### China National Sword

City of Newport Thompson's Sanitary Service Inc.

### History of Recycling (Overview)

- 1991 -- ORS 459 passage of rigid plastic container law
  - State Goal adopted 25% recovery of plastic
- Price of comingle
- Green Fence/China National Sword
  - Import Ban 24 Items (Plastic & Mixed Paper)
- Future?



### Operation Green Fence (2013)

### **National Sword**

2013 Chinese Customs Program aimed to reduce waste importation and contamination of recyclable materials.

2018 China sets import ban on 24 varieties of sold waste and recyclables.

- Includes types of plastic, unsorted paper and metals commonly sold by US recyclers.
- Wastes and recyclables materials are the sixth largest U.S. export to China.
- In 2016, China processed at least ½ of the world's exports of waste plastic, paper, and metals.

"This regulation will send shockwaves around the world, and force many countries to tackle the 'out of sight, out of mind' attitude we've developed toward waste," Greenpeace East Asia plastics campaigner Liu Hua said in a statement.



### How'd we get here?



- Cheap Labor/Low Shipping Costs
- Influx of material cheaper to recycle than make new
- Decrease of Domestic Markets
- No Waste Systems in Asia

### Before ORS 459



### ORS 459 and early recycling collection

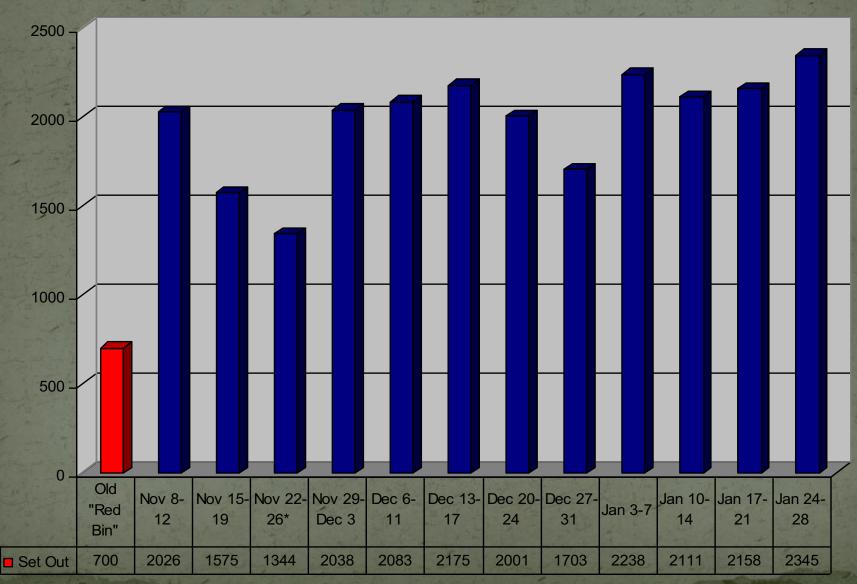


### Comingle Collection 2004



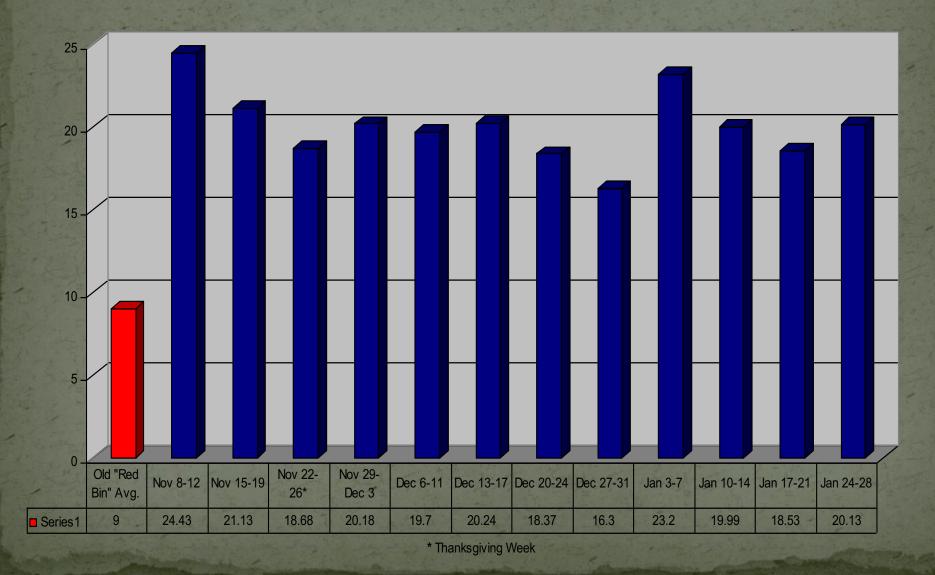
### Setout/Week

Weekly Automated Set Out
Thompson Sanitary Service Inc. 2004 Nov/Dec



### Tons/Week

Weekly Automated Comingle Tons
Thompson Sanitary Service Inc. 2004

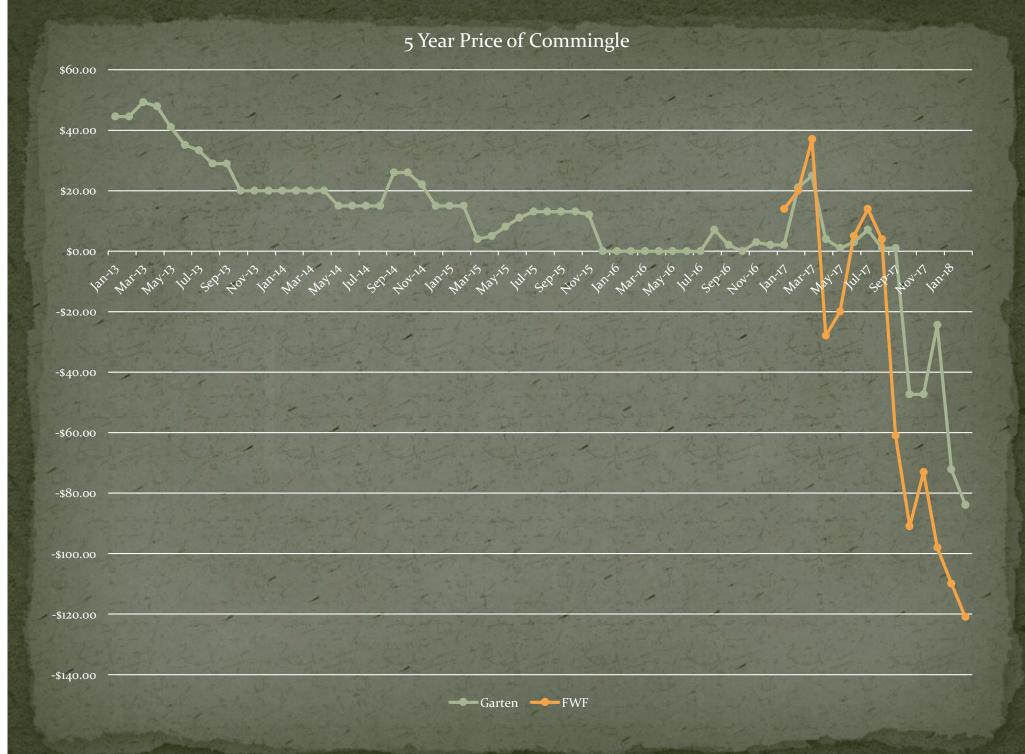






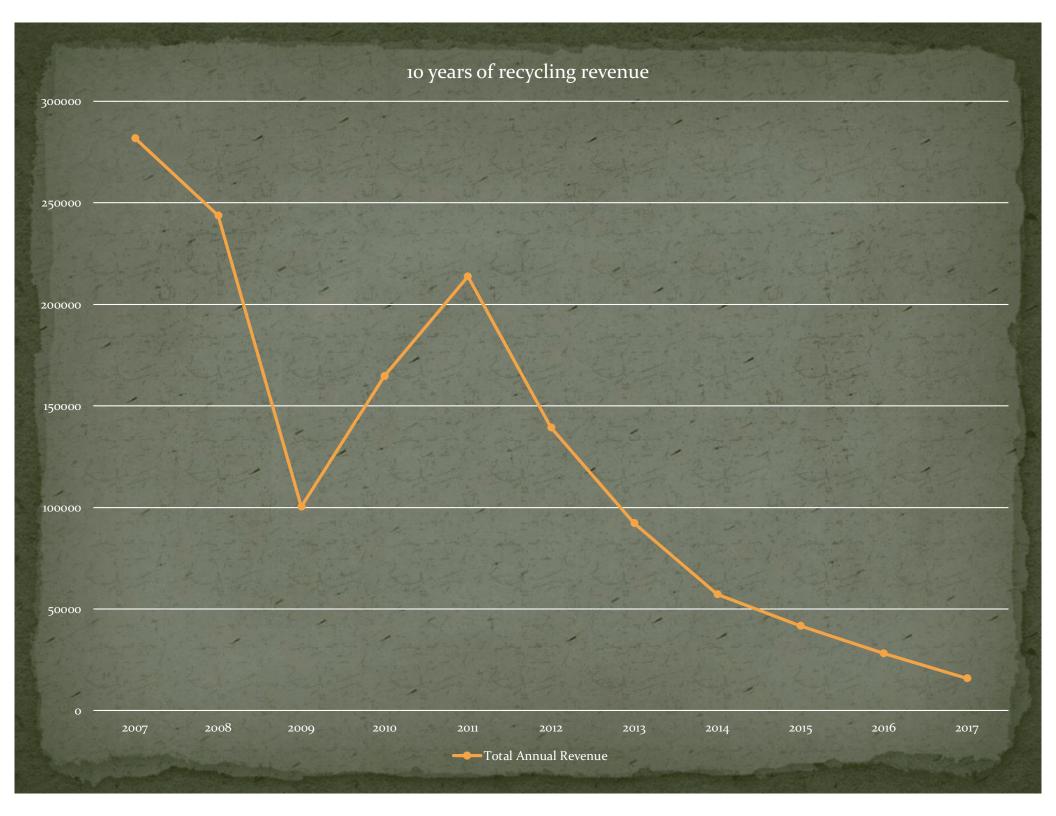
### Contamination

- 9-15% at Curb/5% at MRF
- China standard of 0.3% /latest standard of .5-
- Seattle shipment rejected due to inspection of one load.
  - Entire order canceled.

