



RETHINKWASTE

DESCHUTES COUNTY



**A HANDS-ON GUIDE
TO RESOURCE USE
IN DESCHUTES COUNTY**

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This publication is brought to you by a partnership between the Deschutes County Department of Solid Waste and The Environmental Center.

[The Deschutes County Department of Solid Waste](#) oversees the management of solid waste in Deschutes County, including Knott Landfill and Transfer Facility, and four other transfer stations throughout the County. [The Environmental Center](#) is a Bend-based nonprofit organization whose mission is to embed sustainability into daily life in Central Oregon. They translate sustainability into practical, local action to create a healthy future for people and the planet.



www.deschutes.org/sw
541-317-3163



www.envirocenter.org
541-385-6908



WELCOME TO THE RETHINK WASTE GUIDE

The Deschutes County Rethink Waste Guide has the tools and resources you need to reduce waste—and rethink the way you think about “waste”. From learning easy ways to reduce waste at home, like composting, choosing non-toxic alternatives, and buying local, we’re all taking steps towards the same goal: reduce, reuse, recycle, and rethink.

PROGRESS WORTH CELEBRATING

As Oregonians, we pride ourselves on being at the forefront of recycling. After all, we were the first state to enact a “Bottle Bill”. Deschutes County is no different. In 2009, Deschutes County recycled and composted 883 pounds of waste per person—45% of the total waste generated county-wide. Now that’s something to celebrate.

TAKING THE NEXT STEP

Even though we recycle more stuff each year, we’re also throwing away more each year. Our total waste stream—recyclables + garbage—keeps growing. In 2009, Deschutes County residents threw away more than 117,000 tons of stuff—all of it headed to the landfill, rather than being put to good “reuse”.

Back in the 1980s, when recycling was just getting going in Oregon, a full recycling bin was the right stretch goal. Today, we need a new goal: a full recycling bin and an empty garbage can. We’ll protect the environment and extend the life of Knott Landfill, our County’s lowest cost disposal option.

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

It’s never been easier to rethink and reduce your waste in Deschutes County. There are lots of new services that can help, like yard debris and “freggies” pick-up at the curb, and a Habitat Restore in every community. Those services and more are all described here, or on our website at www.rethinkwasteguide.com. So keep this guide handy and reuse it every day, as you start rethinking waste and making a difference, at home, at work and at school.

[find](#) resources to rethink waste

[find](#) a reuser or recycler

[home, business, school](#)

tips to rethink waste in Deschutes County, by reducing, reusing and recycling.

VISIT
WWW.RETHINKWASTEGUIDE.COM



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think

think

think

WHY RETHINK WASTE?

When we think of waste, we think of the trash we put in the bin for someone else to 'take out'. But what we put in the bin is all the leftover parts of wasted resources - the energy, water and materials that go into making and transporting the products we consume and enjoy.

Many of the things we waste could be kept out of the landfills by simply rethinking the *concept* of waste. Even a small change can make a big difference. Our hope is that through this guide, you can pick somewhere to start and begin rethinking, and redoing, the things you do every day.

What do you use in your home, work and life that becomes or causes waste?

How do the things you currently do in your home, work and life contribute to waste?

What happens to your stuff? Can you recycle or reuse anything that would otherwise be thrown out?

KNOWING A LITTLE HELPS A LOT

To rethink and better manage your waste, you first need to know a little about it. Waste minimization is not just about what happens in your home, work or where you spend your free time. It's developing an understanding of what comes in and what goes out, where it goes and what it looks like if it's kept around, or kept 'in the loop'.

Here are some useful facts:

- o Preparing the landfills for waste - and once they're full, constructing new ones - costs a lot of money.
- o Existing landfills produce a methane gas that is 21 times stronger than carbon dioxide.
- o Keeping materials in the loop through "reduce, reuse and recycle" conserves natural resources by preventing the unnecessary harvesting of new materials.
- o Minimizing toxic substances promotes healthier environments, and happier communities.

Wondering what to do with your waste?

Visit www.rethinkwasteguide.com to find places to reuse and recycle in Deschutes County.



Rethinking our waste is one of the most important things we can do. The biggest impact of a material product is actually found “upstream” of the products’ lifecycle, in the mining and harvesting of natural resources and the manufacturing and transportation of the product to its destination. By rethinking and reducing how much stuff we use, we can avoid significant impacts in the lifecycle of the products we enjoy.

Waste prevention is actually fairly simple. It’s about avoiding waste in the first place. It’s about rethinking choices as a consumer and making informed decisions when purchasing products or services. In its simplest form, waste prevention means “using less stuff.” And we can all do that.

Rethinking habits is a good first step. Here are some ways you can reduce your waste when you shop, work and play:



reduce

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at home

Simplify life. Often, the things we cherish most aren’t for sale. Spend time discovering “low tech” activities, such as outdoor recreation, handmade hobbies or crafts and visiting with family and friends.

