



State of Oregon Department of Environmental Quality

Disposal Concurrences and Disposal numbers

Updated on Aug. 29, 2019

What are disposal concurrences?

Given the unprecedented global market conditions, some recycling processors have struggled to find markets for mixed paper and plastics, causing a backup of materials throughout the collection and processing system. Some communities – especially those in rural parts of the state – have been disproportionately affected due the added expense of transporting materials to processors in other parts of the state. In such circumstances when it costs more to recycle a material than it does to dispose of it in a landfill, disposal of previously-recycled material can happen under Oregon law.

The Department of Environmental Quality, working closely with representatives from the recycling industry and local governments, has developed a short-term stopgap solution, called a disposal concurrence, to help alleviate the backup of materials. When all options to find markets for recyclable commodities have been exhausted, DEQ concurs that landfilling these materials on a temporary basis is an unfortunate, but needed option. **At this time, there are no active concurrences.**

Disposal concurrences and disposal numbers overview

26

Number of concurrences since Sept. 1, 2017

.4%

Percent of all materials collected for recycling that have been disposed of since Sept. 1, 2017*

16,394

Total tons disposed from Sept.1, 2017 to July 31, 2019

*Percentage calculated using monthly averages from 2017

Total tons disposed of by month

