



RECYCLING

in Portland, Oregon

What can be recycled & why?



=



recycling aluminum **saves 95% of the energy** required to make the same amount of aluminum from its virgin source





=



Recycling is different everywhere



myth:

labeled  = goes in the blue bin

reality:

always follow local guidelines





Why can **some things**
be recycled and **not others**?

Is there a strong, steady market to buy the recycled materials?

cheap

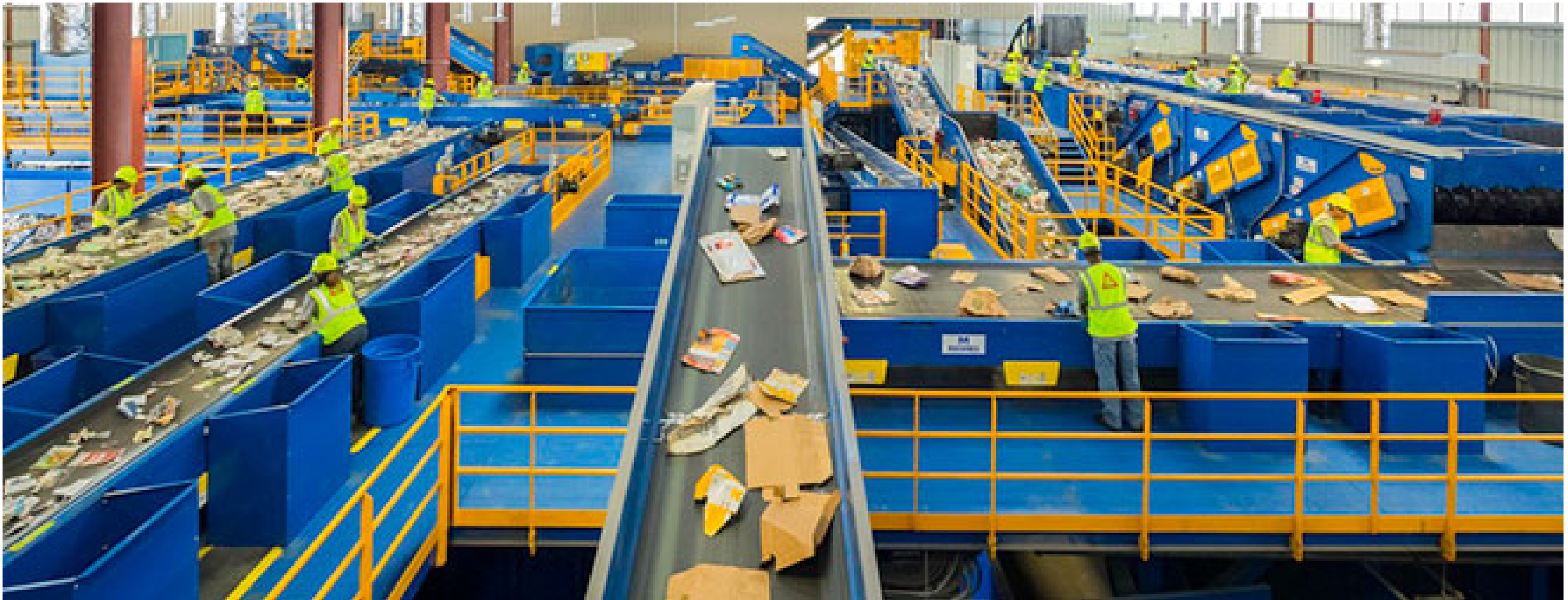


=

cheaper to make virgin plastic than to recycle some types of plastic



Can it easily be sorted?



Sorting materials at the MRF



How **clean** do recyclables need to be?

Recyclables should be **empty, clean** and **dry**

Rinse food out and shake dry. (Food and water mess up the paper.)

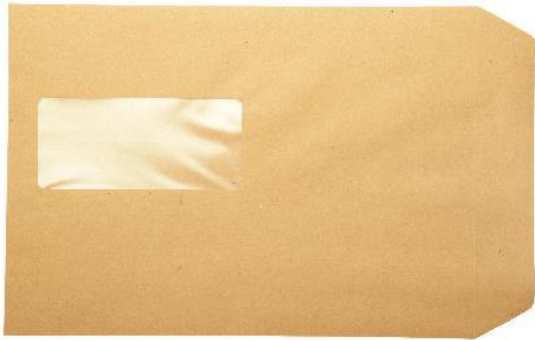
But you don't need to scrub them sparkling clean.