- o **Repair broken or damaged items whenever possible.** You’ll save money, resources and support local business.
- o **Pack your lunch or snacks in reusable containers.**
- o **Kick the bottled water habit** by drinking delicious Central Oregon tap water from a refillable bottle.
- o **Learn a few simple sewing tricks** like mending or hemming, or take things to a tailor for clothing repairs.
- o **Replace disposable items**, such as napkins and paper towels with cloth napkins and dishtowels.
- o **Consider using a cloth diaper service** or one of the new easy to use washable diapers rather than disposables for your little one.
- o **Invest in rechargeable batteries and a charger.**
- o From fresh herbs to healthy chickens for eggs, **growing or raising your own food** helps curb kitchen waste.

rent, borrow or share

- o **Consider sharing or renting** tools, machines or supplies with friends, neighbors or coworkers rather than investing in new ones for one time projects. Some of the most commonly rented items are trailers, lawn care equipment, tables and chairs, power tools, tents and tree trimming equipment.
- o **The local library is sharing in action.** The Deschutes Public Library has an excellent online system for finding and renting books, CDs and DVDs.

when shopping



- o **Think first!** How often do you find yourself thinking about something you'd like to purchase? Society is great at producing flashy ads that entice us to buy things we don't need. This can be expensive and contributes to clutter, waste and pollution.
- o **Purchase items with minimal packaging.**
- o **Buy local!** Locally made goods don't have to be shipped far and generally consume less packaging. Check out The Green Spot at thegreenspot.org for local, sustainable businesses.
- o **Buy in bulk or "value pack" where possible.** You'll save money buying the items you use a lot of in bulk. Some products aren't available in bulk yet are available in large containers or in concentrate. You can save an average of 52% off heavily packaged products by shopping this way.
- o **Purchase durable products that can last a lifetime.** You'll probably end up spending a lot less and not wasting time replacing inferior goods that just don't last.
- o **Choose classic colors and styles that become staples in your closet through several seasons of wear.**
- o **Purchase products that are refillable and reusable.**
- o **When buying clothes, be ruthless on fit.** When you buy things that fit, you are more likely to wear them for the long term.



reduce

go paperless

- o **“Opt out” of junk.** The average home receives 41 pounds of junk mail each year. You can call the business’ 800 number if there is one or visitdmachoice.org to opt out of certain categories of unnecessary mail.
- o **Create scratch pads by reusing the backsides of used paper.**
- o **Utilize technology.** Scan, email and use online programs for document storage, banking, bill paying and many other routine transactions.
- o **Save paper by opting out of receiving phone books** by visiting yellowpagesoptout.com.
- o **Consider subscribing to online versions** of newspapers, magazines and journals.

food and meals

According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Food Loss Project, as a nation we throw away more than 25 percent of all the food we produce for sale and consumption. That’s 25.9 million tons. Food can be wasted by over-buying, over-preparing, over-ordering, or by simply buying unnecessary items that eventually go to waste. Here are some simple ways you can reduce your waste with food and meals:

- o **Preplan your meals** and make shopping lists before heading to the grocery store.
- o **Reinvent your leftovers** with creative dishes while they’re still fresh.
- o **Compost any leftover** fruits and vegetables you can’t reinvent.
- o **Donate unwanted** nonperishable foods to local food banks.

gift giving

Find gifts that are resource-friendly, such as energy efficient light bulbs or a multipurpose lunch-box or bag, and use a box that can be used over and over again.

- o **Find ways to gift experiences**, such as a unique trip, event or a handmade item.
- o **Get creative with gift wrapping** by using comics, old maps, fabrics or reusable bags.
- o **Make a charitable donation** in the name of the person you are gifting.



reduce

YOU CAN
make a
difference.

Stephanie Howe
Central Oregon Athlete



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bring your own

- o **Water Bottle.** Find or purchase a durable and refillable water bottle for staying hydrated with our delicious Central Oregon tap water.
- o **Coffee Mug.** Use a travel mug for your coffee and other beverages while also saving money. Coffee shops usually give a 5 or 10 cent discount for bringing your own cup.
- o **Shopping Bag.** Say neither to paper or plastic with reusable, washable cloth bags for grocery shopping.
- o **To-Go Container.** When dining out, bring your own reusable to-go container for any leftovers you don't finish.



reduce

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take the top 10 rethink pledge

- Choose durable before disposable.
- Buy local and buy in bulk.
- Rent, borrow or share things like tools, books or common supplies.
- Use safer alternatives around the home and garden.
- Repair, refurbish and recover as much as possible.
- Donate used or unnecessary items.
- Upcycle your unwanted items.
- Try out backyard or worm composting and grasscycling.
- Recycle your computers, laptops, monitors, TVs and any old paint.
- Ask your garbage hauler about curbside service for easy recycling.

