

# Beyond Business as Usual

## Sustainability Works

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**[clackamas.us/recycling/work](https://clackamas.us/recycling/work)**

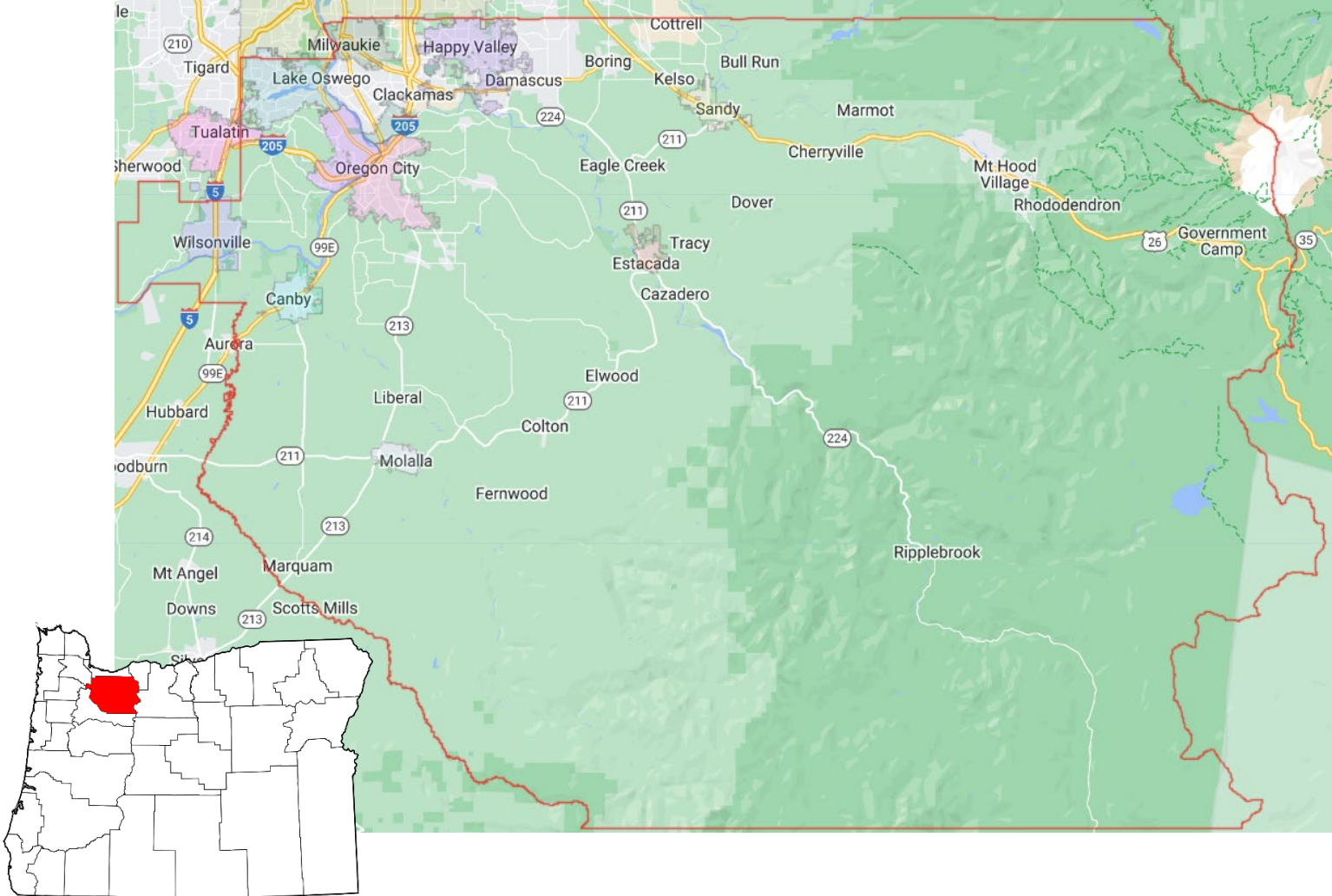


# Today

- **Business landscape**
- **Our services & resources**
- **Leaders in Sustainability certification**
- **Benefits of going green**
- **Q & A**