What can be recycled in Portland?



*It's the same at work and home.

paper



OK: staples, tape
paper clips
plastic window



OK: magazines
phone books
spiral note books

cardboard



cartons



TRASH

*Take away = throw away



TRASH



metal



*paper wrapper ok

metal (small pieces)

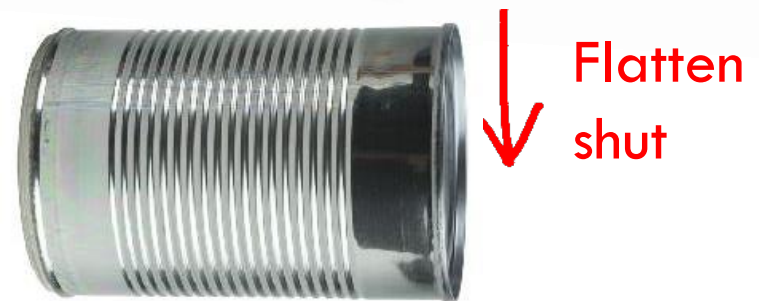
Step 1



Step 2



Step 3



metal



Empty, paint dried
No lid



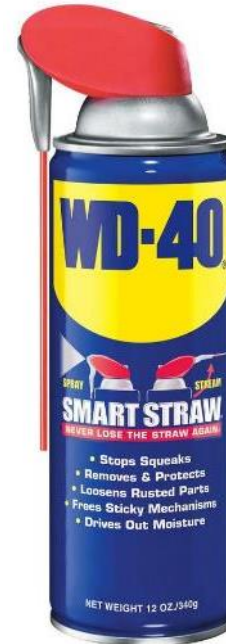
Empty, nozzle ok
No lid

metal (toxic)

Completely empty
= ok to recycle

Not empty
= take to hazardous waste*

(*503-234-3000 to find drop-offs)



plastic

**ignore the
numbers**



plastic



bottle



tub



bucket



jug

plastic (bottles)

Any plastic
with a neck →



plastic (tubs)

6oz
or larger



TRASH

Any plastic NOT shaped like a **bottle**, **tub**, **bucket** or **jug**



TRASH



TRASH

Any plastic labeled **compostable** or **biodegradable** or **made from plants**.



glass



TRASH



Other items of note (toxics)

Batteries

Compact Fluorescent lightbulbs

Tube fluorescent lightbulbs

Poisons

Fertilizers

= take to hazardous waste*

(*503-234-3000 to find drop-offs)



What if I **don't know** if it's recyclable?

When in doubt, **throw it out.**

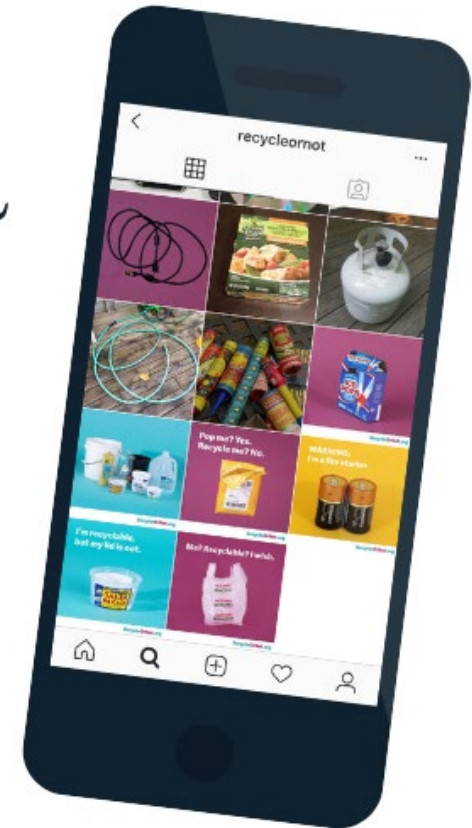
Q) Can I recycle this?

