**May Recycling Articles**

[Plastics **recycling** technology roundup: May 1, 2020](https://www.google.com/url?rct=j&sa=t&url=https://resource-recycling.com/plastics/2020/05/01/plastics-recycling-technology-roundup-may-1-2020/&ct=ga&cd=CAEYACoUMTE0MzUyMjMyOTUwODQ4NzEzMDkyGmMwYzI4ZmJhZmU5ZjY2YmU6Y29tOmVuOlVT&usg=AFQjCNGMVt9VWgfo3e4naQXSuv4vDk_1Vw)   
Plastics Recycling Update  -- Virgin PS producer embraces pyrolysis: **Oregon**-based Agilyx has licensed ... PU foam **recycling** project: **Recycling** equipment company Redwave is ...

[**Recycling rate declines continue in two West Coast states**](https://www.google.com/url?rct=j&sa=t&url=https://resource-recycling.com/recycling/2020/04/28/recycling-rate-declines-continue-in-two-west-coast-states/&ct=ga&cd=CAEYACoSMzI1MDA2OTE1MTE1NDc4OTYyMhpjMGMyOGZiYWZlOWY2NmJlOmNvbTplbjpVUw&usg=AFQjCNGWLu-z6BtNdbN_3bACrxZshTrV5g) Resource Recycling  -- **Oregon's** disposal outpaces recovery. In 2018, the Beaver State notched a 40.8% recovery rate, down from 41.6% in 2017, according to an April report ...

[TriMet to begin shuttle bus for bottle return to help ease crowding at BottleDrop](https://www.google.com/url?rct=j&sa=t&url=https://www.kptv.com/news/trimet-to-begin-shuttle-bus-for-bottle-return-to-help-ease-crowding-at-bottledrop/article_f5962032-89b0-11ea-83d7-8721d5a2bed2.html&ct=ga&cd=CAEYAioSMzI1MDA2OTE1MTE1NDc4OTYyMhpjMGMyOGZiYWZlOWY2NmJlOmNvbTplbjpVUw&usg=AFQjCNG6ppUzzqn6ho0Coyt5F0Ow4gOrOw)   
KPTV.com TriMet and **Oregon** Beverage **Recycling** Cooperative have partnered to offer Line 292 to Northwest Yeon Avenue. The temporary shuttle bus is free to ...

**First-of-its-kind community partnership proves key to recycling**

*‘It’s the first agreement of its kind in the entire U.S. Army: a new intergovernmental agreement between White Sands Missile Range and the South Central Solid Waste Authority for support services, resulting in expanded recycling efforts and new local jobs.“This Intergovernmental Support Agreement creates two new local positions: one new heavy equipment operator and one new solid waste laborer (who is) responsible for delivery and overall maintenance and repairs of recycling and solid waste dumpsters at WSMR,” said Patrick Peck, SCSWA director….’*

<https://www.lcsun-news.com/story/news/local/community/2020/05/02/first-its-kind-community-partnership-proves-key-recycling/3070694001/>

**May 2020 – Recycling Today**

**Legislative Update: (EPR) model approach -- Recycling is at a crossroads; some consider extended producer responsibility legislation to be the solution.**

**Resa Dimino and Bryce Hesterman of RRS**

*…Through these ups and downs, recycling programs would function uninterrupted.*

***‘A producer responsibility organization (PRO) is created by the producers (brands/retailers) for the purpose of meeting their EPR obligations. PROs develop and execute a program plan to comply with legislative/regulatory requirements and also set and collect fees from producers to finance those activities.’***

*EPR also appeals to circular economy advocates, and sometimes to the brands seeking to increase use of recycled materials, as it allows producers to manage the recycling system like a supply chain by more directly connecting recycled commodities with production….*

<http://magazine.recyclingtoday.com/article/may-2020-/paper-packaging-extended-producer-responsibility-approaches.aspx>

**Recycling's COVID Concerns: Haulers Seek Flexibility On Mandates - Vermont Public Radio**

<https://www.vpr.org/post/recyclings-covid-concerns-haulers-seek-flexibility-mandates>

**Valet Trash Services Spike as Apt Residents Resist Touching Compactor Buttons, Door Slides**

May 4, 2020 -- Waste-hauling challenges are piling up for many apartment communities who are dealing with bored and cautious shelter-at-home residents during the Covid-19 pandemic. Many renters are reluctant to handle the doors or compactor buttons, choosing instead to leave their trash–and worse, bulk items—near the bins, creating more work for onsite teams and contracted waste hauling vendors, apartment managers say.  
<https://wasteadvantagemag.com/valet-trash-services-spike-as-apt-residents-resist-touching-compactor-buttons-door-slides/>

