

WASTE PREVENTION

VISION: Corvallis is a waste-free community that fosters behaviors to reduce consumption of material goods.

Goal 1: By 2025, the recycling rate for the Corvallis community will be 50%.

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, policies, regulations, ordinances and franchise agreements

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 support* local recycling education programs that target 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, and assist in identifying waste diversion and prevention opportunities.

Goal 2: By 2025, there will be a year-to-year 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, No Food Left Behind, etc.).

Action 2: *Continue to strengthen and implement* a K-12 curriculum on waste prevention, reduction and reuse, including wasted food and composting.

Action 3: *Increase* the number and availability of technical education programs that teach repair skills at secondary and continuing education levels.

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: *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 2: *Research* residential waste collection systems that provide a variety of incentives (monetary and non-monetary) for reducing landfill-bound waste.

Goal 3: By 2025, there will be a year-to-year increase of proper disposal of hazardous waste.

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, and provide commercial customers with an opportunity for "amnesty" disposal of hazardous waste free of charge.

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.