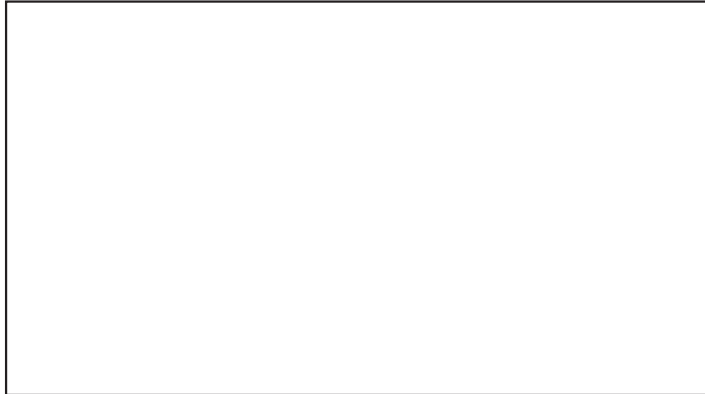


Plastics Recycling

We get a lot of questions about what goes into the commingled recycling. In 2009, each customer newsletter will focus on one material in depth.

Even the strongest markets for recycled materials have seen a decline over the last several months. As a result, it is more important than ever to keep our recycling "stream" clean, by preparing materials correctly and keeping contaminants out.



We know people are most confused by plastics, and with good reason. The plastics industry developed a clever system to identify the resin group a plastic is made of. The familiar chasing triangle with a number is on most plastic items on the market. While it's universal and one we all recognize, it doesn't really tell you that an item can be recycled, just what it's chemical composition is. The single most important fact in determining whether or not a material will be recycled is demand. Demand is low right now for most plastics. Consumers are not buying as much as they were a year ago. Factories, domestic and foreign, are not producing at the level they did a year ago. This has some positive ramifications in the long-run, but for recycling, it creates a slow down. Because we collect large amounts of recycling, over 7,000 tons of commingled recycling in 2008, we accept materials that have a steady market, in good times and in bad. We are not removing any materials from the curbside recycle stream.

The following plastics can be recycled in your tan cart:

Plastic Bottles. Bottles are defined as a plastic container that has an opening which is the smallest part. They may be clear, like a water bottle or solid as a lotion bottle.

Plastic Jugs. Jugs are just a bottle with a handle. They are most often solid like a detergent container, but may be clear like a syrup jug.

Plastic Tubs. Tubs are containers like those that sour cream and yogurt come in. They are a flexible plastic that is solid. When you squeeze them they do not make a crunchy sound.

Plastic Jars. Jars are containers that things like mayonnaise and peanut butter come in. They are usually clear and rigid.

Other plastics we can accept are **Nursery Pots** and **Buckets.** These should be smaller than five gallons in size. Larger items can jam in our trucks.

A note about plastic lids. Even though we put everything together in the commingled cart, recycling must be sorted into like materials. Plastics are sorted by hand. Very small items like bottle lids are just too small to get

sorted out. Plastic lids should only be included in the recycling if they are large enough to be sorted out, like a tub or bucket lid. If you forget and leave a lid on a bottle, don't worry, the bottle will

still be recycled. To find out more about the recycling process, go to <http://corvallis.disposal.com> and click on the link for *Saving Little Pieces of Our Earth.* It's a video, showing the sorting process that our recycling goes through and the end use of recycled materials.



Get Ready for Spring

It's not too early to begin thinking about those spring cleaning projects. Allied Waste can help with temporary containers. We have 1 1/2 yard containers for most home projects, so get in there and get rid of that clutter in the basement, garage, extra room or yard. We can provide information about what can be recycled too.

Premium pick up services are available at the curb for items like a couch or appliances. We can pick up that old TV at the curb and take it to our depot for recycling. If you have a larger job in mind, we have a container size for that too.

Call one of our customer service representatives at 754-0444 to get pricing information and be sure to ask for information about what can be recycled.

Mark your calendar for the Annual Spring Recycle Day, Saturday, April 11, 2009. Bring yard debris, metal and appliances and wood to be recycled. (See details on pg. 2.)

Upcoming Events:

Feb 14, 2009, Household Hazardous Waste Event, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
(Note, this date is a correction from our last newsletter. The correct date is Feb 14.)

April 11, 2009, Corvallis Spring Recycling Event, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

May 16, 2009, Household Hazardous Waste Event, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

June 27, 2009, Adair Village Spring Recycling Event.

e-Waste Update

January 1st marked a change in the way electronic waste is collected in Oregon. The new law makes recycling easier for CED's, covered electronic devices, which include computers, monitors and televisions, Allied Waste has accepted these items for more than five years, charging a fee for televisions. The new product stewardship law makes it possible for recyclers to accept these items without passing the cost on to consumers. The manufacturers of these materials are now sharing in the cost of recycling them. The law does not cover other electronics, but we will continue to accept them at our Belvue Street depot. CD and DVD players, cell phones, any digital equipment, game systems and stereo equipment, along with the above CDE's are all accepted (no speakers in wooden boxes.) The depot is open seven days a week from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Call our office to schedule a curbside pick up for your old T.V. Prices for T.V. pick up are for collection only and do not include a disposal fee.

Recycling Opportunities

Allied Waste of Corvallis recycled well over 20,000 tons of material in 2008. This included the paper, cardboard, plastic bottles, jugs, tubs and jars, tin and aluminum that goes in your tan cart and additional materials at our depot. There are still more recycling opportunities for those of you who want to go above and beyond. If you are looking to recycle more specialized or difficult to recycle products, here are a few options.

Vinyl Siding and fencing: NorthWest Polymers, Molalla, clean products only. nwpoly.com 503-829-3550.

Books: Books that are not appropriate for reuse can be recycled at Browsers Books in Albany or Corvallis. browsersbookstore.com, 541-758-1121 or 541-926-2612

Shoes: Athletic type and some other shoes can be recycled by Nike. Drop off location at Five Star Sports in Corvallis. 541-754-6825



Thanks to Benton County for providing the Master Recycler program with a meeting location at no cost. Thanks to Benton County, Allied Waste and OSU Recycling, we are able to co-sponsor the class and offer it to the public with the only cost to participants being 30 hours of community payback hours.



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Roll Cart Recycling Update

It's been just about a year since we made the conversion to the tan carts for our commingled recycling program. In January, 2008, we were hopeful that totals for the year would see an increase. We are pleased to report that we collected 10% more commingled re-



ycling in 2008 over 2007. Even better is the fact that we are not seeing a noticeable increase in contaminates.

Be a Good Neighbor

We want to remind our customers that all garbage and recycling carts should be removed from the curb within 24 hours of collection on your service day.

Please leave 3 feet between carts and place at least 4 feet away from obstacles like mail boxes, basketball hoops and cars. Use the arrows on the cart lid to face the cart in the right direction.

Thanks



Contact Us:

Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at: 541-754-0444.

After hours, leave a message and we will call you back.

or e-mail us at:

corvallis@disposal.com

or find us on the web at:

<http://corvallis.disposal.com>

for on-line bill pay option:

www.disposal.com

We are located at:

110 NW Walnut Blvd., Corvallis