Stephanie Howe
Central Oregon Athlete

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local reuse rethink
 reduce durable refurbish
 borrow recycle repair
 donate share upcycle rent

“ONE MAN’S TRASH IS ANOTHER MAN’S TREASURE”, RIGHT?

We CAN make a difference by rethinking and reusing. Think about whether the materials you generally throw away could be used again. Materials can be donated, sold or given to someone in need. If just 100 people stopped using paper cups every day and carried reusable cups or mugs, collectively they would save 50,000 disposable cups a year - consider the resources saved. Or consider all the plastic grocery bags used to carry groceries from the store to car, car to house. That plastic bag is useless after the groceries are put away. Why not reuse a durable bag?

SIX RULES TO REUSE:

- o **Repair – refurbish – recover**, whenever possible.
- o **Upcycle**. Find a different use for it.
- o **Give it to someone who needs it**.
- o **Make a charitable donation**.
- o **Sell it**. Websites like Craigslist and eBay are reuse in action, providing people easy ways to sell, buy, or trade used goods.
- o **Give it away**. Check out Freecycle.com for freebie reuse opportunities.

easy to reuse

Building Supplies

Construction and demolition materials make up a large portion of our overall waste. By reusing things like lumber, doors, windows, and fixtures, we can keep these things out of the landfill. Check with your local Habitat for Humanity ReStore, or visit centraloregonhabitat.org for information.

Sporting Goods

Ready to part ways with your old bike or skis? Donate them to a second hand store or sell them on Craigslist or to one of our local used sporting goods stores.

Clothing

Styles change with the season, but clothing doesn't have to go to waste. Donate old clothing to a resale shop, hold a clothing swap with friends or give them new life by hemming or altering. Old clothing can be made into rags or even upcycled into fun accessories.

Books

Donate old books to the library, a local used bookstore or second hand shop.



reuse

rethink
at schools



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home composting

Over a quarter of our nation's household garbage consists of yard trimmings and food waste – compostable items that can be made into useful products. Composting harnesses nature's process of decomposition to create something that benefits our yards and gardens.

composting...

- Diverts thousands of pounds of garbage from the landfill.
- Is the ultimate closed loop system – turning garbage into something we can reuse.
- When used in the yard, compost boosts plant health, helps soils retain water and reduces the need for chemical fertilizers and pesticides.

three great ways to compost

- **Backyard Composting.** If you have a fair amount of yard waste, consider creating a compost pile in your yard. There are many options that range from a basic open pile to store bought tumbler style bins.
- **Worm Composting.** Worm composting is great for households that only have fruit and vegetable scraps, or for those who live in smaller spaces, such as apartments or condominiums.
- **Grasscycling.** Grasscycling refers to leaving your grass clippings on the lawn when mowing. Grass clippings decompose quickly, releasing up to 40% of the vital nutrients back into the lawn, reducing the need for chemical fertilizers.

DO compost

- Fruit and vegetable scraps
- Eggshells
- Coffee grounds, filters and tea bags
- Shredded paper
- Leaves and plant trimmings
- Grass clippings
- Pine needles, bark and wood chips

DO NOT compost

- Meat, fish parts or bones
- Dairy products
- Breads or grains
- Greasy or oily foods
- Weeds "gone to seed"
- Noxious or invasive weeds
- Diseased plants

learn more about composting at
RETHINKWASTEGUIDE.COM

compost pick-up and drop-off options

RESIDENTIAL COLLECTION

If you live in the city limits of Bend, Redmond or Sisters, you can sign up for yard debris collection for your yard waste and fruit and vegetable scraps. An easy way to remember what is accepted is “if it grows, it goes!” Contact your garbage hauler for information:

Bend Garbage & Recycling	North Bend	541-382-2263
Cascade Disposal	South Bend	541-382-6660
High Country Disposal	Redmond and Sisters	541-548-4984

DROP-OFF OPTIONS FOR ORGANICS

Do you have more yard debris than you can handle? For a fee, you can also drop off yard debris materials including grass clippings, brush, weeds, plant prunings, branches, stumps, pine needles, pine cones and sod, at the following locations:

Deschutes Recycling	Knott Landfill	541-388-1910
Negus Transfer Station	Redmond	541-548-7232
Northwest Transfer Station	Sisters	541-548-3437
Southwest Transfer Station	Between Sunriver and La Pine	541-317-3163

COMPOSTING FOR BUSINESSES

Restaurants, grocery stores, schools and other organizations that prepare or serve food can now get started composting through Bend Garbage & Recycling, Cascade Disposal and High Country Disposal’s commercial composting services. Contact your garbage hauler for information.

BUYING COMPOST

Deschutes Recycling sells several compost products for all of your landscaping needs.