**In a Major Win for Scrap Industry, STB Sides with Recyclers Over Unfair Rail Practice**

*Following a hard-fought battle over excessive demurrage charges and inconsistent rail service, scrap recyclers won a major victory towards improving the nation’s rail network for shippers and railroads alike. In a series of decisions, the Surface Transportation Board (STB) rebuked the railroads for unreasonable practices combined with non-transparent, inaccurate billing, and an unfair dispute resolution process. The decisions come after years of public comments, testimony, outreach on Capitol Hill, and other advocacy efforts by the Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries (ISRI) and its members.*

<https://wasteadvantagemag.com/in-a-major-win-for-scrap-industry-stb-sides-with-recyclers-over-unfair-rail-practice/>

**Advanced Recycling Alliance for Plastics Announces New Name, Member**<https://wasteadvantagemag.com/advanced-recycling-alliance-for-plastics-announces-new-name-members/>

[A dime here, a dime there - bottle **recycling** centers in Salem staying busy](https://www.google.com/url?rct=j&sa=t&url=https://www.salemreporter.com/posts/2344/a-dime-here-a-dime-there-bottle-recycling-centers-in-salem-staying-busy&ct=ga&cd=CAEYASoUMTM5NDk0MDMyNDAyMTIwMjAzODYyGmMwYzI4ZmJhZmU5ZjY2YmU6Y29tOmVuOlVT&usg=AFQjCNHoFbK_YgGGscfp0E4pDJK5UZq8QA)   
Salem Reporter The **Oregon** Beverage **Recycling** Cooperative, a cooperative of the state's beverage distributors and grocers that oversees the deposit system, has ...

[Findings released from 2019 West Coast Contamination Initiative](https://www.google.com/url?rct=j&sa=t&url=https://www.wastetodaymagazine.com/recycling-partnership-releases-findings-2019-west-coast-contamination-initiative.aspx&ct=ga&cd=CAEYACoUMTM5NDk0MDMyNDAyMTIwMTgyOTUyGjA2NzYxYzQ1ZWIzNmNkMDU6Y29tOmVuOlVT&usg=AFQjCNHaAWY5XFdCvgme8wJ2COvvKVtxVQ)   
Waste Today Magazine -- In **Oregon**, top contaminants at MRFs include plastic bags, needles, clothing or bedding, glass and tanglers or **garbage**. And in Washington, top ...

[Frontline Documentary Plastic Wars Highlights the Problem of Plastic Waste](https://www.google.com/url?rct=j&sa=t&url=https://earthmaven.io/planetwatch/humanity-in-the-anthropocene/frontline-documentary-plastic-wars-highlights-the-problem-of-plastic-waste-nDgl0M5zFkORgDiUCgssaw&ct=ga&cd=CAEYASoUMTI5NjY0Nzg1NTU3MTUwMTcxOTYyGjhiZmY5Mjk0NWExODgwZjY6Y29tOmVuOlVT&usg=AFQjCNFN7WdcYS0BcK1oHxqMWLcwqoxGzw)   
PlanetWatch The documentary shows how a **recycling** plant in **Oregon** must separate all the different types of plastic. Some plastics are too hard to **recycle** and sell so ...

[West Coast study: Recycling zeal doesn't erase contamination](https://www.google.com/url?rct=j&sa=t&url=https://resource-recycling.com/recycling/2020/05/05/west-coast-study-recycling-zeal-doesnt-erase-contamination/&ct=ga&cd=CAEYACoUMTI5NjY0Nzg1NTU3MTUwMTgzOTIyGjA2NzYxYzQ1ZWIzNmNkMDU6Y29tOmVuOlVT&usg=AFQjCNG6JkcyDjH-AMTx1qubEFcFW-l-rA)   
Resource Recycling In **Oregon** and Washington, cities reported contamination rates averaging ... more communities make efforts to dig deeper into their **waste** numbers.

**WASTE DIVE – May 6, 2020***--The NWRA* [*sent a letter*](https://cdn.ymaws.com/wasterecycling.org/resource/resmgr/letters/5-5-2020_NWRA_Letter_to_Cong.pdf) *to leaders in Congress calling for the provision of 250,000 units of PPE specifically designated for waste and recycling workers in any upcoming “phase four” relief legislation. The association notes its efforts to get assistance from the Federal Emergency Management Agency on this issue have not been successful and also seeks clarification of the industry’s essential infrastructure role. The letter also calls for federal assistance in dealing with “bad debt” from customers that may be unable to pay, but still require service.*

