

For the past several years, the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality has invited local governments, schools, nonprofits and tribes to apply for grants that bolster DEQ's efforts to fight waste, inspire reuse and recycle responsibly. In 2018, DEQ invested **\$600,000** across **16 projects**.



Curbing wasted food is one of DEQ's top priorities. Twenty-five to 40 percent of all food produced or imported for consumption in the United States is never eaten. This production of uneaten food creates substantial environmental impacts, and is a significant—and unnecessary—contributor to greenhouse gas emissions. The following projects were funded to further DEQ's efforts to prevent wasted food.

Legacy Health Food Waste Reduction Pilot

Grantee: Legacy Health Foundation

Amount: \$30,300

Area of impact: Portland

Legacy Health will institute waste reduction measures reducing food waste an estimated 5 percent and achieve food service cost savings of 2 percent. If successful, it will document and share its lessons for others to use.

Milk Dispensers and Durable Food Service Ware for Schools

Grantee: Marion County

Amount: \$76,685.04

Areas of impact: Silver Falls, Jefferson and Cascade school districts

Marion County will provide public schools with milk dispensers and durable dishes. Goals are to reduce food and solid waste within schools and teach students the importance of reducing waste.

Plate Size Reduction in Residential Dining Hall

Grantee: Southern Oregon University

Amount: \$7,512

Area of impact: Ashland

Southern Oregon University seeks to reduce the amount of food waste generated at its residential dining hall by reducing plate sizes from 10.5 to 9 inches.

Expanding Oregon Green Schools in Low Income Communities

Grantee: Oregon Green Schools Association

Amount: \$30,221

Areas of impact: Centennial, David Douglas, Parkrose, Portland Public and Reynolds school districts
Oregon Green Schools Association will engage 10 schools in the Metro area, conducting waste audits, curriculum resources focused on food waste and tailored waste reduction action plans.



Supporting food rescue
Why it matters



\$133,830

Four projects

Rescuing edible food for redistribution to hungry Oregonians is second only to preventing food waste in Oregon's list of preferred actions for managing wasted food. Food rescue keeps edible food out of landfills and prevents the generation of associated greenhouse gases, while at the same time allocating food to its highest value – feeding human beings. The following projects were funded to facilitate food rescue efforts throughout the state.

Fresh Alliance Food Recovery Project

Grantee: ACCESS

Amount: \$25,000

Area of impact: Jackson County

ACCESS will collaborate with local grocers and food producers with the goal of rescuing 1.4 million pounds of food to provide nutritious food to 26,000 people in Jackson County.

Increasing Capacity to Reduce Wasted Fruit on Oregon Berry Farms

Grantee: Northwest Berry Foundation

Amount: \$23,828.97

Areas of impact: Farms in Western Oregon stretching from Portland to Eugene

Northwest Berry Foundation will train volunteers how to safely recover berries from commercial farms that would otherwise go wasted. These volunteers will work farmers in yearly harvests to collect excess food to feed food insecure communities.

NeighborImpact

Grantee: NeighborImpact

Amount: \$50,000

Areas of impact: La Pine, Bend, Redmond, Sisters, Sunriver, Terrebonne, Prineville, Madras, Metolius, Crooked River Ranch, Warm Springs

NeighborImpact will distribute food to over 25,000 residents each month, preventing the monthly wasting of 50 tons of food per month.

Oregon Food Bank Food Recovery Programs

Grantee: Oregon Food Bank

Amount: \$35,000

Areas of impact: Statewide



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Oregon Food Bank will leverage its capacity to rescue nearly 11 million pounds of food that otherwise would be sent to landfills, increasing its Fresh Alliance program by 10%.



Promoting Waste Prevention

Why it matters



\$165,503

Six projects

By preventing waste and reusing what we have, we can have profound impacts on the air we breathe, the water we drink, the productivity of our soils and the health of numerous ecosystems. In 2017, Oregon generated 5,434,333 tons of waste—roughly seven pounds of waste per person per day. While this amount may seem staggering, most of the damage to our environment take place before this waste reaches the trash or recycling bin (during the processing, design, manufacturing and transportation phases). The following projects were funding with this in mind.

Ashland Go Box

Grantee: City of Ashland

Amount: \$9,700

Area of impact: Ashland

Southern Oregon University and four local restaurants will participate in a pilot project allowing customers to pay a one-time fee to receive reusable take out boxes instead of disposable containers.

Fairgrounds Kitchen Upgrade

Grantee: Benton County

Amount: \$14,797.57

Area of impact: Benton County

Benton County will purchase durable dishes, flatware, and a commercial dishwasher to use at the county fairgrounds. In the first year, this project will prevent discarding 75,000 disposable items.

Online Directory for Reuse and Repair

Grantee: Corvallis Sustainability Coalition

Amount: \$5,524

Areas of impact: Corvallis, Philomath

Corvallis Sustainability Center will create and maintain an electronic online directory providing Corvallis residents with a convenient way to locate reuse and repair businesses in the Corvallis area.

Habitat for Humanity of the Mid-Willamette Valley ReStore

Grantee: Habitat for Humanity of the Mid-Willamette

Amount: \$50,000

Area of impact: Salem

Habitat for Humanity of the Mid-Willamette Valley will purchase a truck to support an increase 70,000 pounds of used and new building materials from being sent to a landfill.



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ReStore Box Truck Purchase

Grantee: Habitat for Humanity of Central Lane

Amount: \$36,932.25

Areas of impact: Eugene, Springfield, Creswell, Cottage Grove and surrounding areas in Lane County

Habitat will purchase a truck to meet demands for donation pickups such as furniture and building materials. The purchase will divert 30,000 pounds of material from the landfill to reuse in the first year.

Used Building Materials Retail Warehouse Expansion to Grants Pass

Grantee: Heartwood Resources

Amount: \$48,549

Area of impact: Grants Pass

Heartwood Resources will purchase heavy equipment, including two flatbed pickup trucks, to help create a used building material store in Grants Pass.



Supporting recycling in rural
communities
Why it matters



\$155,950
Two projects

Recycling—when done right—provides significant environmental benefits. In 2016 our state recycled 1,400,000 tons of materials, reducing 3.1 million metric tons of CO₂ from being released into the atmosphere. This is equivalent to removing 674,000 cars from the road every year or powering 340,000 homes. However, recycling only works with the right infrastructure in place, and this year DEQ elected to support the following recycling projects supporting rural communities across Oregon.

Recycling Processing Equipment to Expand Access for Rural Collectors*

Grantee: Garten Services, Inc.

Amount: \$82,242

Areas of impact: Marion, Polk, Lincoln and Lane Counties

Garten will replace an aging baler that will increase residential recycling from 1,400 to 2,520 tons per month. It will also support people with disabilities.

Klamath Works Mattress Recycling Expansion Project

Grantee: Klamath Works, Inc.

Amount: \$73,708

Area of impact: Klamath Falls

Klamath Works will purchase a new baler to quadruple recycling mattresses to an estimated 80,000 per year.

To learn more about DEQ's Materials Management grants, visit
www.oregon.gov/deq/mm/Pages/Grants.aspx.



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