



# City of Lake Oswego 2019 Materials Assessment

October 28<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup>, 2019

Prepared by:  
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Recycling Coordinator



## General Summary

Republic Services (Travis Comfort) accompanied by City of Lake Oswego (Jenny Slepian) and Clackamas County (Alex Mihm, Emily Murkland, Kelly Stewart) staff performed material assessments for the landfill-bound streams for the following City of Lake Oswego municipal properties: Adult Community Center, City Hall, Library and Fire Stations 210, 211, 212, 214.

The assessments were performed on site at each location. Only the garbage was looked at to see what was potentially recoverable. At each location all the waste was audited, but the number of days since last service varied and noted in the observation section within the sections below. The Adult Community Center, City Hall, and Fire Station 214 were assessed on Monday October 28, 2019. The Library and Fire Station 210 was assessed on Tuesday, October 29, 2019. Fire Station 212 was assessed on Wednesday, October 30, 2019, and Fire Station 211 was accessed on X, 2019.

This report shows the composition of the waste containers and provides waste recovery, waste prevention, and recycling recommendations.

Samplings of the material in the waste were separated into subcategories: mixed recycling, Plastic Film, Nitrile Gloves<sup>1</sup>, Food Scraps, Putrescible (true trash), Single-Use Cups, and Bathroom Waste. Each subcategory was sorted into a bin then weighed. The bin gave the volume of material as well.

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<sup>1</sup> Where recycling program in place: (Fire Stations)

## Adult Community Center

Assessment Performed: 10/28/2019

People Involved: Jenny Slepian, Travis Comfort, Emily Murkland, Kelly Stewart

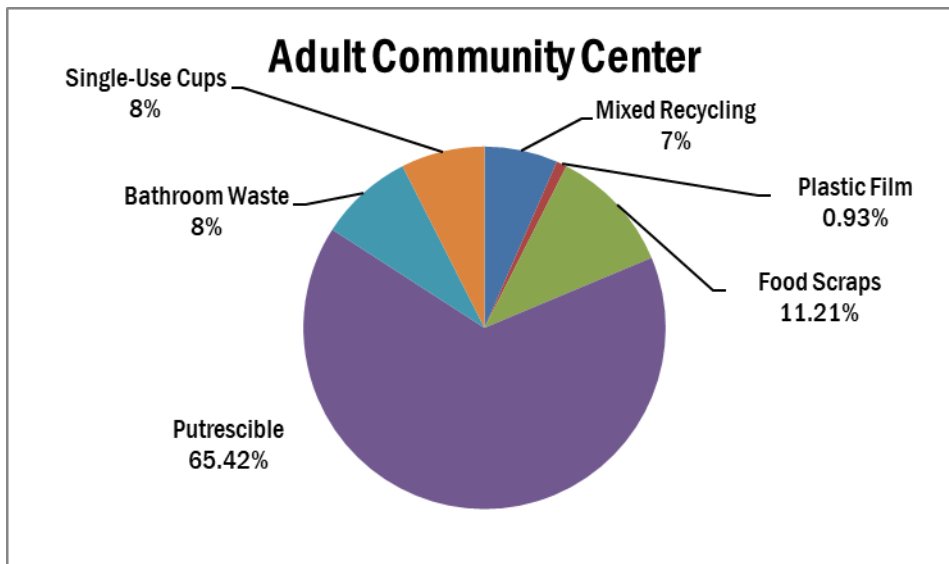
**Observation:** There appeared to be a small amount of household waste. This may be a result of illegal dumping, which has been a problem in the past. Dog walkers also dispose of doggie bags in the ACC dumpster.

Sample Weight: 53.5 lbs

Sample Volume: 8.50 totes

Percentage Recoverable: 19%

Percentage Garbage: 81%



### Recommendations for Adult Community Center

- Educate staff and visitors on the importance of bringing their own mug
- Look into alternatives for single-use cups
- Look into electric hand dryer for bathrooms
- Set up special recycling areas for plastic film which can be taken to most grocery stores
- Refresh recycling signage throughout, and emphasize rinsing containers
- Refresh staff on recycling guidelines and how to reduce overall waste
- Reinforce good composting practices in the kitchen



In comparison to the last audit in 2017, the ACC is essentially performing the same, with slightly more food waste in the garbage than in past years. However, we did notice that some of the food waste may have originated in someone's home, based on how it was packaged and disposed of in the dumpsters. The ACC is generally doing well and can reduce its overall waste production by using fewer single use cups and returning plastic film to area supermarkets for recycling.

