



MEDIA RELEASE

Lincoln County Board of Commissioners

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Recycling in Lincoln County - China's Import Ban on Recyclable Materials

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China, the major world-wide importer of recyclable materials announced a global ban on accepting certain recyclable materials including plastics and paper beginning this year. This change continues to have a significant impact on the recycling markets in Oregon and throughout the United States.

This policy change by China has caused changes in the recycling services of the County's three local franchised haulers, both curbside and at recycling service centers operated by the haulers. Customers experiencing possible confusion about what items can be recycled are reminded to call or visit the web sites of their local service providers:

Dahl Disposal

<http://www.dahl Disposalservice.com/index.php/cirecyclingguide>

Thompson Sanitary

<https://www.thompsonsanitary.com/service/>

North Lincoln Sanitary

www.northlincolnsanitary.com

The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality, the state agency responsible for recycling programs statewide, is working with local governments, recycling collectors and processors, and others involved in the recycling business, to address both short term and long term options caused by this market crisis. Detailed information on the crisis and state response is found at <http://www.oregon.gov/deq/mm/Pages/Recycling-Markets.aspx>

DEQ encourages Oregonians to continue to recycle whenever possible. "Recycle it right. Make sure that the items you set out for recycling are collected or accepted by your recycling service provider. If in doubt, find out. Non-recyclable items lead to more contamination, which means slower sorting lines and fewer markets for these commodities."

Solid Waste Disposal Service District manager, Mark Saelens commented, "Lincoln County Solid Waste Disposal Service District is working with the Solid Waste Advisory Committee which includes representatives of the County, Cities in the County, and the franchised solid waste haulers to address both the short and long term consequences of the issues with markets for recyclables impacted by decisions from China." Saelens continued, "Both the County and local haulers will continue to work collaboratively to create local solutions that reduce unwanted items both in recycling and in our landfills."

In the coming months the County, working with the Solid Waste Advisory Committee, will be presenting its "Material Management Plan" which, among other topics, seeks to identify and facilitate recycling opportunities within Lincoln County.

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