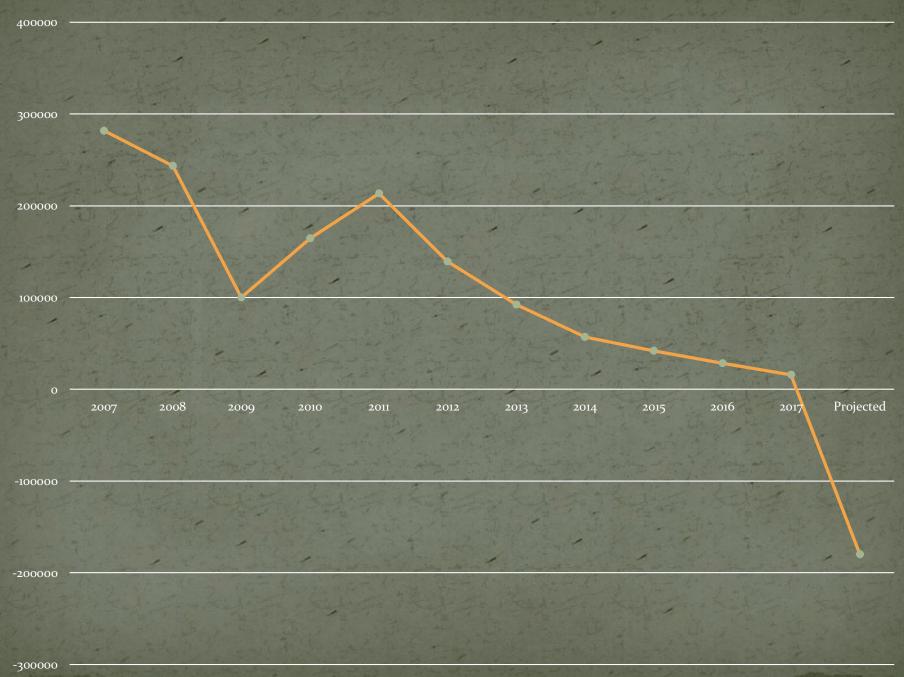






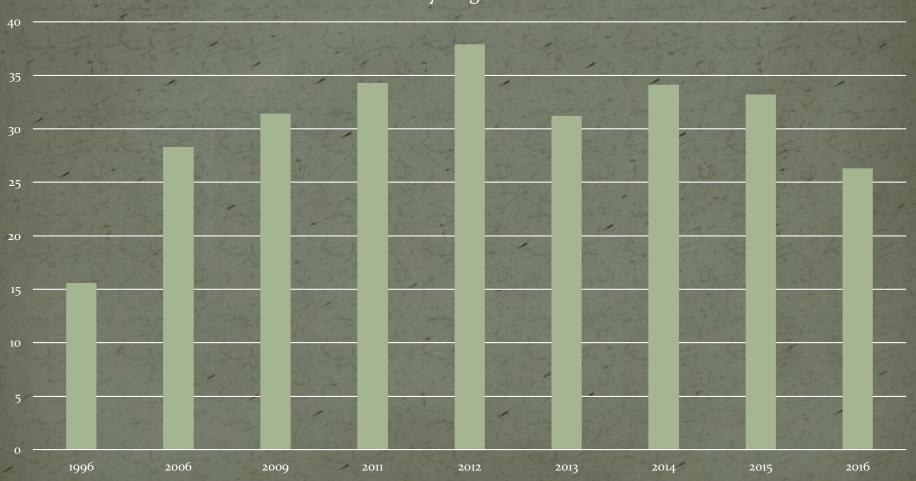






### Lincoln County





### United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 2051.

January 17, 2018

The Honorable Cui Tiankai Ambassador Extraordinary & Plenipotentiary Embassy of the People's Republic of China 3505 International Place, NW Washington, DC 20008

Ambassador Cui:

We write today concerned by China's recent implementation of an import ban on 24 types of waste materials, including paper and plastic. Instead of immediately halting these imports, we targe China to work with the United States to develop a multi-year transition plan so that this mutually-beneficial flow of materials does not come to a complete end.

As you undoubtedly know, China is the world's largest producer of paper and plastic materials and post-consumer products are an important part of that manufacturing process. The United States is a large contributor of recycled materials for Chinese production, exporting nearly 8 million tons in 2016 alone.

We understand that one reason China banned the importation of paper and plastic is due to environmental concerns. Exporters in our states are also sensitive to environmental concerns and have worked with China since 2013 to reduce contamination rates of exported recycled materials in order to meet Chinese regulations.

In order to preserve this flow of materials, we ask that China work with the United States to develop a multi-year transition period with attainable contamination levels for importers of recyclable materials. American recyclers maintain some of the lowest contamination rates in the world, and are therefore capable of supporting China's goal of sustainable environmentally-friendly manufacturing.

We believe that it is in the best interest of both the United States and China to work together to implement a transition period that allows for American recyclers and Chinese manufacturers to continue this important commerce. Thank you for taking the time to review this matter.

Sincerely,

Dianne Feinstein United States Senator

Ron Wyden United States Senator

# Getting Support from Oregon Senators

# Why can't I recycle all plastics?



### Three factors:

- 1. Type of Plastic
- 2. Material's ability to be sorted
- 3. Recycling Markets

### What next?



- KEEP IT CLEAN, Plastics #1 & 2, bottles only
- No more wishful recycling--when in doubt throw it out
- Use your purchasing power
- Practice 3R's Reduce, Reuse, Recycle



### **ALL FOOD**

fruits, vegetables, meat, poultry, seafood, bones, grains, beans, pasta, bread, cheese, and

### **FOOD-SOILED PAPER**

napkins, paper towels, paper plates, tea bags, coffee grounds/ filters, wooden crates, sawdust

### **PLANTS**

floral trimmings, tree trimminas. leaves, grass, brush, weeds





NO plastic bags, grease, pet waste, or waxed cardboard

### MIXED RECYCLING - Keep it Clean.

### PAPER / CARDBOARD

Flattened Cardboard, Junk mail, magazines, flyers, office paper, envelopes, gift wrap & cards (no foil), post-it notes, paper bags, newspaper, paperboard, phone books/paperback books (loose in a paper bag or cereal box).