**--Virus Prompts Call to Pause Landfill Methane Rule in California***Los Angeles County, sanitation agencies, and other groups are asking California to temporarily stop issuing fines and to delay new solid waste and recycling regulations for six months due to the coronavirus pandemic….*<https://news.bloomberglaw.com/environment-and-energy/virus-prompts-call-to-pause-landfill-methane-rule-in-california>

**Sustana Fiber Begins Accepting Cartons at Quebec Paper Mill**<https://wasteadvantagemag.com/sustana-fiber-begins-accepting-cartons-at-quebec-paper-mill/>

**Council, residents look to salvage organics recycling amid budget cuts – NYC**  
*City officials and residents are scrambling to preserve as much of the organic waste recycling program as they can after Mayor Bill de Blasio all but obliterated New York's efforts with his coronavirus budget cuts*  
<https://www.politico.com/states/new-york/city-hall/story/2020/05/03/council-residents-look-to-salvage-organics-recycling-amid-budget-cuts-1281759>

**Sunnking Launches CoronaBuyBack.com, Offers Cash for Pandemic Spring Cleaning**  
*…The company has launched*[***CoronaBuyBack.com***](https://www.sellyourtech.com/)*, a website designed to help consumers sell their retired tech from the comfort of their couch. Users are free to submit “anything with a power cord or battery“, including items like microscopes, medical equipment, and smartwatches, as well as the traditional tablets, phones, and laptops. According to the company, sellers just provide basic information on their device, upload a picture, and submit. From there, in-house pricing experts will then offer a payout amount that can be received instantly via PayPal, Venmo, or check – as well as shipping. The seller will be mailed a returnable box, pre-paid shipping label, and instructions on how to prepare their device…* <https://wasteadvantagemag.com/sunnking-launches-coronabuyback-com-offers-cash-for-pandemic-spring-cleaning/>

**Recyclers ready for reopening-- Raven begins by accepting cardboard [Yukon, Canada]***…The survey focused on how Yukoners were dealing with recycling during the closure. Snyder said she hasn’t been able to go through the 1,300 survey responses in detail, but 90 per cent of respondents said they are hanging onto refundables until recycling centres reopen while 68 per cent said they were storing both refundables and non-refundable recycling….* <https://www.yukon-news.com/news/recyclers-ready-for-reopening/>

**Recycling proponents split on $1B RECOVER Act ask for future pandemic relief package**

*…Environmental groups have objected to RECOVER for other reasons, arguing improvements in recycling infrastructure don't address underlying supply chain issues.*

*Many, like Beyond Plastics, have been more supportive of the Break Free From Plastic Pollution Act,* [*which has a focus on extended producer responsibility*](https://www.wastedive.com/news/udall-lowenthal-break-free-from-plastic-pollution-recycling-epr/571985/) *and addressing plastic production. Judith Enck, the group's founder and a former EPA regional administrator,* [*recently told The Intercept*](https://theintercept.com/2020/04/27/plastic-industry-coronavirus-bailout/)*the government should focus on "testing, contact tracing, [and] investments in clean energy" over "attempts to prop up the feeble plastics recycling infrastructure…."* <https://www.wastedive.com/news/covid19-recover-act-congress-plastics-isri-glass-recycling-infrastructure/577501/>

**Beyond Ocean Plastic: Recycling Tackles the Polyurethane Foam Problem**<https://www.triplepundit.com/story/2020/beyond-ocean-plastic-recycling-tackles-polyurethane-foam-problem/88981>

**West Coast study: Recycling zeal doesn't erase contamination - Resource Recycling News**<https://resource-recycling.com/recycling/2020/05/05/west-coast-study-recycling-zeal-doesnt-erase-contamination/>

**Cleveland landfilling recyclables after unsuccessful second attempt to secure processing contract | Waste Dive**<https://www.wastedive.com/news/cleveland-suspended-recyclables-landfill-kimble-ohio/577094/>

**Supply Chains Are Buckling as Coronavirus Hurts Recycling – Bloomberg**<https://www.bloomberg.com/opinion/articles/2020-05-05/supply-chains-are-buckling-as-coronavirus-hurts-recycling>

[Is **recyclable** packaging the best choice?](https://www.google.com/url?rct=j&sa=t&url=https://garbagegoatblog.wordpress.com/2020/05/13/is-recyclable-packaging-the-best-choice/&ct=ga&cd=CAEYAioUMTQxMTY2NjAzMTI5NzcwOTQzMzMyGmMwYzI4ZmJhZmU5ZjY2YmU6Y29tOmVuOlVT&usg=AFQjCNGbY_bPREMnsxFOE_k-Uirg5LdFtA) stopthefud (blog) When we do need to buy new products, these guidelines, provided by the **Oregon** DEQ, can give you some more perspective into the impact of the ...