## City Hall

Assessment Performed: 10/28/2019

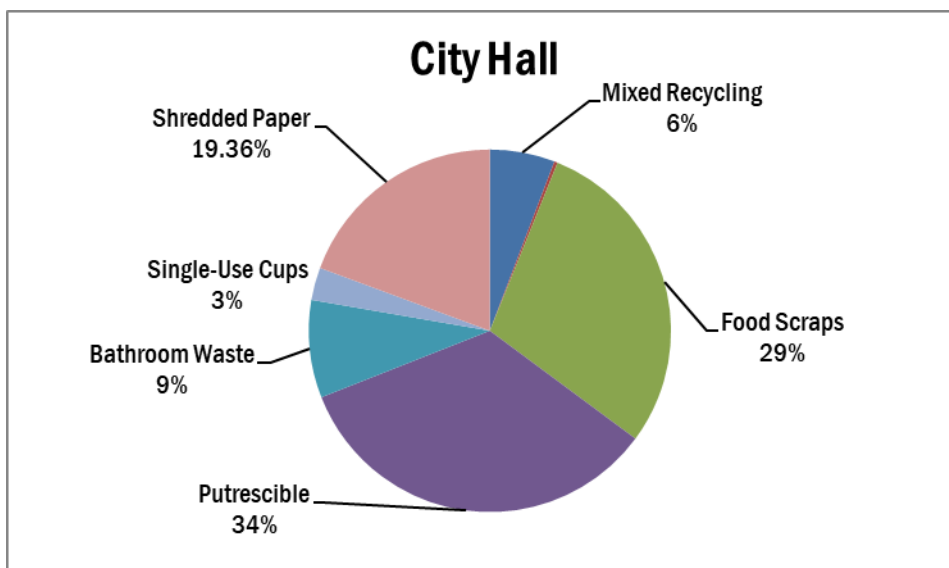
People Involved: Jenny Slepian, Travis Comfort, Emily Murkland, Kelly Stewart

Sample Weight: 52 lbs

Sample Volume: 10.05 totes

Percentage Recoverable: 35%

Percentage Garbage: 65%



**Observations:** Appeared to be a lot of waste for only Friday, Saturday, and Sunday collection. A few explanations could be that the janitorial staff didn't get garbage to enclosure before Friday collection or the bin wasn't serviced on Friday as scheduled.

### Recommendations for City Hall

- Refresh staff on recycling guidelines and importance of reducing first.
- Consider incentivizing the use of reusable cups and mugs.
- Consider a shredding service that could recycle shredded paper.
- For takeout service, request no plastic utensils and other condiments, and use silverware.
- Consider reusable towels and napkins for kitchen use.
- Coach janitorial staff to leave the garbage liner in desk trash cans and just empty bin contents into one bag (leave liner).
- Train all departments and shifts to utilize the composting program.

- Remind staff about specialty recycling programs such as battery, toner cartridge, and electronic recycling.
- Set up special recycling areas for plastic film which can be taken to most grocery stores.

## Library

Assessment Performed: 10/29/2019

People Involved: Jenny Slepian and Travis Comfort

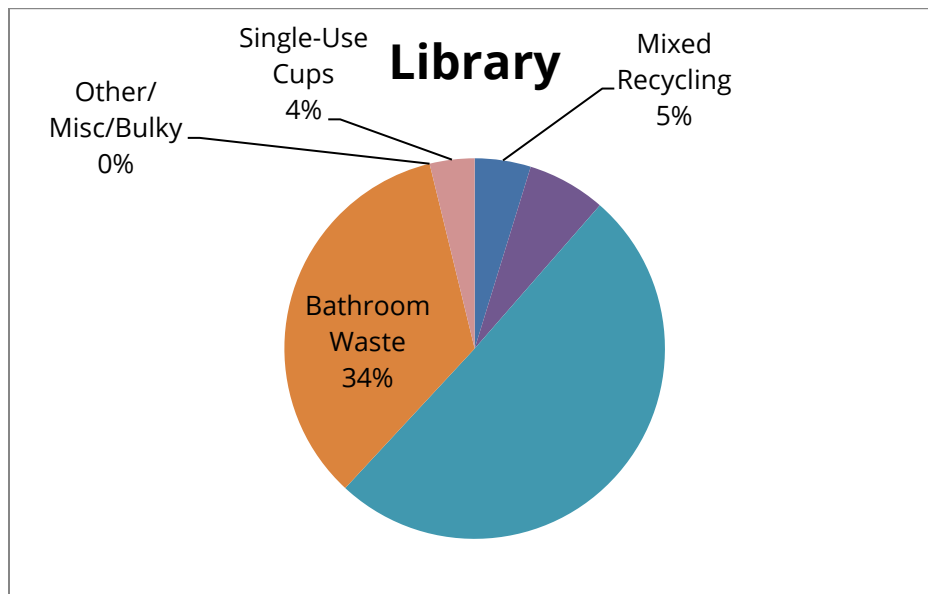
### Observation:

Sample Weight: 52.5 lbs.

