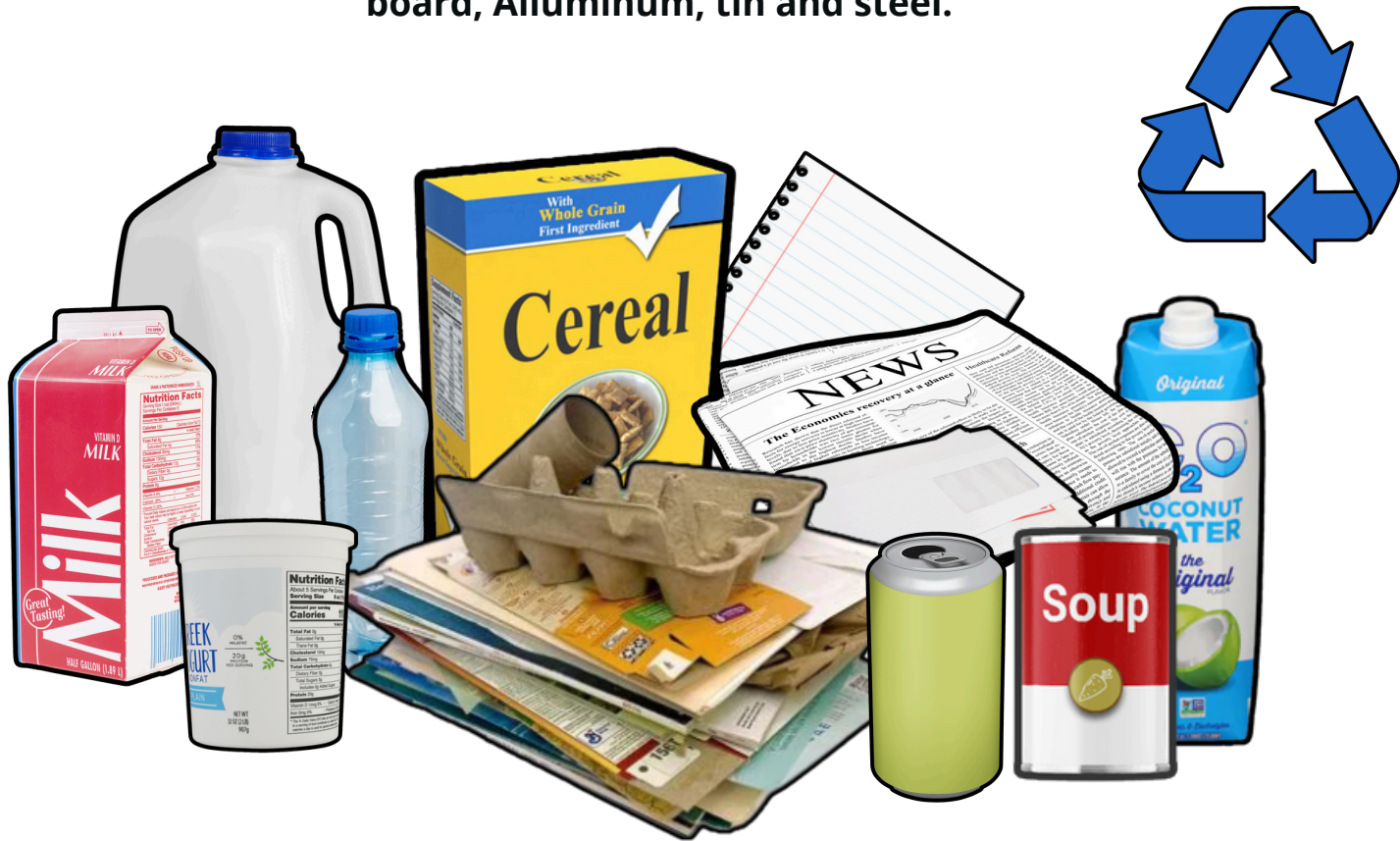


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MIXED RECYCLING

RECICLAJE MIXTO

Plastic tubs, bottles & jugs, Paper, Cardboard, Paper, cartons, paper board, Alluminum, tin and steel.



NO PLASTIC BAGS, CLAMSHELLS, OR SINGLE USE ITEMS PLEASE.