Call 541-388-1910 or visit deschutesrecycling.com for information.



FIREFREE PROGRAM

To support Central Oregon in preparing for wildland fires, FireFree partners with the Deschutes County Department of Solid Waste and Deschutes Recycling to provide limited free yard debris recycling days at Knott Landfill and Transfer Stations. All yard waste collected is either composted or used for biomass fuel.

Visit firefree.org for information on dates and locations.



HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE

Everyday household products contain hazardous chemicals, such as paints, cleaners, oils, batteries, and pesticides, that require special care during their disposal. By understanding what household products are hazardous and what alternatives are available, you can create a safer and healthier home environment.

DANGERS OF HAZARDOUS PRODUCTS

- Human health hazards, such as dangerous vapors, fumes, skin burns, and other sicknesses.
- Repeated exposure to certain chemicals such as pesticides has been found to cause cancer or birth defects.
- Indoor air pollution from certain chemicals can have significant effects on our health. Oftentimes, indoor air is at least five times more polluted than outdoor air.
- Pesticides are intended to kill destructive insects, but they can also harm beneficial insects or birds.
- Run off from fertilizers and pesticides enters storm drains, polluting rivers and streams.

You should never dispose of your household hazardous waste down the sink, on the ground, down a storm drain or in your garbage can. Doing so can negatively impact our environment by contaminating surface water *and* groundwater. See the table on page 13 for information on where to take household hazardous waste in Deschutes County.

PAINT CARE PROGRAM

Don't throw away your unused paint! Give your paint new life with the Paint-Care program that takes back paint for recycling and reuse.

Visit paintcare.org for more information.



4 steps to reduce paint

Follow these steps for smart paint use and disposal:

1. **Buy only what you need.** Consult your paint store for how to measure how much paint you need.
2. **Whenever possible, use latex paint** which works as well as oil-based paint for most jobs, and is less hazardous and easier to use.
3. **Save leftover paint for future use.** Make sure you secure the lid and store the paint can upside down. Protect from freezing.
4. **Recycle the rest through the PaintCare program.**



Hazardous Waste Disposal Options

Hazardous Waste	Contact	Information	
<i>Household waste</i>	HHW Facility	See list below of accepted hazardous wastes from households*	541-317-3163
<i>Household pharmaceuticals and medicines</i>	Garbage or destruction program	Household pharmaceuticals and medicines can be disposed of in the garbage. Do not dispose of down a drain or in the toilet. Deschutes County Sheriff's office also has a destruction program.	541-388-6655
<i>Business waste</i>	HHW Facility	The HHW Facility also accepts hazardous waste from businesses through a separate program. Businesses must pre-register to participate.	541-317-3163
<i>Business medical waste</i>	Bend Garbage & Recycling	Medical waste generated by medical facilities is NOT accepted by HHW Facility. Commercial medical waste management services are provided by Bend Garbage & Recycling.	541-382-2263
<i>Medical sharps</i>	Knott Landfill or any Deschutes County Transfer Station	Medical sharps from home healthcare are accepted free of charge. The sharps must be in a sealed, leak - and puncture-proof container, preferably a manufactured sharps container, available for purchase at most pharmacies.	541-317-3163
<i>Asbestos</i>	Knott Landfill	Asbestos is accepted at Knott Landfill <u>ONLY</u> after receiving Solid Waste Department approval.	541-317-3163
<i>Latex and oil-based paint</i>	PaintCare Program	Don't throw away your unused paint! Give your paint new life with the PaintCare program that takes back paint for recycling and reuse.	paintcare.org

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE FACILITY (HHW)

Address: Knott Landfill | 61050 SE 27th Street | Bend, OR

More information: 541-317-3163

* The HHW Facility accepts the following hazardous wastes from households: paints, stains and solvents; fuels and thinners; oil filters and antifreeze; aerosols; household cleaning products; poisons; pesticides, herbicides and fertilizers; rechargeable batteries; fluorescent light bulbs and tubes; pool and spa chemicals.



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THE SAFER ALTERNATIVES. Fortunately, there are less-toxic products—greener products that can protect your family and the environment. Many grocery, drug or specialty stores carry non-toxic alternatives or you can experiment with making your own.

READ THE LABEL! You can learn a lot by looking at the labels of your favorite cleaning products. Product labels contain signal words, such as CAUTION, WARNING or DANGER. Typically, products labeled POISON or DANGER are the most hazardous. Those labeled CAUTION or WARNING pose a medium hazard, usually in the form of skin or eye irritants. Look for labels that have no signal words, or at the very least, are only labeled CAUTION.

So, how do you know what is truly “green”? Read labels carefully! If you see “non-toxic” on one side, and “harmful vapors” on the other side, then the product may be making false claims. Use caution with words such as “organic” or “natural”, as those words can describe ingredients that are still harmful. Also look for ingredients that you recognize or can pronounce, which may be less harmful.