A) Call **503-234-3000** or go to
RecycleOrNot.org

Instagram



Or send a photo to **@recycleornot**



Reduce



Reuse



Reduce



Do I need this?

Reuse



Have I used this 'til it's absolutely worn out?



Can I recycle this when it can't be used again?

reduce

avoid buying things you don't need

**BO
GO**
BUY ONE
GET ONE
FREE

FREE Gift
with purchase



reduce

avoid giving away things
people don't need



reduce

avoid
single use
packaging and one
time use items



refuse

**say no to things
you don't need**



reuse

Use re-usable items instead



reuse

buy, sell or donate used items

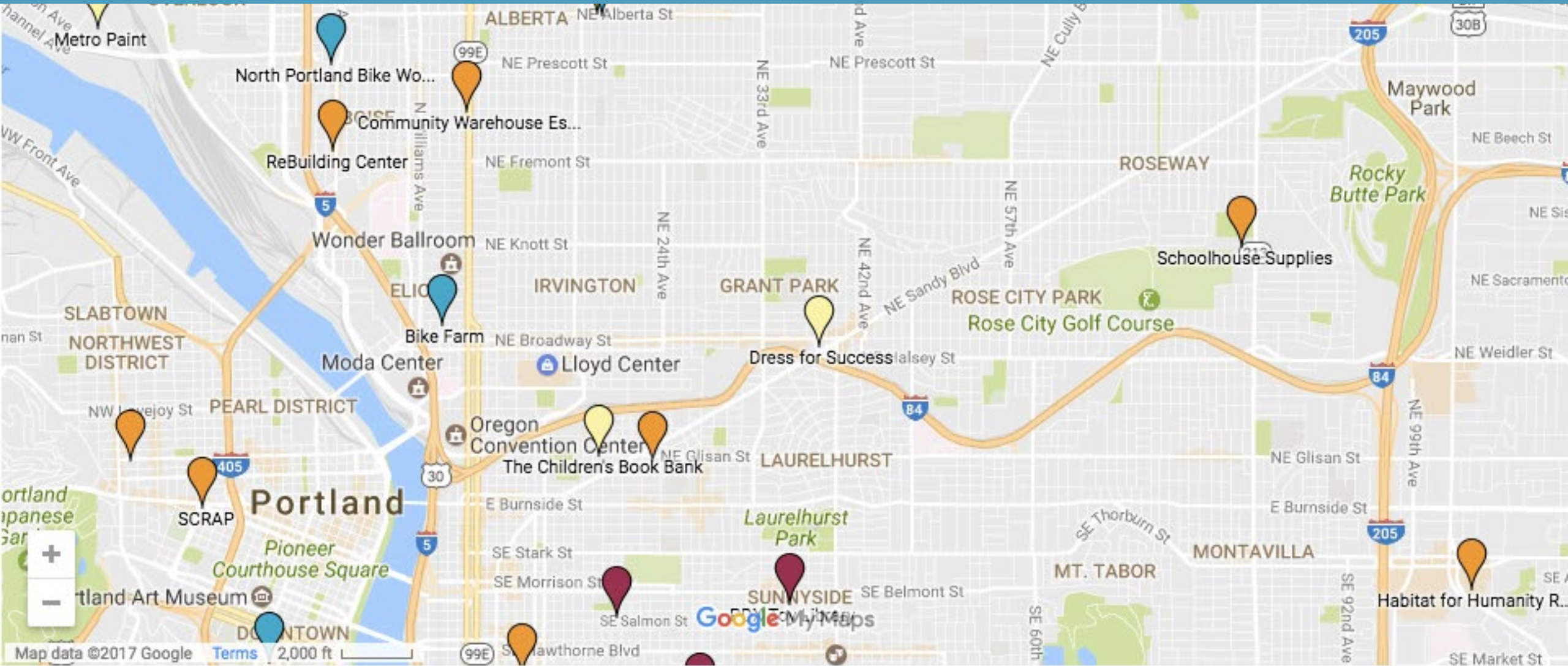


**REBUILDING
CENTER**



borrow

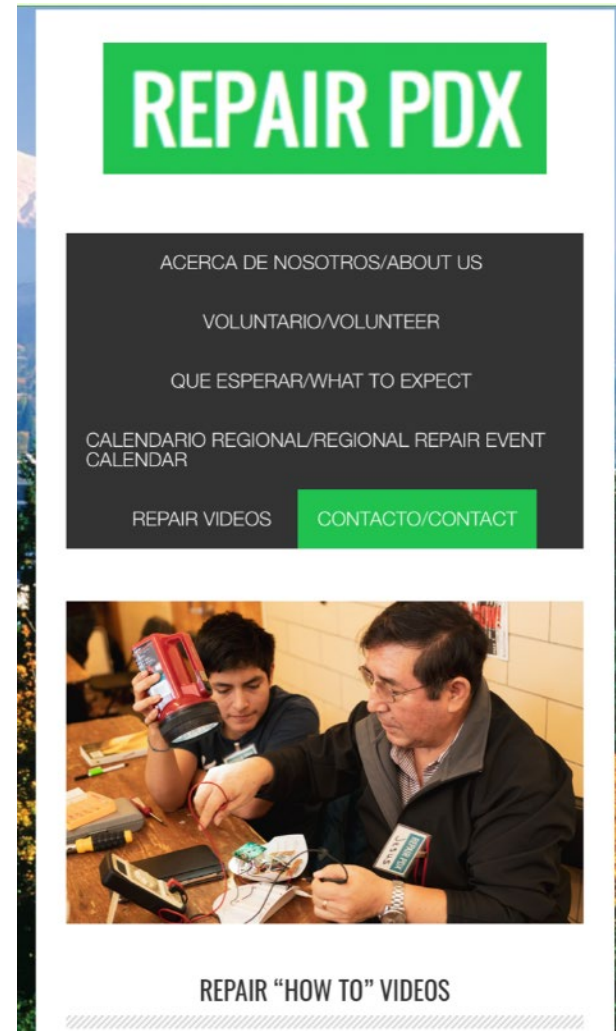
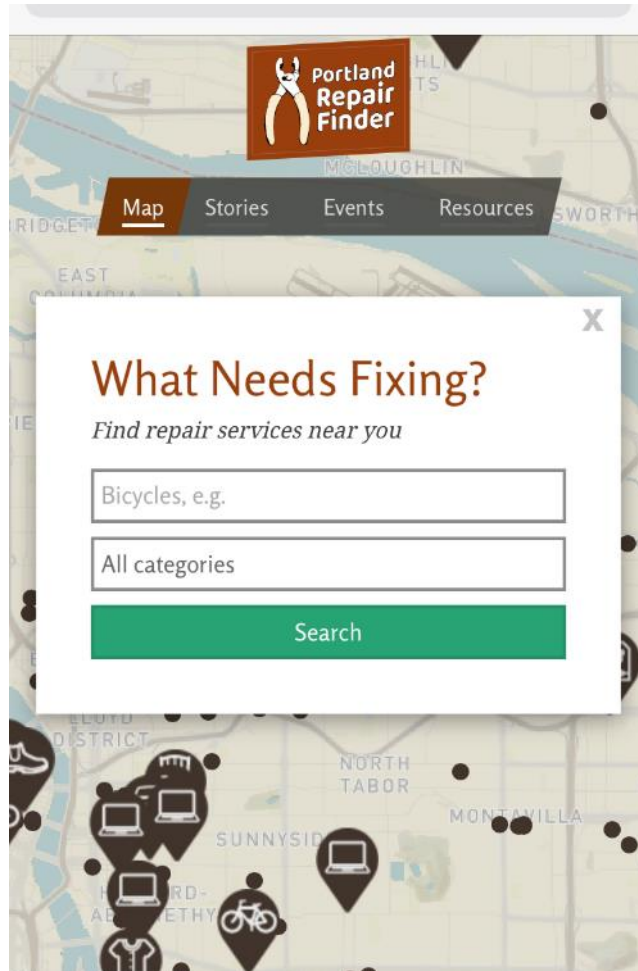




www.resourcefulpdx.com/map/

repair

fix usable items



questions?

Remember to “Recycle Right”

- clean
- empty
- dry
- on the list



THANK YOU

for reducing, reusing & recycling!

www.PortlandOregon.gov/SustainabilityAtWork

SustainabilityAtWork@PortlandOregon.gov



Sustainability at Work