

Oregon's Recycling Is Changing.

Here's How to Recycle Right in Deschutes County

Oregon passed a new law in 2021 called the Plastic Pollution and Recycling Modernization Act (RMA). This law helps make recycling easier, better for the environment, and the same in all parts of the state.



Here is what goes in mixed recycling:

Cardboard and Food & Beverage Cartons



- Flattened cardboard, packaging boxes, food and beverage cartons (milk, juice, soup, etc.)
- Pizza boxes must be empty with no food or grease residue

Plastic



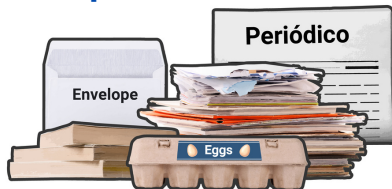
- Plastic bottles, round containers, buckets, and rigid plant pots
- Caps OK if screwed on. All items must be 2 inches by 2 inches or larger

Metal



- Aluminum and steel cans and scrap metal
- Must be less than 10 pounds and 18 inches

Paper Products



- Newspaper, magazines, office paper, egg cartons, mail, paperback books, paper bags, and non-metallic gift wrap



DO NOT recycle these items in your mixed recycling:

- ❌ Batteries or electronics
- ❌ Plastic bags or stretchy plastic
- ❌ Cords, hoses, wires
- ❌ Shredded paper (take to Deschutes Recycling at Knott Landfill and all transfer stations)
- ❌ Frozen Food boxes
- ❌ Food or Liquid

Why the Change?

With the RMA, Oregon now has one simple recycling list for everyone. This means less confusion and more people can recycle the right way. Producers of packaging and paper will also help pay for recycling education, contamination reduction efforts, and improved equipment.

The result, less confusion. Better access. Stronger recycling for Oregonians.

New recycling guides can be found on the city web pages.