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# Business landscape



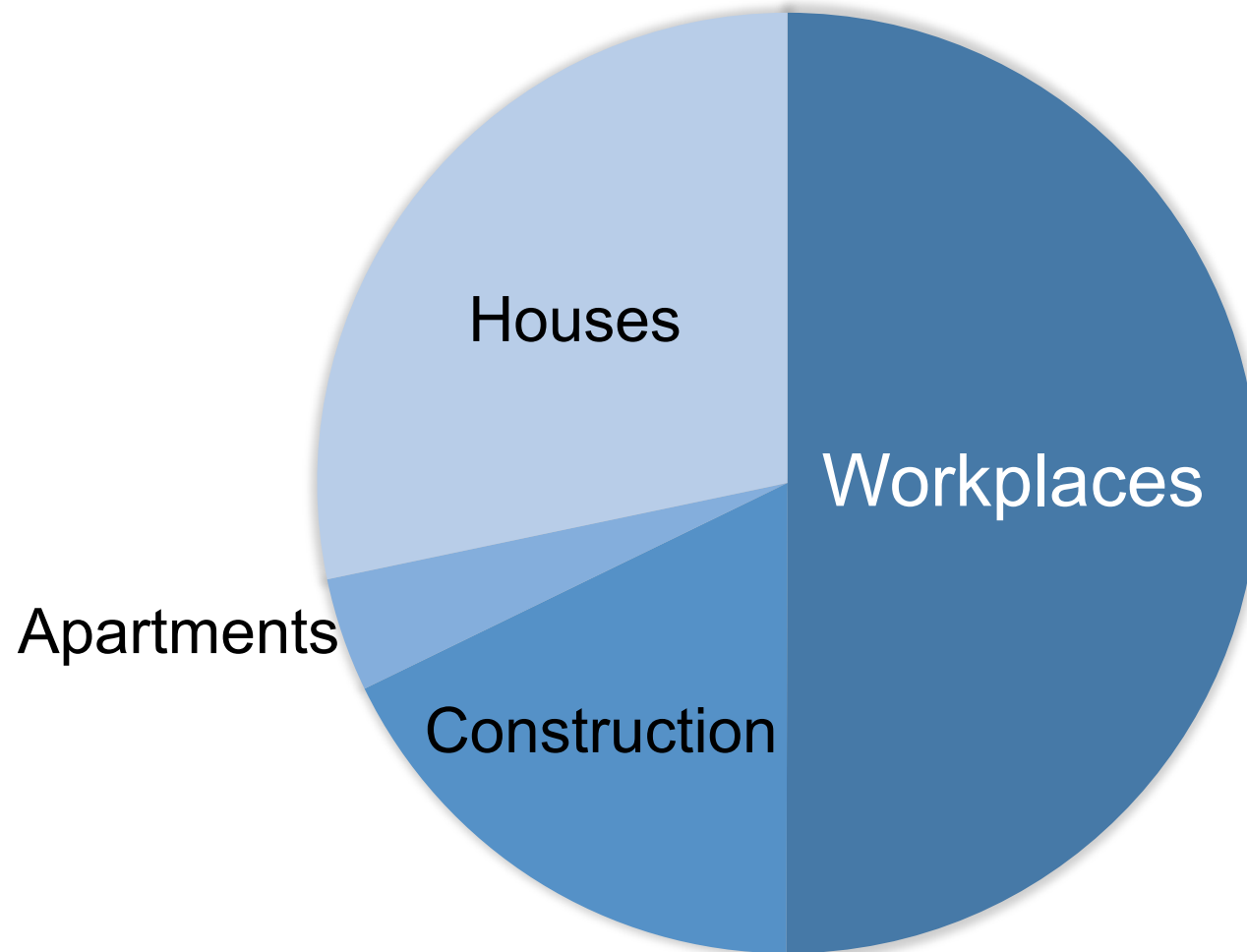
## Metro area

75,000+ workplaces  
900,000+ workers

## Clackamas

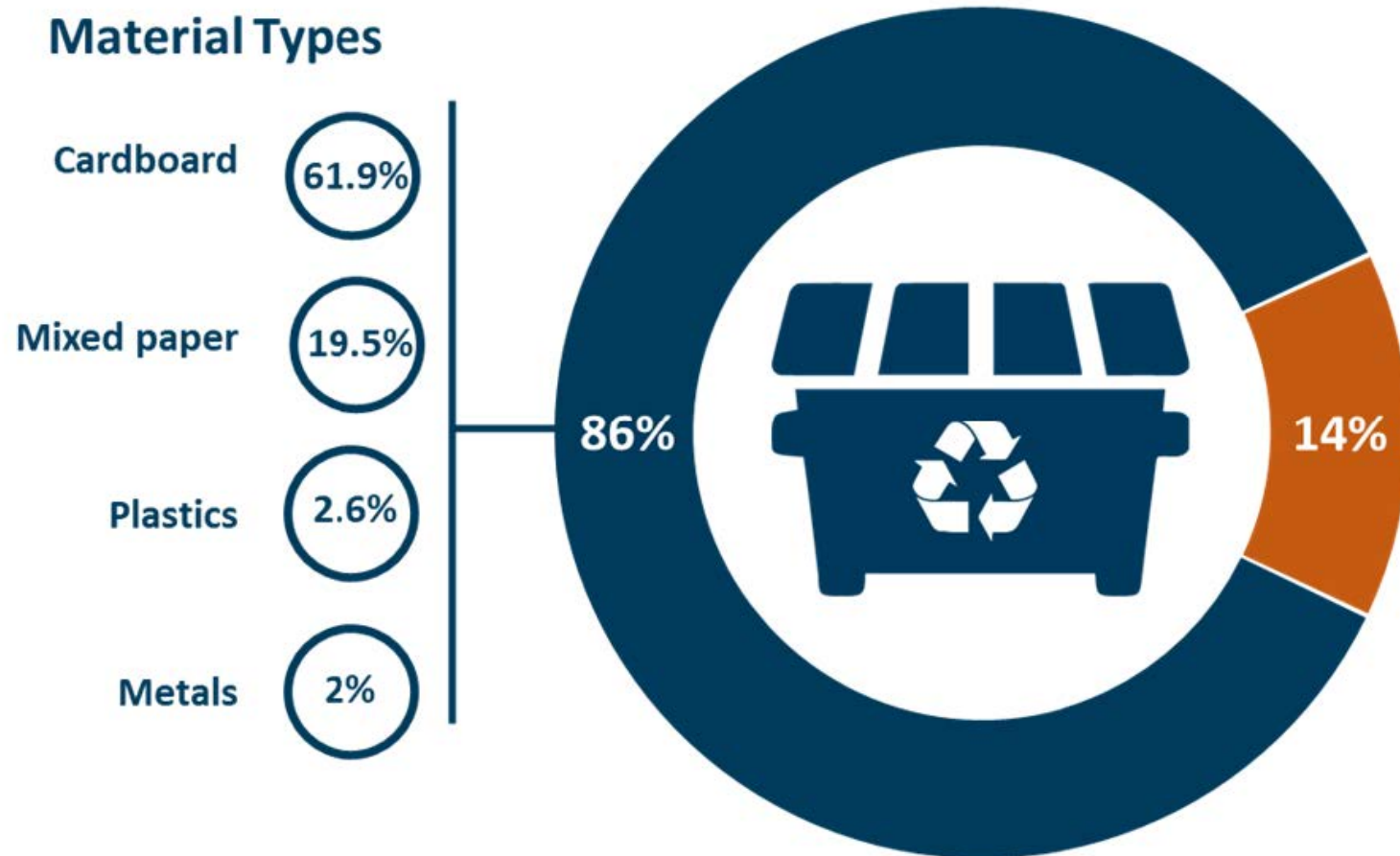
