



A Simple Guide to help your recycling efforts.

Helping Our Community

Reduce
Reuse
Recycle



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S.O.S. Recycling Efforts-2016

In Josephine, Jackson and Douglas Counties, Southern Oregon Sanitation recovered **over 15 million pounds of materials from going into the landfills**. This includes recyclable materials such as cardboard, paper, plastic, glass, wood waste, e-waste and used oil. In Josephine County, we recovered just under 10 million lbs., in Jackson County, we recovered just over 5 million lbs., and in the City of Reedsport we recovered over 400,000 lbs.



Why Recycle?

When we recycle, used materials are converted into new products reducing the need to consume natural resources. For example: plastic bottles can be made into clothing, sleeping bags, carpeting and even more bottles! **THAT'S AWESOME!!**



Why We Can't Recycle Everything!

- Styrofoam is 99% air and due to proximity to processors the carbon footprint of transporting becomes larger than the benefits of recycling.
- Lids and caps are too small or flat and get mixed with paper products.
- Food packaging that doesn't allow air or moisture in is likely to have layers of plastic, paper and even foil. This prevents the fibers from breaking down during the recycling process.
- Compostable plastics are made to break down and when mixed with regular plastic will make a defective product.

Why Plastic Bags Are Such A Problem



Photo (left) is a typical problem for many recycling facilities. Shown here are plastic bags and soft plastics tangled in the sorting conveyors. When this happens, it can damage machinery if the plastics are not cleared out before continuing.

Special Recycle Opportunities



Each year there are opportunities to recycle beyond the curb.

Some allow you to safely dispose of household hazardous waste, electronics (e-waste), retired paints and other collections.

For information, visit our website at:

www.sosanitation.com



SOS Offers Recycling Education

Schools, Community Organizations and Businesses

Learn ways to Reduce, Reuse and Recycle in our community. This education is available at no cost.

General information contact: Shea Sigafoos, Recycle Education Coordinator
email to: recycle@sosanitation.com



Recycle your plastic bags by returning them to the store. www.plasticfilmrecycling.org

How Do I Recycle Used Oil?



- Used **Motor oil** must be poured into a non-breakable gallon container with tight fitting screw caps. (Plastic gallon milk or bleach jugs work best). For curbside service, place on the ground next to your recycle cart. You can also recycle used oils at the recycling depots.



What Items Can I Recycle?



CANS:

Aluminum and tin cans, rinse out food, leave lids attached and don't flatten! Clean aluminum foil can be made into large balls.



PLASTICS:

Plastic drink and shampoo bottles, milk jugs, detergent bottles, butter tubs, yogurt and cottage cheese containers. Please rinse out and discard lids. No other plastics.



PAPER BOARD:

Cereal & cracker boxes, paper egg cartons, shoe boxes and flattened cardboard, construction papers, paper towel & toilet paper cores (no tissue). NO refrigerated or frozen food boxes, including milk and juice cartons.



PAPER:

Newspapers and all of its contents, mail and junk mail, office paper, paper bags, magazines, catalogs, telephone books and shredded paper.

[Shredded paper no smaller than 3" strips]

Recycle if Clean and Dry

Why dirty recycling doesn't work.

Contaminated food and liquid soaked materials are less likely to be recycled due to compromised quality and can attract animals – which can potentially make the materials not fit for reuse.



Glass Recycling

Don't put glass in your curbside recycling cart. Please recycle clean bottles and jars (discard lids) at your nearest recycling depot:



Recycling Depots:

- Grants Pass: 1381 Redwood Ave.
- Kerby: 905 Kerby Mainline Rd.
- Eagle Point: 42 Ball Rd.
- Reedsport: 329 Scholfield Rd.

Do Not Recycle Items Like These



NO pet food bags



NO food bags, cartons, refrigerated or frozen food boxes



NO to-go paper or plastic cups or containers



NO plastic bags or wrap



NO Styrofoam of any kind

OOPS!



[Careful! Many items may appear to be made of things that look like they can be recycled (like pictured above) but they really have multi-layers of plastic, paper and even foil. This prevents the fibers from breaking down during the recycling process.]