John Flannery | Bend, OR

make your own!

For the more adventurous, you might find that many household products are easy to make and are great alternatives to store-bought products.

Easy recipes for general cleaners:

- o For a **general surface cleaner**, mix ½ cup vinegar and 1 cup to 1 quart of warm water. Add lemon juice for natural fragrance.
- o For an **abrasive cleaner**, use baking soda or a non-chlorinated scouring powder.
- o **Rubbing alcohol works as a natural disinfectant**, although take care to use in a well-ventilated area.

YARD AND GARDEN ALTERNATIVES

- o Plant native plants that thrive in Central Oregon. This can be one of the most effective ways to ward off pests and diseases, as native plants are generally disease and pest resistant, allowing you to use fewer chemicals.
- o Identify pests carefully, as many insects are either harmless or even beneficial.
- o Use compost in your yard and on your lawn as a great alternative to chemical fertilizers.
- o Use “organic” labeled fertilizers, as they tend to last longer in the soil and are less likely to migrate to other areas or waterways.

learn more

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WWW

OREGON E-CYCLES

Oregonians dispose of millions of pounds of electronics every year. These products contain hazardous substances, such as lead, cadmium and mercury, that can harm our health and environment. Electronics also contain valuable materials, such as copper, gold and aluminum, that can be recycled and reused in new products.

Oregon E-Cycles recycles electronics currently banned from Oregon landfills, such as desktop CPUs, laptops, monitors and TVs, for free throughout the state. Any household can bring up to seven computers (desktop CPUs and laptops), monitors and TVs at a time to participating collection sites for free recycling, year round. ALL business CPUs, laptops, monitors, TVs, and computer parts and components must be recycled through the Oregon E-Waste Program. Financed by electronics manufacturers, the program is jointly implemented with the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ).

Participating recyclers must meet DEQ's Environmental Management Practices (EMPs). The EMPs ensure electronics are recycled in a way that protects human health and the environment.

Visit **Oregon E-Cycles** at www.deq.state.or.us/lq/ecycle.



ELECTRONIC PARTS AND COMPONENTS

Electronic parts and components, such as keyboards, mice, speakers, disk drives, printers, faxes, telephone equipment, cell phones, digital cameras, radios, VCR's, DVD players, projector and copy machines, are NOT included in Oregon E-Cycles and are accepted at Deschutes Recycling for a fee.

Contact 541-388-1910 for information.



5

Places to Recycle Computer CPUs, Laptops, Monitors, and TVs

- o Deschutes Recycling at Knott Landfill
- o Negus Transfer Station
- o Northwest Transfer Station
- o Southwest Transfer Station
- o Alfalfa Transfer Station

Many other collection sites are available in Deschutes County. To find an Oregon E-Cycles collection site near you, call 1-888-5-ECYCLE (532-9253).

You can also contact your garbage hauler for collection and proper disposal of E-Waste for a fee.

HOUSEHOLD BATTERIES

- o **Regular household alkaline batteries** can be disposed in the trash.
- o **Rechargeable batteries** are accepted at the Hazardous Waste Facility.

batteries





WHY RECYCLE? Recycling keeps materials that would have ended up in the garbage back in the manufacturing loop, requiring the use of less energy and raw materials. For example, recycling one aluminum can saves 95% of the energy used to make a new can - all by throwing it in a commingled bin.

OREGONIANS GOING GREEN. Oregonians have a long history of environmental stewardship and understand the value of reducing pollution and preserving natural resources for our future. Since the first Recycling Awareness Week in 1986, our recycling efforts as a nation have significantly helped reduce our environmental impact.

HOW IT WORKS. Recycling is driven by a combination of state and local laws working with local recycling markets and programs. So if you look at what happens to your old paper and soda cans after you move them to the curb, you'll find that they get baled up and trucked over the mountains along with all other commingled recyclables in Central Oregon, and end up at a Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) where they are sorted mechanically and by hand. From there, old paper or cans are sold to markets where they will get recycled into new products.



recycling: Q&A

Q: Why can't I put plastic lids in my commingling recycling?

A: Lids are small and flat and can end up in places they shouldn't be, such as in the folds of cardboard or newspaper, contaminating those materials when they are sorted and sent off to be recycled.

Q: Why are there so many plastics, but we can only recycle a few types of plastic containers?

A: There are over 100 different types of resins used to make plastics, not all of which can be easily sorted or recycled. Here in Deschutes County, the plastics that are accepted include bottles and tubs. Other plastics, such as bags, shrink wrap and clamshell take out containers, can contaminate the materials and are not permitted recyclables. Try to reuse these plastics that cannot be recycled.

Q: Why can't glass bottles be put in with the rest of my recycling?

