



## Proposed regional service standards updates for garbage and recycling services.

*Metro is proposing updates to its administrative rules that outline service requirements for residential recycling and bulky waste collection for individuals that live in multifamily communities or apartments. These updates support regional waste management goals, align with new state requirements and improve service for people who live in apartments or other kinds of multifamily housing.*

### **These updates focus on two key areas:**

- 1) **Alignment with state law** - updates are needed to ensure Metro's rules align with the state's [Plastic Pollution and Recycling Modernization Act](#), which standardizes recycling programs across Oregon including the list of materials collected at the curb for recycling.
- 2) **Establishment of minimum service standards for bulky waste collection** - new rules will set clear expectations for the collection of large items like furniture and appliances, referred to as bulky waste, improving access and consistency of services across greater Portland.

### **These changes are meant to address concerns that Metro heard from residents, property managers, local governments and garbage collectors.**

As part of this work, Metro [researched how garbage and recycling](#) was collected in apartments and condos across greater Portland and heard it is really hard to throw away **bulky waste** the right way.

These proposed changes were informed by Metro's recent [Multifamily Bulky Waste Collection Study](#) and developed in collaboration with city and county staff from across the region to ensure they reflect local needs.

Additionally, this update builds on the 2021 multifamily service standard update that established minimum service volumes and frequency for garbage and recycling collection at multifamily properties. The update also established consistent signage and collection bin colors, making it easier to identify what materials go where no matter where you live.

### **Lend your voice.**

The changes Metro is proposing will help address some of these issues and provide better, safer and easier garbage and recycling services for people living in multifamily homes. These changes also center the voices, values and needs of communities of color and other marginalized groups in our region's garbage and recycling system.

Does this meet your needs? Let us know. Before these rule changes are considered for approval, we are seeking comments from the public. The full language of these proposed changes and a document that has answers to frequently asked questions can be found at [Metro's Regional Services Standards updates webpage](#).

Between May 29 and July 8, visit [Metro's Regional Services Standards updates webpage](#) to share your thoughts via a quick form. A [virtual oral hearing](#) will be held on Tuesday July 1, at 5:00 p.m. and include a brief presentation and opportunity for verbal comments. You can also [email us](#) at or mail written comments to:

Metro  
Attn: Service Standards WPES  
600 NE Grand Avenue  
Portland, OR 97232

<p><b>Key dates:</b> May 29 - July 8: Public comment period July 1: Oral hearing via Zoom July 14: Public comment report posted</p>
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