Sample Volume: 7 Totes

Percentage Recoverable: 11.5%

Percentage Garbage: 88.5%



### Observations:

#### Recommendations for Library

- Train all shifts to utilize the composting program.
- Consider reusable towels and napkins for kitchen use.
- Buy food items such as chips and condiments in bulk.
- For takeout service request no plastic utensils, and use silverware.
- Use reusable cups and mugs when getting coffee to go.

## Fire Station 210 (West Lake)

Assessment Performed: 10/29/2019

People Involved: Jenny Slepian and Travis Comfort

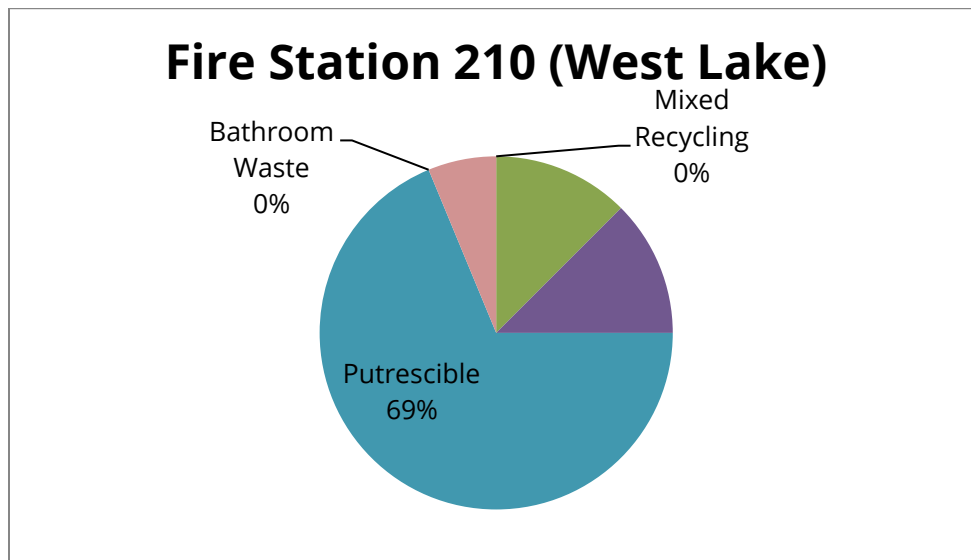
### Observation:

Sample Weight: 8 lbs.

Sample Volume: 4 Totes

Percentage Recoverable: 25%

Percentage Garbage: 75%



### Observations:

#### Recommendations for Fire Station 210 (West Lake)

- Train all shifts to utilize the composting program.
- Consider reusable towels and napkins for kitchen use.
- Train all shifts to utilize the glove recycling program.
- Buy food items such as chips and condiments in bulk.
- For takeout service request no plastic utensils, and use silverware.
- Use reusable cups and mugs when getting coffee to go.
- Look into electric hand dryer for bathrooms.
- Set up special recycling areas for plastic film which can be taken to most grocery stores.





## Fire Station 211 (Jean Rd)

Assessment Performed: TBD

People Involved: Jenny Slepian, Travis Comfort

### Observation:

Sample Weight: X lbs

Sample Volume: X totes

Percentage Recoverable: %

Percentage Garbage: %

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### Observations:

#### Recommendations for Fire Station 211 (Jean Road)

- Train all shifts to utilize the composting program.
- Consider reusable towels and napkins for kitchen use.
- Train all shifts to utilize the glove recycling program.
- Buy food items such as chips and condiments in bulk.
- For takeout service request no plastic utensils, and use silverware.
- Use reusable cups and mugs when getting coffee to go.
- Look into electric hand dryer for bathrooms.
- Set up special recycling areas for plastic film which can be taken to most grocery stores.