A: Glass breaks easily, is difficult to sort and can harm workers, damage equipment and cause problems in the recycling. Glass is kept separate in most Oregon communities. Never put glass in your commingled recycling.

Q: Why can't plastic bags be recycled?

A: Because some plastic bags are not recyclable and can cause problems with the sorting equipment, plastic bags are considered a commingling recycling contaminant. Check with your neighborhood grocery store. Several local stores provide recycling for plastic grocery bags.

Curbside Recycling, What Goes?



recycle

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Paper	accepted paper	Newspaper	And anything that comes with it, can be recycled.
		Mixed paper and junk mail	Paper, envelopes, white and colored paper, paper bags, computer paper, tin can labels, wrapping paper (no foil or ribbon), shredded paper (strips only – no confetti). Put shredded paper in a paper bag stapled shut to avoid litter.
		Paperboard	Cereal/cracker/shooboxes (discard liners), soda and beer cartons, paper egg cartons, paper towel tubes. Magazines, catalogs and phonebooks.
	unaccepted paper	Paper ream wrappers, tissue paper, slick or wax coated cardboard, candy wrappers, snack food bags, frozen food boxes, paper cups/plates/towels/napkins or pet food bags.	
Plastic	accepted plastic Please rinse and clean all containers. No need to flatten.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plastic bottles and tubs 6 ounces or larger. • Rigid plastics, such as yogurt containers, butter tubs, sour cream and cottage cheese containers. • Nursery plant pots 4 inches or larger. • Plastic buckets of 5 gallons or less. 	
	unaccepted plastic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plastics that contained hazardous substances, such as motor oil, pesticides or fertilizers. • Bags and film. • Foam or Styrofoam. • Large items, such as toys or tools. • Bottle and tub lids. • Trays. • Clear, rigid plastic clamshells, bakery containers and salad containers. • Food contaminated items. • “Biodegradable” or “compostable” plastics. • Cups, plates or utensils. • Blister packaging. • Any plastic containers smaller than 6 ounces. 	
Other	tin and aluminum	Cans, jar lids, clean foil, TV dinner trays, beverage cans. Rinse clean. No need to flatten or remove labels.	
	corrugated cardboard	Flatten. No waxed or slick coated cardboard.	
	motor oil	Pour into an unbreakable, one-gallon maximum, leak-proof container with a tight fitting, screw-type lid. Clearly label container “motor oil” and place next to your recyclables.	
	glass	Glass should never be put in your commingle bin with other recyclables. Use your glass container provided by your collector. Clear and colored glass bottles and jars only, rinsed clean. Labels are okay. No need to separate by color.	

The materials above are accepted within the city limits of Bend, Redmond and Sisters.



www.bendgarbage.com
541-382-2263



www.cascadedisposal.com
541-382-6660



www.highcountrydisposal.com
541-548-4984



Drop-Off Recycling Locations in Deschutes County

Contact one of the following recycling depots for location-specific information and hours of operation.

DEPOT	LOCATION	CONTACT	WEBSITE
Alfalfa Transfer Station	Walker Rd, near Alfalfa	541-317-3163	www.deschutes.org/sw
Deschutes Recycling	Knott Landfill 61050 SE 27th Street Bend, OR 97702	541-388-1910	www.deschutesrecycling.com
Negus Transfer Station	2400 NE Maple Way Redmond, OR 97756	541-548-7232	www.deschutes.org/sw
Northwest Transfer Station	8200 Fryrear Road Sisters, OR 97756	541-548-3437	www.deschutes.org/sw
Sisters Recycle Center	328 W.Sisters Park Dr. Sisters, OR 97759	541-548-4984	www.highcountrydisposal.com
Southwest Transfer Station	54580 S. Highway 97 La Pine, OR 97739	541-317-3163	www.deschutes.org/sw
Wilderness Garbage – La Pine	La Pine Industrial Park 51420 Russell Road	541-536-1194	www.wildernessgarbage.com
Sunriver	Public Works yard off of Sun Eagle Lane	541-593-2483	www.sunriverowners.org

recycle

RETHINKWASTEGUIDE.COM

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Shirlee Evans
Redmond, OR

BUY RECYCLED. CLOSE THE “LOOP”.

Recycling is most effective when we purchase products that are made from recycled materials. It is important to look for the recycled content symbol, indicating that there is some percentage of recycled content in these products. Look for the highest percentage of post-consumer recycled content you can find.

Do you live in La Pine?

Contact Wilderness Garbage & Recycling for recycling information.



541-536-1194

www.wildernessgarbage.com

Recycling Drop-Off Depots, What Goes?



