WASTE PREVENTION

VISION: Corvallis is a waste-free community.

Goal 1: By 2020, the recycling rate for the Corvallis community will be 75%.

Recycling rate is defined as total pounds of waste recovered (recycled, composted or reused) divided by the total waste generated (recovered and landfilled).

Strategy 1: Collect all organic waste (yard debris and food waste) for alternative uses.
   Action 1: Promote curbside pickup of food waste for residential and commercial collection programs.
   Action 2: Promote use of durable, recyclable, and/or other non-disposable take-out containers and food serving ware.
   Action 3: Develop and implement a program to educate residents, businesses, and institutions about existing opportunities for composting and/or reuse of organic materials.

Strategy 2: Divert landfill-bound construction waste to existing or new facilities for recycling.
   Action 1: Develop a program to educate building contractors and homeowners regarding existing opportunities for recycling and/or reuse of construction materials.
   Action 2: Research models for private and public deconstruction operations (i.e., dismantling of residential and commercial structures in a way that allows for reuse of building materials).
   Action 3: Establish and/or promote deconstruction operations.

Strategy 3: Increase amount of recyclable material collected from businesses, institutions and residences (single- and multi-family).
   Action 1: Support and expand existing programs that offer waste audits for businesses, institutions and residences.
   Action 2: Develop and implement a comprehensive recycling education program that targets businesses, institutions and residences (single- and multi-family).
   Action 3: Identify materials commonly discarded by businesses because they are not part of the collection infrastructure.

Goal 2: By 2020, there will be a 50% reduction in the per capita weight of landfill disposal (discards).

Strategy 1: Increase education and promotion of existing waste reduction and reuse opportunities.
   Action 1: Continue and expand the public outreach program that educates the community on waste reduction and reuse opportunities (i.e. Recycling Block Captains, ReUse Directory, etc.).
   Action 2: Continue to strengthen and implement a K-12 curriculum on waste reduction and reuse.
   Action 3: Increase the number and availability of technical education programs that teach repair skills at secondary and continuing education levels.
Excerpt from *Community Sustainability: A Framework for Action* (2013)

**Goal 2:** (continued)

**Strategy 2:** Increase opportunities for materials reuse.
- **Action 1:** *Continue to update, distribute and promote* the directory of businesses and non-profits that will accept items for reuse, including the development of an online version.
- **Action 2:** *Identify and promote* organizations and businesses that provide on-site collection of reusable items (e.g. furniture, appliances, etc.) from residential and commercial customers.
- **Action 3:** *Facilitate* establishment of “neighborhood lending libraries” for tools and other items.

**Strategy 3:** Provide incentives and establish policies that encourage reduction of per capita landfill-bound waste.
- **Action 1:** In response to the city’s single-use plastic bag ban and paper bag fee, *continue to develop and implement* an educational and promotional program to help people transition from single-use plastic and paper bags to reusable alternatives.
- **Action 2:** *Structure* the city franchise agreement so that it is more profitable for the hauler to reduce, rather than to increase, the volume of landfill-bound waste disposed per capita.
- **Action 3:** *Research* residential waste collection systems that provide a variety of incentives (monetary and non-monetary) for reducing landfill-bound waste.

**Goal 3:** By 2020, the Corvallis community will increase proper disposal of hazardous waste by 75%.

**Strategy 1:** Provide increased education to residents, businesses, and institutions regarding proper disposal of hazardous waste.
- **Action 1:** *Utilize* additional media opportunities to publicize hazardous waste collection events.
- **Action 2:** *Promote* existing resources that provide information about how to properly dispose of specific hazardous materials, including education on which items are hazardous.

**Strategy 2:** Broaden opportunities for proper disposal of hazardous waste.
- **Action 1:** *Establish and promote* a hazardous waste facility that is open year-round.
- **Action 2:** *Research, implement and promote* a pharmaceutical take-back program that is available year round.
- **Action 3:** *Explore* alternative methods of disposing of toxics, such as mycological remediation.

**Strategy 3:** Promote non-toxic and less toxic alternatives.
- **Action 1:** *Launch* a public awareness campaign to promote non-toxic alternatives to toxic cleaning products.
- **Action 2:** *Establish* purchasing policies at public institutions that give preference to non-toxic alternatives to toxic products for cleaning, building repair and maintenance, landscape maintenance, and automotive repair and maintenance.
- **Action 3:** *Establish* recognition programs for "toxic-free" environments at businesses, schools, government facilities, and other institutions.