

PLASTICS Collection

Community Collector Instructions

Thank you for registering as a "Community Collector" for ongoing plastics collection. Dedicated individuals, business, churches and groups like you are helping keep plastic out of the landfill. Community collectors will be provided posters, signs and on-site training, and we can offer two sizes of collection sacks – small (39" x 22" x 25") and large (40" x 46" x 42").

Here are a few tips to make community collection quick and easy!

1. Determine the number of people you want to collect for?

The first step is to decide how big or small you want your "community collection" to be? **Lane County requires that community collectors collect a minimum of 2 cubic yards of plastic material (visualize a washer and dryer.** This should fill the back of a pick-up truck. Determining the size of your "community" will allow you to visualize space and the number of bags you'll need to start collecting.

2. Determine where plastic materials will be stored.

Knowing where you'll store the material is the biggest consideration. Materials must be clean and dry. Some businesses collecting for employees are storing materials on loading docks or in warehouses, churches are storing materials in garden sheds, neighbors are storing materials in garages.

Plastic materials need to be sorted into the following categories: (#2 bottles & jugs); (#2 tubs & lids); (#4 bottles, tubs & lids); (#5 bottles, tubs & lids). **This means four (4) different collection bags!**

3. Determine collection location, hours and staffing

Set regular collection hours so employees, neighbors or friends can drop off plastics - whether it's a 1-day collection or you decide to collect for employees 5-days a week, someone should be there to screen materials during drop off hours. This could be utilizing green team members, employees or volunteers you have enlisted to help. All plastic materials dropped off should be thoroughly reviewed and rejected if incorrectly prepared.

***Rejecting materials prepared incorrectly can be a good educational experience and the most effective way to ensure your efforts are successful and don't waste your time and efforts.**



recycle it right!

when in doubt, find out or leave it out.
Ask the Garbage Guru www.lanecounty.org/garbageguru

4. Know what plastic materials are being accepted.

#2, #4 and #5 (polyethylene and polypropylene) tubs, jugs, bottles, lids ONLY. When employees, neighbors or friends drop off plastics, make sure materials are sorted correctly by shape and number, AND clean of food, debris and labels. This will make your community collection role much easier and prevent problems when you drop materials off at Lane County. REMEMBER: All materials will be screened by Lane County staff. **If materials are dirty or incorrectly prepared they will be rejected.**

5. Know the minimum quantity to collect BEFORE you schedule an appointment.

Community collectors need to be a registered community collector and have collected a minimum of 2 cubic yards (visualize a washer and dryer). One cubic yard is (3' w x 3' h x 3' d) of materials before you can schedule an appointment for drop off. Appointments will begin end of September. All registered community collectors will receive an email notification about upcoming trainings and an online scheduling tool for sign-ups.

