



Marion County

OREGON

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Marion County Raising Minimum Charge at Transfer Stations

Beginning October 1, the minimum charge for solid waste disposal at the North Marion and Salem-Keizer Recycling & Transfer Stations will be raised from \$13 to \$15.

According to Jeff Bickford, county environmental services division manager, the minimum charge at the transfer stations is being increased over a two-year period, after having been held constant since 1992. During this time, rates have gone up considerably at other out-of-county disposal sites. Additionally, transaction costs at the county's transfer stations have risen in line with the cost of living.

Because of the previous low minimum charge, an increasing number of customers have been coming from locations outside of Marion County where rates are now more expensive than here in Marion County. The traffic at the transfer stations, especially at the Salem-Keizer Recycling & Transfer Station, has increased dramatically over the past several years. This has affected the county's ability to process customers through the facility in a timely matter.

In the summer of 2008, the Marion County Board of Commissioners approved a minimum transaction fee increase from \$9 to \$13 which was effective October 1, 2008, followed by an increase in this fee from \$13 to \$15 effective October 1, 2009.

"It's important to note that only the minimum charge is rising, with the price per pound for disposal is staying the same," said Bickford. "Also, the minimum transaction charge will not go up for loads of yard debris or wood waste brought to the facilities for recycling, remaining at a \$9 minimum per load," he said.

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