12,000+ workplaces  
140,000+ workers

# Where's the waste from?

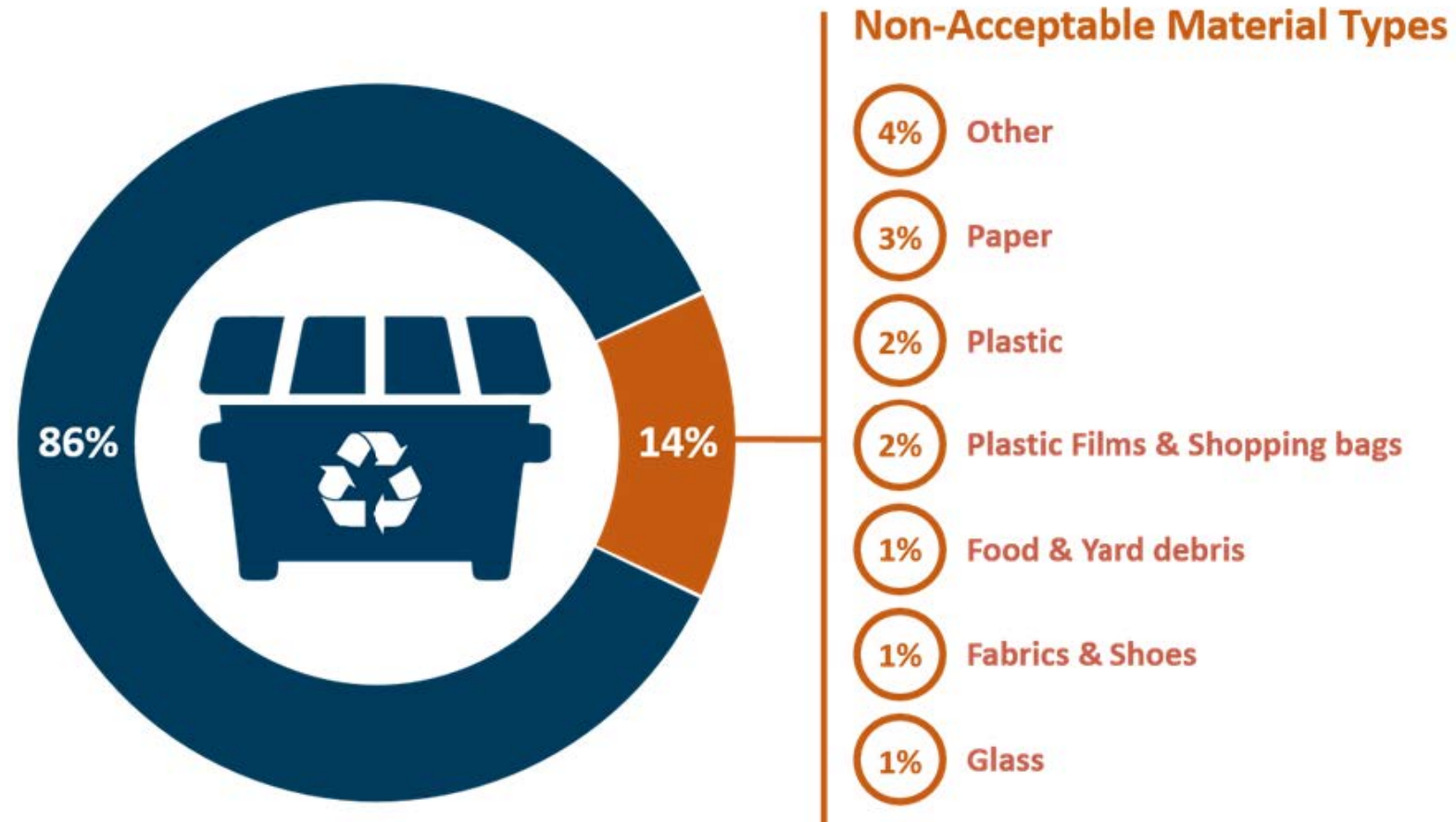


About half of  
Clackamas's  
waste comes from  
workplaces  
*(includes schools)*

# 2019 Metro waste composition study: acceptable materials in region's commercial recycling



# Non-acceptable materials



# Business recycling requirements

All workplaces in the Metro region **must**:

- Recycle the basic list: paper, cardboard, metals, plastic bottles & tubs, and glass bottles & jars\*
- Have containers inside for collecting these materials
- Post educational signage at collection areas that shows what needs to be recycled





# Regional food scraps requirement

Restaurants, grocers, processors, etc. in the Metro region **must** separate food waste for collection:

- **Phase 1 (required by March 2023)**

*Businesses with >1,000 lbs. of food scraps per week*

- **Phase 2 (required by Sept. 2023)**

*Businesses with >500 lbs. of food scraps per week*

- **Phase 3 (required by Sept. 2024)**

*Businesses with >250 lbs. of food scraps per week*



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## Free technical services:

- Virtual meetings or site visits
- Recycling trainings: What goes in the blue bin?
- Food scraps collection trainings
- Tips on starting a green team
- Recognition and guidance for going above and beyond
- Help navigating waste options and services with your waste hauler
- Connecting you with other programs and like-minded workplaces



# Recycling signage & indoor containers

clackamas.us/recycling/workplacetools



**Recycling**  
Reciclaje  
Rác Tái chế  
Утиль  
回收



**✗ No plastic bags, to-go containers, glass, or garbage**  
No bolsas de plástico, recipientes de comida para llevar, vidrio, ni basura



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**Glass**  
Vidrio  
Rác Thủy tinh  
Стекло  
玻璃



**✗ No lids, lightbulbs, caps, ceramics, broken glass**  
Sin tapas. Ningún otro tipo de vidrio.



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**Garbage**  
Basura  
Rác còn lại  
Mycop  
垃圾



**✗ No batteries, computers, fluorescents, liquids, hazardous waste (flammables, paint)**  
No tire baterías, computadoras, fluorescentes, líquidos, ni desechos peligrosos (inflamables o pintura)



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# Food scraps signage & containers

clackamas.us/recycling/workplacetools

<h3>Recycling</h3> <p>Reciclaje Rác Tái chế Утиль 回收</p>	<h3>Food Only</h3> <p>Solo alimentos Rác Thực phẩm 仅限食物 Только пищевые отбросы</p> <h3>Glass</h3> <p>Vidrio* Rác Thủy tinh Стекло 玻璃</p> <p>In a separate bin *en el bote separado</p> <p>Bottles &amp; jars only. No lids Solo botellas y frascos. Sin tapas.</p> <p>503-557-6363 greenbiz@clackamas.us www.clackamas.us/recycling/work</p>	<h3>Garbage</h3> <p>Basura Rác còn lại Мусор 垃圾</p>
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### Food Only

Sólo alimentos Rác Thực phẩm 仅限食物  
Только пищевые отбросы

**No liquids, to-go containers, plastic, utensils, yard debris, or garbage**  
No tire líquidos, recipientes de comida para llevar, servilletas, cubiertos o artículos de servicio, plástico, desechables, desechos de jardín, ni basura

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# Food-related assistance

- Food scraps collection: set-up and training
- Food Waste Stops With Me: tips and resources from industry experts
- Food waste audit toolkits
- Facilitate donation partnerships



[FoodWasteStopsWithMe.org](http://FoodWasteStopsWithMe.org)



# Tips for anyone to start:

- Connect with your green business advisor
- Find coworkers who want to team up
- Get your recycling straightened out!
  - Proper containers & signage
  - Spot-checks for contamination or DIY waste audit
- Make the case to management for ongoing projects
- **What more than recycling could/should your workplace do?**



# Reduce, Reuse... Repeat

- What moves the needle most at your workplace?
- Different business types have different impacts and opportunities:
  - **Office:** energy efficiency, purchasing policies, reusable dishware, going paperless, green cleaners, community giveback, etc.
  - **Restaurant:** countless food waste prevention strategies, plant-based options, energy & water, composting, etc.
  - **Manufacturing:** lean processes, industrial energy strategies, product design, hazardous materials reduction, etc.