Por favor, no bolsas de plástico, envases tipo clamshell ni artículos de un solo uso



CASCADE DISPOSAL

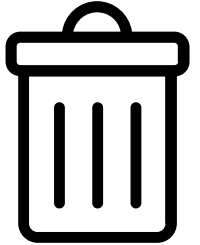


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GARBAGE

BASURA

Single use items, plastic bags,
food serviceware, wrappers and napkins



CASCADE DISPOSAL

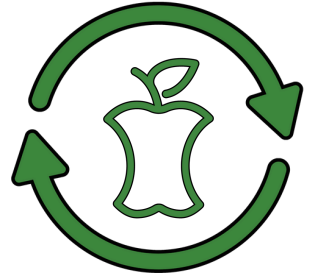
Bend, Oregon



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FOOD WASTE

DESECHOS ALIMENTARIOS



FOOD ONLY - NO WRAPPERS OR GARBAGE
Solo comida - Sin envoltorios ni basura



CASCADE DISPOSAL

Bend, Oregon



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GLASS ONLY

SÓLO VIDRIO



BOTTLES AND JARS
BOTTLES AND JARS BOTELLAS Y FRASCOS



CASCADE DISPOSAL

Bend, Oregon



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Options for the Redeemable Bottles and Cans

Many non-profit organizations collect bottles and cans for their organization and would be willing to accept bottles and cans post event. Below is a list with some maps for the drop-off locations.

Humane Society of Central Oregon

The Humane Society has a drop-off box located behind their facility.
61170 SE 27th St, Bend, OR 97702



Veteran in need of cans

There is a drop off location near the Humane Society to support a veteran. Located on the North Side of the Humane Society.



Shepard's House Ministries

Your can donation can support feeding and sheltering those experiencing houselessness. Cans can be dropped off at:
1854 NE Division St, Bend, OR 97701

Brightside Animal Clinic

Leave bags of cans at any of the self-serve kiosk locations listed below.

BrightSide's Thrift Store

838 NW 5th St.
Redmond, OR 97756

Bottle and can drop off locations in Bend.

Bend Pet Express
420 Windy Knolls Dr.
Bend, OR 97701

Bend Pavilion Ice Rink
1001 SW Bradbury Way
West Side of Parking Lot
Bend, OR 97702

Have a large donation?

If you have 30+ bags, please call us at 541-504-0101 and ask for our Thrift Store Manager to arrange a convenient drop-off or pick-up.



Calculating your Diversion Rates

Diversion rates measure (usually by weight) the portion of waste not sent to the landfill. Tracking your diversion rate over time is a great way to measure the effectiveness of reuse, recycling, and organic composting programs.

The formula for calculating your diversion rate is:

$$\left(\frac{\text{Weight of diverted waste only}}{\text{Weight of all waste}} \right) * 100 = \text{Diversion rate}$$

Most of the waste generated by events is measured in volume and will need to be converted.

Category	Volume	Estimated Weight by EPA
Garbage with food scraps	cubic yard	138 lbs.
	96 g - roll cart	66 lbs.
	40 g - ClearStream bag	27 lbs.
Garbage without food	cubic yard	63 lbs.
	96 g - roll cart	30 lbs.
	40 g - ClearStream bag	12.5 lbs.
Bottles and Cans	cubic yard	32 lbs.
	96 g - roll cart	15 lbs.
	40 g - ClearStream bag	6.4 lbs.
Food Scraps/Composting	64 g cart	150 lbs
Commingled Recycling	cubic yard	260 lbs.
	96 g - roll cart	122 lbs.
Cardboard Recycling	cubic yard	106 lbs.
	96 g - roll cart	50 lbs

Calculating Diversion Rates

Example 1

10 yard dumpster = 1,380 lbs

Bottle and Can recycling – 5 clear Stream Bags = 32 lbs

Cardboard recycling, 2 roll carts = 100 lbs

$$\frac{32 + 100}{1380 + 32 + 100} = \frac{132}{1512} \cdot 100 = \frac{8.7\%}{\text{Diversion Rate}}$$

Example 2

20 yard dumpster = 2,760 lbs

Bottle and Can recycling – 20 clear Stream Bags = 128 lbs

Cardboard recycling, 3 yard container = 318 lbs

Commingled recycling, 4, 96 gal carts = 1,040 lbs

$$\frac{128 + 318 + 1040}{128 + 318 + 1040 + 2760} = \frac{1486}{4246} \cdot 100 = \frac{34.9\%}{\text{Diversion Rate}}$$

Name of event: _____

What was Diverted? _____

What was the event diversion rate: _____