	Deschutes Recycling	Negus Transfer Station	Northwest Transfer Station	Southwest Transfer Station	Alfalpa Transfer Station	Sisters Recycle Center	Wilderness Garbage	Sunriver
FREE ITEMS								
Auto batteries	X	X	X	X	X			
Corrugated cardboard	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Commingled materials (see curbside section)*	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Computers CPUs, laptops and monitors	X	X	X	X	X			
Glass bottles and jars	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Motor oil	X	X	X	X	X	X		
Propane tanks (empty)	X	X	X	X	X			
Scrap metal	X	X	X	X				
Latex and oil-based paints**	X							
TVs	X	X	X	X	X			
BBQs (no tanks)	X	X	X	X				
Lawnmowers (all fluid gone)	X	X	X	X				
NOT FREE ITEMS								
Aluminum framed windows	X							
Antifreeze	X							
Appliances	X	X	X	X				
Bike tires	X							
Computer parts, components & non-computer electronics	X							
Tires	X	X	X	X	X			
Stumps	X							
Sod	X							
Wood Waste	X	X						
Yard debris	X	X	X	X				

***Commingled materials NOT accepted:** wrapping paper or ribbon, paper ream wrappers, tissue paper, wax paper, candy wrappers, snack food bags, styrofoam, packing peanuts, ceramics, plates or cups, baking dishes, pyrex, light bulbs, mirrors, window glass, slick or wax coated cardboard, frozen food boxes, paper cups/plates/towels/napkins, confetti type shredded paper, dirty bottles or cans, rusty cans, paint or aerosol cans, plastic bags, film (saran wrap), clamshell and bakery containers, pet food bags.

****No paint thinners, lacquers or solvents.**

CONSTRUCTION WASTE

The reduction, reuse and recycling of construction and demolition materials is an important part of reducing waste in Deschutes County. The EPA estimates the total building related construction and demolition (C&D) waste to be over 135 million tons per year, and the average new construction project creates 3.9 pounds of waste per square foot.

Most building and construction waste is actually created in the demolition and destruction process. With a little time and proper planning, many of these materials can be reused or recycled, rather than sending them to the landfill.

Deconstructing and reclaiming materials saves resources by keeping materials “in the loop”. Deconstruction refers to the systematic disassembly of a building with the purpose of recovering its materials for reuse, renovation or new product use. Reclamation involves the stripping of usable building materials for the purpose of reuse without affecting the structural elements or integrity of the building.



The Bend Area and Redmond Habitat for Humanity both reclaim building materials for no charge. Several Habitat for Humanity ReStores in Deschutes County accept the following materials donations.



Furniture and home décor	Cabinets	Vinyl windows
Functioning appliances	Countertops	Tools
Building materials	Doors (with frames)	Electrical supplies
Lighting fixtures	Flooring	Tile
Plumbing	Paint	Architectural items
Hardware	Salvage from deconstruction	Garden tools and décor

Contact your local ReStore for information or visit centraloregonhabitat.org for information.

BURNING HOUSEHOLD WASTE

The burning of household garbage is prohibited in the state of Oregon, as the smoke emitted from this process is unhealthy for small children, pregnant women, older adults and anyone with asthma or other respiratory ailments to breathe. Many household products, such as bleached paper, inks and some plastics, emit cancer-causing chemicals and heavy metals when burned. Burning garbage is also harmful to the environment, as pollutants end up back on the ground and in the water, and can reach dangerously high levels in plants, animals and people.

For burning rules and regulations, contact the [Department of Environmental Quality](#): 541-633-2016.



RETHINK AT WORK

Rethinking waste is more than just at home. You can start practicing and implementing “rethink” practices at your place of business as well. No matter where you work, there are likely many opportunities to reduce, reuse, recycle - and rethink.

When it comes to “rethinking work”, waste prevention is the fundamental first step. A little preplanning and strategy can save resources and can create more efficient, and sustainable, workplace procedures.

get started

- Get support and buy-in from management.
- Create a “green team” and a champion or two to help identify waste-reducing opportunities.
- Set goals and prepare to track progress.
- Announce plans and educate staff.
- Gather data and assess the situation.
- Reduce first – recycle second – and keep going!

take the rethink pledge at work

- Pledge to set up a successful office recycling program.
- Use “durables before disposables”, especially in the break room.
- Set printing defaults to double-sided. You’ll save nearly half the amount of paper and save money too.
- Buy recycled paper, print cartridges and office equipment where available.
- Reuse and refill as much as possible. 1.6 million pounds of single-use pens are tossed each year in the U.S.
- Explore non-toxic cleaning supplies and other products when available.
- “Rethink” work events and parties by eliminating disposables and by recycling as much as possible.
- Consider organizing an annual clean out. Set aside a room to recycle and reuse as much as possible from the event.
- Offer discounts to customers for bringing their own bags or cups, if applicable.
- Compost organic waste such as food or yard waste.