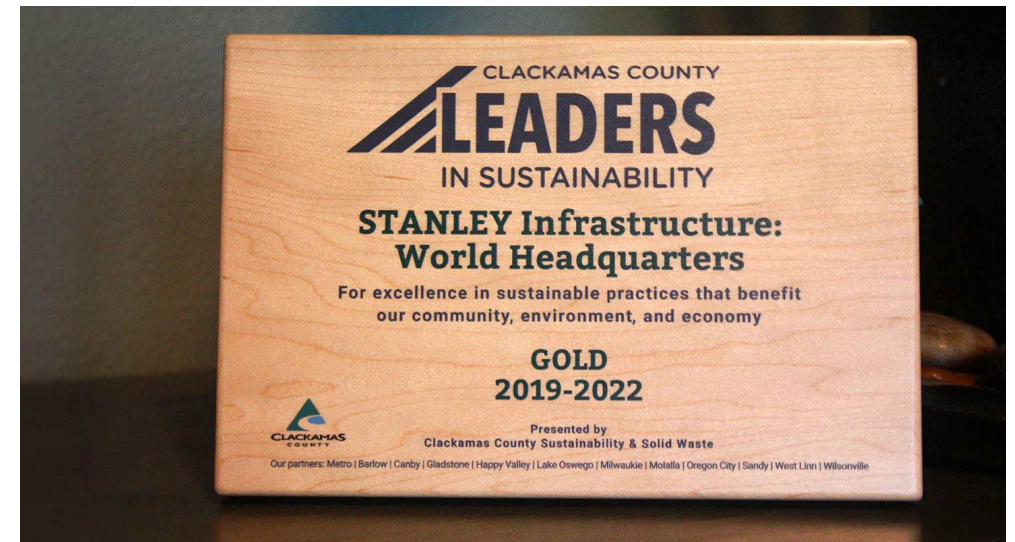


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# Leaders in Sustainability certification



- 90+ green practices to pick from
- Education tool celebrating going beyond business as usual
- Receive promo by County, custom plaque, and more
- Connect w/ likeminded businesses
- You'll know how to walk the talk
- 50+ certified workplaces today
- Award-winning award (?!)



## Certification requires:

- Follow existing environmental regulations
- Complete at least 1 practice in all 9 sections
- ...*and* a minimum # of practices overall:
  - 1-39 employees: 15 / 30 / 45
  - 40+ employees: 20 / 40 / 60
- Set a sustainability goal for the future
- Make it official and educate staff about expectations



- 10. A living wage of at least \$16/hr. is provided to all employees.
- 11. An employee wellness program promotes healthy lifestyle choices for employees.
- 12. A continuity of operations plan prepares staff to adapt and continue critical operations after a disaster or other unexpected disruption.

## II. Reduce, Reuse, Recycle Yes ✓

- 13. Single-use, disposable items are minimized throughout the workplace, including with the use of reusable dishware in applicable kitchen spaces.
- 14. Purchasing decisions incorporate sustainability criteria such as recycled content, energy and fuel efficiency, buying local, preference for reuse and repair, etc.
- 15. Copy/printer paper contains at least 30% post-consumer recycled content.
- 16. At least two additional products purchased (other than printer paper) contain recycled content. *Examples:*
- 17. Food scraps are collected for composting or animal feed. *(This is required for food businesses; see p. 7).*
- 18. At least one additional material beyond the curbside recycling list is recycled, e.g., plastic film, block Styrofoam™, toner cartridges, pallets, etc. *Examples:*
- 19. Paperless invoicing, billing, and payroll are utilized in order to reduce paper use.
- 20. Double-sided printing is the default and centralized printers are used.
- 21. Rechargeable batteries are used for radios, cameras, and other electronic equipment.
- 22. A designated area stores equipment for later use, e.g., office furniture and electronics.
- 23. Product packaging and shipping materials are reused.
- 24. Surplus items such as electronics or supplies are donated to charitable organizations.
- 25. High-efficiency electric hand dryers are used in restrooms rather than paper towels.
- 26. Modular carpet tiles are used so damaged areas can be replaced as needed.
- 27. A waste audit has been conducted within the last year, and recommendations have been implemented. *(Speak with your sustainability advisor about a simple DIY option.)*

## III. Energy Yes ✓

- 28. Energy use is monitored at least annually, and conservation opportunities are evaluated.