…*Researchers, like David Allaway with the* [*Oregon Department of Environmental Quality*](https://www.oregon.gov/deq/mm/Pages/default.aspx)*, have found that sometimes the lower-impact choice goes against our current beliefs. Because this type of information isn’t readily available to read on every single package we buy, reframing our beliefs about different package materials may be the most effective way to navigate the consumer choices that we make….*

[Trinseo pursues sustainable future for PS](https://www.google.com/url?rct=j&sa=t&url=https://www.plasticsnews.com/news/trinseo-pursues-sustainable-future-ps&ct=ga&cd=CAEYACoUMTQxMTY2NjAzMTI5NzcwOTQzMzMyGmMwYzI4ZmJhZmU5ZjY2YmU6Y29tOmVuOlVT&usg=AFQjCNFWRtJgUnHKo6AP8PYndD4Nk70Ygg) Plastics News -- LP, AmSty has set up Regenyx, a joint venture with Agilyx, an **Oregon**-based chemical **recycling** company that has developed technology to convert ...

[**Arlingtonians Recycling Glass at Record-Shattering Rates**](https://www.arlnow.com/2020/05/13/arlingtonians-recycling-glass-at-record-shattering-rates/) …Last April, Arlington County [**ditched**](https://www.arlnow.com/2019/04/26/arlington-county-ditches-glass-recycling/) its curbside glass recycling program as separating out and recycling glass had become overly expensive. Instead, Arlingtonians were asked to [**drop off their glass recycling**](https://recycling.arlingtonva.us/recycling-drop-centers/) at dedicated containers that were then taken to Fairfax County for [**reuse**](https://www.arlnow.com/2020/01/23/some-of-arlingtons-glass-is-now-being-recycled-into-new-glass-products/) in construction, building, and — more recently — recycling into new glass products. Since the launch of the drop-off recycling program, county officials say there have been two million pounds of glass recycled, half of which as been over the last few months….

<https://www.arlnow.com/2020/05/13/arlingtonians-recycling-glass-at-record-shattering-rates/>

How local teamwork is transforming plastic waste into value -- **A village in Thailand comes together to turn waste into worth with the support of public-private partnerships.**  
<https://www.nationalgeographic.com/science/2020/03/partner-content-thailand-how-local-teamwork-transforms-plastic-waste-into-value/>

**Carton manufacturers invested big in attaining 'recyclable' status, but can they sustain it?**By funding education, technology and end markets, the Carton Council earned highly-sought federal recyclability status. Yet some MRFs and governments question if this packaging is worth the effort.<https://www.wastedive.com/news/carton-council-recyclable-continuus-epr-mrf/577715/>

Tillamook Headlight-Herald During that same time frame, Tillamook County's **recycling** ratios increased its ranking from No. 20 to No. 14 out of **Oregon's** 36 counties. “The fact that ...   
[DEQ releases official calculation of Tillamook County's **recycling**, recovery rate for 2018](https://www.google.com/url?rct=j&sa=t&url=https://www.tillamookheadlightherald.com/news/deq-releases-official-calculation-of-tillamook-county-s-recycling-recovery-rate-for-2018/article_2fc46ee8-9088-11ea-8c1c-87d345542b6e.html&ct=ga&cd=CAEYACoTNDQyMzEwMjkwODM3MzEzNzE3MzIaYzBjMjhmYmFmZTlmNjZiZTpjb206ZW46VVM&usg=AFQjCNHAf2_yPcrBgzxqRfruEPxc8Jh10w)

5 key pandemic trends from the solid waste industry's Q1 earnings reports | Waste Dive  
<https://www.wastedive.com/news/q1-2020-earnings-solid-waste-pandemic-coronavirus-trends/577814/>

Assessment of the Frequency and Cause of Fires at Material Recovery and Scrap Recycling Facilities and Collection Vehicles - Environmental Research & Education Foundation

<https://erefdn.org/assessment-of-the-frequency-and-cause-of-fires-at-material-recovery-and-scrap-recycling-facilities-and-collection-vehicles/>

**Recycling and Sustainable Management of Food During the Coronavirus (COVID-19) Public Health Emergency** As many Americans spend more time at home, we are changing the way we purchase and use goods and food. At the same time, there are some supply chain disruptions in the food and manufacturing sectors. There is the potential for households to generate more waste than they did before, but there is also an opportunity to focus on waste prevention, increase your reuse and recycling efforts, and use food more efficiently.

<https://www.epa.gov/coronavirus/recycling-and-sustainable-management-food-during-coronavirus-covid-19-public-health>