

# REDUCE • REUSE • RECYCLE

by Jeanne Roy



## BEYOND CURBSIDE RECYCLING

*Beyond curbside recycling, what can you do to get other discards into the reuse or recycling stream?*

**FLUORESCENT BULBS** can be separated into glass, metal, and mercury, which have some value in the marketplace.

Both tubes and compact bulbs can be taken to:

- Metro Central, 6161 N.W. 61st, Portland or Metro South, 2001 Washington St., Oregon City. (\$5)
- Total Reclaim, 5805 N.E. Columbia Blvd., 503 281-1899. (small fee)
- Universal Recycling Technologies, 10151 SE Jennifer St, Clackamas, 503 722-2236. (small fee)
- Home Depot and Lowe's stores accept only compact fluorescent bulbs. Drop off at returns.

**RIGID FOAM**, typically used to package electronic equipment, should be packaged in a clear plastic bag. It will be densified and sent to other companies for recycling into plastic products like VCR tapes.

- Recology, 4044 N. Suttle Rd. & 6400 SE 101st., 503 285-8777.
- Total Reclaim, 6427 N.E. 59<sup>th</sup> Pl., 503 281-1899. (\$5)

**PACKAGING PEANUTS & BUBBLE WRAP** are accepted for reuse at many companies providing mailing services or shipping fragile products. Check with your local mailing service, or call Metro at 503 234-3000 for the site nearest you.

**HOUSEHOLD BATTERIES** shouldn't be landfilled.

- Batteries Plus in NE Portland, SE Portland, or Beaverton.
- Whole Foods on NW Couch, Customer Service.
- Rechargeables: Radio Shack and Home Depot.

**ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT** such as computers and TVs can be donated for reuse or recycling through Oregon E-Cycles at no charge. Printers, copiers, fax machines, VCRs, stereos, phones, computer disks, and CDs may also be accepted.

- Goodwill donation sites.
- Free Geek, 1731 S.E. 10th, 503 232-9350.

- Green Century Electronics Recycler, 6932 SW Macadam Ave, 503 998-5357.
- Far West Fibers, 4950 SE 26th, 503 238-1640.
- Standard TV and Appliance 7914 SE 82nd Ave, 503 542-5117.
- EcoBinary, 8260 SW Nimbus Ave, Beaverton, 503 352-4991.

**BOOKS** that cannot be sold or donated to a charity can still be recycled. Three depots have bins for hardback books, and most recycling depots that accept mixed waste paper will take paperbacks.

- All Far West Fiber sites, 503 643-9944.

**CLOTH PRODUCTS**—worn-out clothing, drapes, and bedding—should not be thrown away. If the cloth is at least 50 percent cotton and 12 inches square, it can be made into a cleaning rag. Other textiles will be sent overseas for reuse or recycling.

- Pioneer Rag Company, 10707 N. Lombard St., 503 226-6057.
- Goodwill sites.

**ATHLETIC SHOES**, even worn out ones, can be recycled

- Nike and Foot Traffic stores.

**CLEAN CONSTRUCTION WOOD** can be taken to a number of sites in the metropolitan area. Contact Metro for the one that fits your needs.

**TIRES** (small fee)

- Les Schwab Tire Centers.
- RB Recycling, 8501 N Borthwick Ave, Portland, 503 283-2261.

**BIKE INNER TUBES**

- Community Cycling Center, 1700 NE Alberta, 503-287-8786

**For more sites, contact the Metro Recycling Hotline at 503 234-3000 or on the Web**