albacus | photography

Chuck Arnold
Bend, OR

WE ALL USE PAPER

Since nearly every type of business uses paper, this is a good place to get started with waste reduction. Rethinking the way you use paper at your workplace can help determine your next steps towards reducing your use.

ideas for reducing paper use:

- o **Recycle the fax machine.** Switch to scanning and emailing electronic forms and invoices.
- o **Set all printers to double-sided default settings.**
- o **“Pack more onto the page” when formatting your documents.** Check out one idea at: changethemargins.org
- o **Rethink your overall printing needs** and how you can combine, or redefine, your use.
- o **Use the backsides of paper** for notes or for printing in-house drafts.
- o **Rethink and redesign** your newsletters, fact sheets and brochures to save space, ink and paper.
- o **Print only what’s necessary**, rather than an entire document.
- o **Consider switching to online subscriptions** of your favorite newsletters, magazines and journals.
- o **Use paperless storage**, rather than printing and filing.
- o **Reduce the number of desktop printers in your workspace.**
- o **Switch from paper towels to hand dryers in the bathrooms.** (Yes, hand dryers are more ecofriendly overall.)

COMPOSTING: VALUE ADDED FOR BUSINESSES

For most restaurants and grocery stores, 40-75% of total waste is food scraps — spoiled fruits and vegetables, stale bakery items, kitchen trimmings, and leftover plate scrapings — which can all be composted into a beneficial soil amendment, reducing the amount of material going into the landfill. Restaurants, grocery stores, schools and other organizations that prepare or serve food can now compost through Bend Garbage & Recycling, Cascade Disposal and High Country Disposal’s commercial composting services. Contact your garbage service for information.



www.bendgarbage.com
541-382-2263



www.cascadedisposal.com
541-382-6660



www.highcountrydisposal.com
541-548-4984

Biodegradable Products: Break down over time when exposed to sunlight, air and moisture or other organisms, but not when they are buried under a landfill or not exposed to the elements necessary for biodegradation. Since there are currently no specific standards for what is considered “biodegradable”, some products may take centuries to decompose or break down.

Commingled Recycling: A recycling system where most recyclable items such as tin, aluminum, plastic and mixed paper, including newspapers, cardboard and junk mail, are put in a larger container for the recyclers to sort and process.

Compostable: Labeling that identifies something which can be composted within a designated amount of time in a composting facility. Compostable items are made from plant materials, such as corn, potato, cellulose, soy and sugar.

Composting: Breaking down organic matter, such as yard waste or food, into useful products. A variety of materials may be used for composting, including leaves, grass, weeds, and some kitchen scraps.

Contamination (in recycling): Occurs when a batch of recyclables includes items that cannot be recycled, such as diapers, clothing or food waste. These materials must be removed by hand before the material can be processed, or in some cases, the entire bin is thrown away.

Garbage: Anything considered worthless and disposed of rather than reused, recycled or composted.

Household Hazardous Waste (HHW): Any residential waste that contains hazardous substances which may pose a threat to the environment, wildlife or human health.

Landfill: A disposal facility at which solid waste is placed on, or in, the land.

Material Recovery Facility (MRF): A facility where commingled recyclables are received, separated and prepared for proper recycling.

Organic: As a material, refers to matter that has come from a once-living organism that is capable of decay or is composed of organic compound.

Recycling: Processing used materials into new products to prevent waste and reduce consumption.

Reduce (also referred to as prevention): To reduce the amount of solid waste generated or resources used. Purchasing items with less packaging is an example of reducing waste.

Reuse: Using an item to the full extent of its lifecycle by repairing or repurposing. Reuse also refers to purchasing used goods rather than new ones. Remember, one man’s trash is another man’s treasure.

Transfer Station: A holding facility where waste and recyclables are loaded for more cost efficient transportation to landfills and recycling facilities.

Upcycle: Converting waste materials or useless products into new materials or products of better quality or with a higher environmental value. An example is creating new home furniture from old barn siding lumber.

Vermicomposting: Using worms, usually “red wigglers”, to produce compost for use as a soil amendment.

**LOOK WHO'S
MAKING A
DIFFERENCE.**



**OUR COMMUNITY.
YOU.**



Reduce.



Reuse.



Recycle.

RETHINKWASTEGUIDE.COM

The Deschutes County Rethink Waste Guide is all about providing the tools and resources you need to help you reduce waste - and rethink the way you think about "waste". From learning easy ways to reduce waste at home, such as home composting and simple non-toxic alternatives, to purchasing greener products and understanding what it means to buy local, we're all taking steps towards the same goal: reduce, reuse, recycle, and rethink.

**MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN YOUR COMMUNITY.
GRAB OUR HANDS-ON GUIDE TO RESOURCE USE IN DESCHUTES COUNTY
OR VISIT US ONLINE AT WWW.RETHINKWASTEGUIDE.COM.**