## Fire Station 212 (South Shore)

Assessment Performed: 10/30/2019

People Involved: Jenny Slepian, Travis Comfort, Kelly Stewart

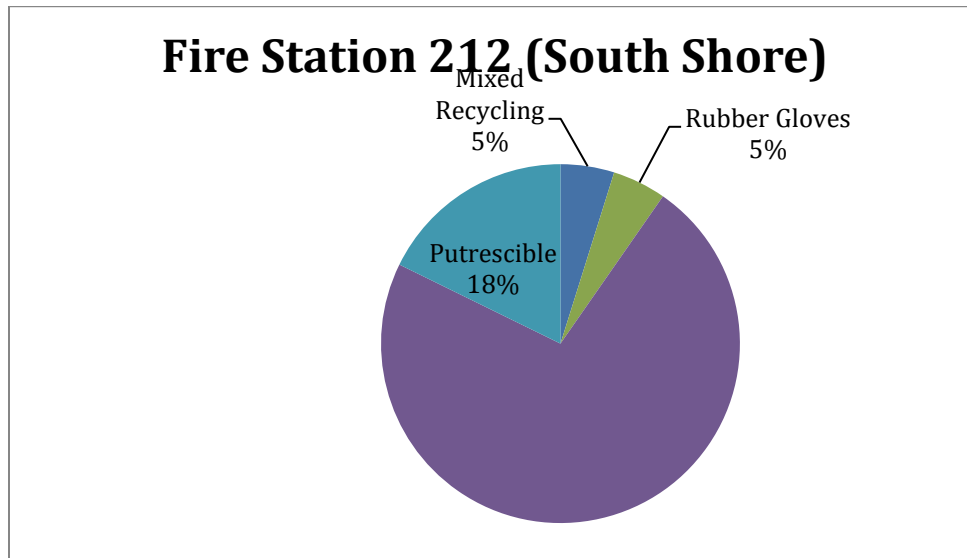
### Observation:

Sample Weight: 62 lbs.

Sample Volume: 8 Totes

Percentage Recoverable: 82%

Percentage Garbage: 18%



Observations: A lot of wasted food.

### Recommendations for Fire Station 212 (South Shore)

- Train all shifts to utilize the composting program.
- Consider reusable towels and napkins for kitchen use.
- Train all shifts to utilize the glove recycling program.
- Buy food items such as chips and condiments in bulk.
- For takeout service request no plastic utensils, and use silverware.
- Use reusable cups and mugs when getting coffee to go.
- Look into electric hand dryer for bathrooms.
- Set up special recycling areas for plastic film which can be taken to most grocery stores.



## Fire Station 214 (B St)

Assessment Performed: 10/28/2019

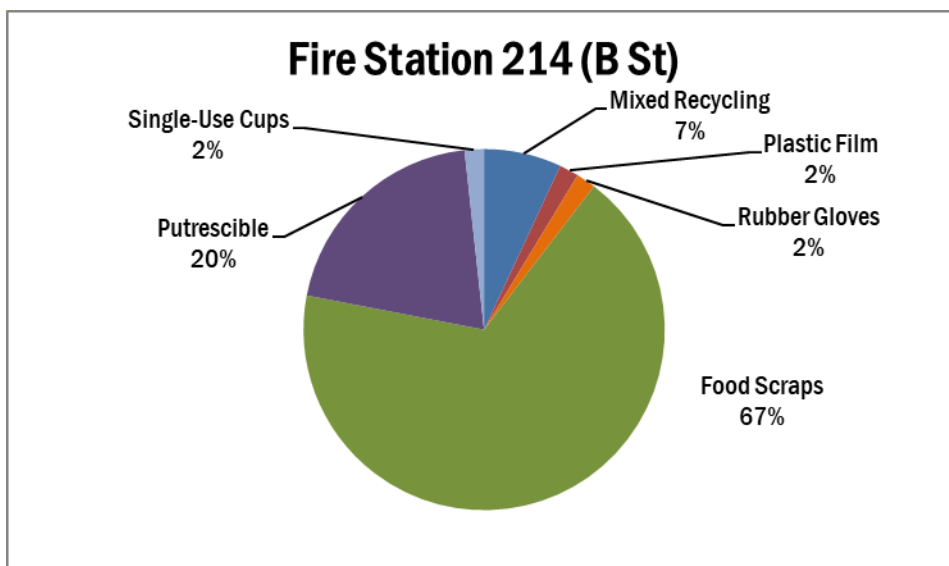
People Involved: Jenny Slepian, Travis Comfort, Emily Murkland, and Kelly Stewart

Sample Weight: 107.5 lbs

Sample Volume: 10.75 totes

Percentage Recoverable: 62.75%

Percentage Garbage: 37.25%



**Observations:** A lot of can liners are being wasted. A lot of wasted food.

### Recommendations for Main Fire Station

- Coach janitorial staff to leave the garbage liner and just empty bin contents into one bag (leave liner).
- Train all shifts to utilize the composting program.
- Refresh staff on recycling guidelines and importance of prevention.
- Use reusable cups and mugs when getting coffee to go.
- Look into electric hand dryer for bathrooms.
- Consider reusable towels and napkins for kitchen use.
- Set up special recycling areas for plastic film which can be taken to most grocery stores.
- Consider reinstating glove recycling program.
- Buy food items such as chips and condiments in bulk.
- For takeout service request no plastic utensils, and use silverware.

- Identify a recommendation to avoid partial boxes of gloves getting tossed.