

SAB Website Topics – Draft

(This is a draft only, so please ignore formatting and bullets)

Reduce, Repair, Reuse, Recycle

The last thing you should do is recycle. Consider these alternatives before you commit an item to the recycle bin.

1. **Reduce** the amount you consume. Much of what we consume is “single-use” items, which are tossed into the garbage, or recycle bin. Shopping for food in bulk or minimally packaged is a good start. Avoiding single-use plastic packaging such as clamshells and clear plastic tubs whenever possible. Also try to avoid over-packaged items.
 2. **Repair** items that are broken or no longer working. Find a Repair Fair in your area. If repair is not feasible, try to repurpose the item for a different use.
 3. **Reuse** items as much as possible. Grocery bags, plastic produce bags, coffee bags, nursery pots etc. Try to use an item as much as possible before you send it downstream.
 4. **Recycle** items only when you have exhausted all of the previous possibilities. And when you do recycle, be sure that only acceptable items are put into the curbside recycle bin. For items that cannot go into the curbside bin, see “Recycling outside of the bin.”
- Oregon Metro one-stop recycling information site: <https://www.oregonmetro.gov/tools-living/garbage-and-recycling>
 - Repair Fair: <https://www.facebook.com/events/2548896981874801/>
 - What goes in the bins and on the curb
 - <http://www.wlrr.com/Residential-Services/Preparing-Your-Materials>
 - <https://dochub.clackamas.us/documents/drupal/80fd7db4-c79e-434f-8f9e-07f5639a7098>

Recycling outside of the bin

- Reduce plastic waste: <https://www.audubon.org/news/eight-easy-ways-reduce-your-plastic-waste>
- Household items, chemicals and toxic substances:
 - Hazardous products: <https://www.oregonmetro.gov/tools-living/healthy-home/common-hazardous-products>
 - Recycling guide: <https://www.clackamas.us/recycling/recycleguide.html>
- Styrofoam™: <https://www.agilyx.com/about-us/faqs>
- Electronics, batteries and appliances
 - <https://www.oregonmetro.gov/news/when-gadgets-become-garbage-how-recycle-electronics>
 - portlandrecycling.com/electronics-recycling

Gardening, Landscaping, and Agriculture

If you are looking to make changes in your yard or business, here are over a dozen ideas that move your land toward a sustainable and healthy environment.

- **Natural gardening information**
 - <https://www.oregonmetro.gov/tools-living/yard-and-garden>
 - <https://friendsoftrees.org/>
 - <https://clackamascountymastergardeners.org/>

- **Water conservation**
 - <https://learn.eartheasy.com/guides/45-ways-to-conserve-water-in-the-home-and-yard/>
 - <https://todayshomeowner.com/water-conservation-in-the-home/>
- **Gardening with native plants**
 - <https://www.portlandoregon.gov/bes/47570> - (guide to non-invasive plants)
 - <http://boskydellnatives.com>
 - www.echovalleynatives.com
- **Gardening for pollinators**
 - <https://www.fws.gov/pollinators/PollinatorPages/media.html> - (videos & podcasts)
 - <https://xerces.org/publications/plant-lists/pollinator-plants-maritime-northwest-region>
 - <https://www.oregonbeeproject.org/> - (bee guides through OSU)
- **Creating healthy garden soil**
 - <https://extension.oregonstate.edu/news/how-make-your-own-potting-soil>
 - Gardening in clay soil <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-GsLLOFNX3s&feature=youtu.be>
- **Natural pest control**
 - <http://clackamasriver.org/resident-resources/pesticide-reduction>
- **Composting, etc.**
 - Oregon Metro: <https://www.oregonmetro.gov/tools-living/yard-and-garden/composting>
 - EPA composting info: <https://www.epa.gov/recycle/composting-home>

Transportation

The use of fossil fuels for transportation is one of the greatest contributors to climate change. One of the easiest ways to reduce the use of fossil fuels is to transition to electric energy generated by clean, renewable resources. The following sites offer ways to reduce your transportation energy usage, and to transition to clean energy.

- **Private transportation**
 - Electric cars: <https://www.edmunds.com/electric-car/articles/best-electric-cars/>
 - Electric trucks: <https://evbite.com/upcoming-electric-trucks/>
 - Small electric scooters: <https://buyersguide.org/electric-scooters/t/best?msclkid=5c6c01eec9311536dba661a2351ed0df&m=p&d=c&c=85074967705045&oid=kwd-85074962580931:loc-190&q=best%20full%20size%20electric%20scooters&lp=190&li=&nw=s&nts=1&tid=8562421>
 - Full-size (maxi) electric scooters: <https://ripsandrides.com/best-maxi-scooters/>
- **Public transportation**
 - TriMet trip planning: <http://trimet.org/#/planner>
 - South Metro Area Regional Transit: <https://www.ridesmart.com/transit>

Sustainable Home Solutions

Too many television shows regale their audiences with images of homeowners and remodelers excitedly destroying walls and cabinets in an effort to purge the old and install the new. This may be exciting and dramatic, but it is also a phenomenal waste of resources and energy. Before you trash cabinets, appliances and building materials, consider ways in which these items can be reused or repurposed.

- Do not destroy – reuse, repurpose:
 - Rebuilding Center: <https://www.rebuildingcenter.org/donations>
 - Habitat for Humanity Restore: <https://nwrstore.org/donate>

- Use sustainable building materials: <https://www.survivalfitnessplan.com/best-sustainable-materials-building/>
- Heat water on demand: <https://bestreviews.com/best-tankless-water-heaters>
- Renewable power for home:
 - Portland General Electric: <https://portlandgeneral.com/energy-choices/renewable-power>
 - Pacific Power: <https://www.pacificpower.net/savings-energy-choices/home.html>
- Generate solar power at your home: <http://solaroregon.org/how-to-go-solar/>
- Sustainable home design:
 - <https://www.ecohome.net>
 - <https://www.energy.gov/energysaver/design/energy-efficient-home-design>
 - Home energy audit - <https://www.homeselfe.com/most-energy-efficient-home-design/>
- Home energy efficiency - <https://energytrust.org>
- Solar power - <http://solaroregon.org>

Resources for West Linn Businesses

Clackamas County has well-researched resources available for businesses as well as knowledgeable people who are there to help you. Under the Sustainable Clackamas County link below, click the Business tab, then Tips for a Sustainable Workplace.

- Sustainable Clackamas County: <https://www.clackamas.us/sustainability>
- Clackamas County recycling program: <https://www.clackamas.us/recycling/work>
- Leaders in Sustainability program: <http://tinyurl.com/sustainablepracticesguide>