- 29. Programmable thermostats (ideally smart models) are set back during off-hours.
- 30. Computer monitors are set to sleep after 15 minutes of inactivity, and non-essential computers and peripheral electronics are powered off at the end of each day.
- 31. Appliances and vending machines are ENERGY STAR®-certified.
- 32. Power strips with "smart" shut-off or motion sensors are used at workstations.
- 33. Interior lighting is LED.
- 34. Exterior lighting is LED and/or certified Dark Sky Friendly, i.e., limits light pollution.
- 35. Occupancy sensors or timers are used for lighting in storage room, offices, restrooms, and other common rooms.
- 36. Non-emergency lights are turned off each night.
- 37. Janitorial services are scheduled for during business hours.
- 38. HVAC systems, coolers/freezers, pumps, cooking equipment, etc. are regularly maintained.
- 39. Water heaters are set to 120°F.
- 40. Window film, blinds, and/or fans are used in the summer to reduce A/C load.
- 41. Windows and doors are properly weather-stripped, and gaskets on refrigerators and freezers are in good working order.
- 42. Renewable energy is purchased from a utility provider, and/or carbon offsets are purchased.
- 43. Renewable energy is generated on-site, such as via solar panels.
- 44. Communication has been conducted with PGE and/or Energy Trust of Oregon within the last 3 years to identify energy upgrade opportunities.

## IV. Water Conservation Yes ✓

- 45. Water use is monitored at least annually, and conservation opportunities are evaluated.
- 46. Faucets, plumbing fixtures, and hoses are not leaking, and leaks are repaired promptly.
- 47. Faucets in kitchens and break rooms use 1.5 gallons of water per minute or less, and restroom faucets use 1.0 gpm or less. *(Low-flow aerators can be provided at no cost.)*
- 48. Toilets and urinals are WaterSense-certified (1.28 and 0.5 gallons per flush, respectively).
- 49. Only tap water is provided; no bottled water or delivered water is provided except in case of emergencies.
- 50. Outdoor watering systems are equipped with hose timers, rain sensors, and/or WaterSense-certified smart controllers.
- 51. The majority of landscaping is native and drought-tolerant, and/or a policy states that new plantings are to be native.

# Why a certification program?

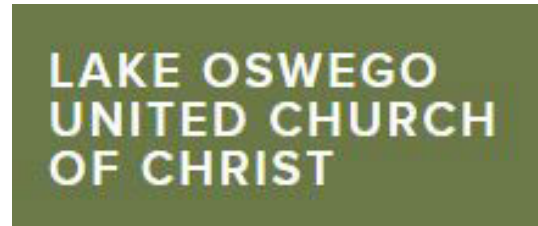
- Improves local sustainability performance
- Education tool about the Triple Bottom Line
- Validates & provides cover for sustainability champions
- Incentivizes sustainability as a competitive advantage
- Broadens sustainability champions' network of peers
- Not “just” about recognition: must result in behavior change

# Why a certification program?

- **Smaller businesses**
  - Connect them with helpful resources
  - Recognize and learn from their creativity and ingenuity
- **Larger businesses**
  - Behavior change at local level still matters
  - Improvements = large cumulative impacts

# Current Leaders in Sustainability

- 50+ certified businesses, nonprofits, and public agencies
- 5,000+ employees, *plus* commercial tenants and residents



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# Sustainability matters

- Improve efficiency & reduce waste
- Educational: Learn what makes the biggest differences
- Competitive advantages:
  - Expand customer reach & build loyalty
  - Employee recruitment, retention, and engagement
  - Positive publicity
- Connect with other businesses with similar goals
- Benefit to our local community

# QUESTIONS? COMMENTS?

- Challenges getting manager buy-in?
- Challenges getting coworkers to give a f@!&?
- Questions about our resources?
- Tips that *you* want to share with others?



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