

Recycle *from A1*

way and there's always a cost associated with that," said Tim Alverson, Manager of Cottage Grove Garbage Service. "It boils down to economics."

Companies have to weigh the worth of taking curbside materials and the reliably high number of soiled materials among plastics has some choosing not to accept it.

While some municipalities like Eugene and Springfield allow certain plastics in their commingle containers, others have stopped.

"For example, here in Cottage Grove, we no longer take plastics at the curbside," said Alverson. "And that's actually that case for Junction City, Florence, Oakridge - they're no longer taking plastics either. There's just simply no market for this stuff."

To address the pile up of plastic, occasional round-ups are held throughout the county, like one currently scheduled for April 7 at the

Glenwood Transfer Station in Eugene. In anticipation of the event, Cottage Grove Garbage Service is collecting #2, #4 and #5 plastics until the end of March, joining several other collection sites around Lane County.

Plastics must be brought to the Cottage Grove address at 2055 Getty Court, cleaned and sorted.

For the rest of year, the Cottage Grove Garbage Service has compressed its recycling rules to three core instructions for residents:

- Comingle only these items in the recycle bin: paper, phone books, magazines, catalogs, junk mail, newspaper, box board, foil and tin or aluminum cans. Cardboard it is to be flattened and placed in or next to the bin.

- Set these items next to the bin: Glass (food and beverage glass only) without lids, caps or corks. Used engine oil must be placed in the original plastic contain-

Lane County Recycling Guide

## Garbage & Recycling

### Recycling Items With a Fee at Transfer Stations

FEE Items	Cottage Grove	Creswell	Glenwood	Florence	London	Low Pass	Marcola	McKenzie Bridge	Oakridge	Rainier	Sharp Creek	Swishome	Vernita	Wida	Whitton
Appliances (Freon containing)	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Concrete	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Mattresses	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Propane Tanks	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Tires	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Wood Waste	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Yard Debris	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•

**Material Preparation for Recovered Items with a FEE**

Appliances: Refrigerators, air conditioners, freezers & heat pumps. All units that contain Freon. Do not cut cords or drain Freon. No commercial units. Remove all food. \$15.25 each. See p. 32 for money saving tips.

Concrete: Grocery cart-sized chunks or smaller (max. 10 cys). Rural sites accepted as garbage. Glenwood: \$82.06 per ton. Rural: \$39.50 per cy—\$19.75 min.

Mattresses: Mattresses & box springs recovered at Glenwood only, clean & dry (max. 10 units per day). Rural sites accept mattresses as garbage (up to 4 units per day). Glenwood: \$12 per mattress, up to 4 units. Rural sites: charge by volume. See p. 16 for details.

Propane tanks: Maximum size, 10 gal. Propane only. Up to 10 gal—\$4.50. 1-lb camping—free.

Tires: Maximum 24" diameter (all tires measured at rim) air-filled; no solids. No more than 10 tires per day. No commercial quantities or commercial purpose tires. Up to 17" tire—\$3.00. On rim \$4.00. 17"-24" tires—\$10.00. On rim \$20.25.

Wood Waste: Lumber, pallets & most wood products. Painted OK. No MDF/pressed paper board, mixed materials, railroad ties, or hardware larger than your thumb. No foam core, Formica™ or plastic. These are garbage. Yard Debris: Grass, brush, leaves, garden debris & limbs up to 12" diameter. No bagged material. Glenwood & Florence: \$72.97 per ton—\$8.00 min. Rural sites: up to 1 cy—\$8.00. Over 1 cy to 3 cys—\$15.50. Over 3 cys—\$8 per additional cy.

Fees subject to change without notice, visit [www.lanecounty.org/waste](http://www.lanecounty.org/waste) or call (541) 682-4120.

Is it recyclable? Ask Garbage Guru

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er no larger than 5 quarts, but no transmission fluid, cooking oil or antifreeze is allowed.

- Clean all material: This means no food residue in glass or tin cans, no soiled paper or cardboard, no wax-coated material and no lids or caps.

Plastic or contaminated material will be left curbside.

Getting people to follow these instructions, though, is not a goal without its challenges.

"There's a lot of wishful recycling," Alverson said. "In spite of the fact that it's explicitly expressed what's taken at the curbside, people still just try to put things out that they feel should be recycled."

Ultimately, Alverson said, the system requires an attention to detail and a degree of common sense on the part of waste generators.

"Trying to get people

to follow instructions will always be the challenge," Alverson mused. "So you're really just talking about human nature and the vast differences among folks."

Still, Lane County's reputation for being environmentally conscious may take it far along that road. It's leadership among Oregon counties speaks to the desires of a community aiming for greener living.

"While we are doing great recycling in Lane County, that alone will not get us to our goal," said Orlandini in the Waste Management Division's press release. "We must help our community prevent the waste from occurring in the first place."

The new recycling guide is available on the county's website at [lanecounty.org/government/county\\_departments/public\\_works/waste\\_management/recycling](http://lanecounty.org/government/county_departments/public_works/waste_management/recycling).

Details about the plastic roundup can be found at [www.lanecounty.org/plastics-roundup](http://www.lanecounty.org/plastics-roundup).

Water *from A1*

sanitary surveys. The bill authorizes OHA to adopt a schedule for these remuneration fees based on the size and type of each water system and allows it a limited increase in fees once per year.

There are concerns that this new structure may place a greater financial burden on cities by increasing operational costs.

This one-two punch to water suppliers has seen a state-wide reaction. Organizations such as the Oregon Water Utility Council and the League of Oregon Cities have argued on behalf of the affected water communities while local municipalities have been petitioning their legislators to find funding.

"We are lobbying our representatives to bring that forward during the legislative session and get it attached as an amendment for some bill somewhere to provide funding for us to do that mandatory regulatory testing," Pardee said. "So we're hoping that happens."

Representing Cottage Grove, Stewart and Pardee traveled to Salem to attend a legislative

symposium and visit the offices of state legislators Sen. Floyd Prozanski and Rep. Cedric Hayden where concerns were shared and left with staff aids.

The symposium provided an opportunity to ask a representative from OHA [WHO?] what would happen should cities' funding concerns fall on deaf ears.

"He said he didn't know

and that he would check on it," Pardee said.

The OHA representative was also asked what water suppliers

should do about the lack of approved labs in the state.

"He didn't have an answer," said Pardee. "We're holding our

breath waiting for him to get back to us."

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