### METAL

RINSE FIRST. Tin & aluminum cans, aluminum foil, pie pans, metal lids, & empty aerosol cans (do not puncture or remove nozzle), other scrap metal (30lb. max, no longer than 30 in).

### PLASTIC #1&2

RINSE FIRST. Plastic #1 & 2 BOTTLES ONLY. No tubs or plastic #3-7





NO GLASS. PLASTIC BAGS. STYROFOAM: No plastic #3-7, No plastic cutlery. plates, or cups; No toys or large plastic items, No Waxed Cardboard (e.g. milk cartons, juice boxes)

### Throw away in LANDFILL cart

Please exhaust options of reusing or recycling before disposing of refuse in your landfill cart.



**CUPS/UTENSILS** 

### STYROFOAM







ASEPTIC CONTAINERS

Note some common items on the right which cannot be recycled in our current system.

> 7450 NE Avery Street Newport, Oregon 97365

Ph. 541.265.7249. MORE INFO: thompsonsanitary.com

### WAXED CARDBOARD

### **Education**

- Working as an industry to have same "acceptables" list. March 2<sup>nd</sup> 2018.
- Printable guides on our website
- Working with Multi-Family Dwellings
- Direct Mail to Customers, Email, Facebook, Instagram, Website, Newspaper, Radio, Twitter

# Letter Direct Mail

### **Important Service Information**

February 26, 2018

Dear Thompson's Sanitary Service Customer,

Due to the Republic of China's *National Sword Act*, announced July 2017 with an effective date of January 1st, 2018, twenty four (24) recyclable items are now banned from import to their country. The good news is China is trying to clean up their environment; the bad news is this severely impacts our recycling efforts because China has been the primary market for the West Coast.

We are now forced to clean up our recycling stream to keep our existing recycling markets. In that effort, as of March 1st, we can no longer accept plastics #3-7 or shredded paper in your blue mixed recycling cart. It is critical your recycling stay clean to keep the market viable.

### PLASTIC #1 & 2 BOTTLES are still recyclable

Put plastics #3-7 in your landfill/garbage cart as well as plastics #1 & 2 that are NOT bottles. You can find the number in the middle of a chasing arrows symbol on the bottom of the container (see right).



We know Newportians love to recycle and Thompson's is counting on all of you to help us in this effort. Please post the enclosed, updated WASTE 101 guide in your recycling area.

It is likely there will be more changes in the future to recycling, so please continue to read all information from us. Any changes will first be posted to our website, <a href="mailto:thompsonsanitary.com">thompsonsanitary.com</a> along with direct mail to our customers, notifications through the newspaper and radio, as well as on our Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter accounts.

Rob Thompson

President, Thompson's Sanitary Service



7450 NE Avery Street Newport, OR 97365 Phone.541.265.7249



### Press Release February 26th



February 26, 2018

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Recycling Changes effective March 1 for Thompson's customers

Thompson's Sanitary Service (TSS) has been forced to make recycling changes due to the Republic of China's National Sword Act, effective January 1<sup>th</sup>, 2018. It bans twenty-four (24) recyclable items from import to their country. The good news is China is trying to clean up their environment; the bad news is this severely impacts our recycling efforts because China has been the primary market for the West Coast.

As an industry, we are now forced to clean up our recycling stream to retain existing recycling markets. In that effort, as of March 1°, Thompson's Sanitary can no longer accept plastics #3-7 or shredded paper in their blue curbside mixed recycling carts. It is critical the recycling stay clean to keep the market viable. Plastic #1 & 2 bottles only are still recyclable. Put plastics #3-7 in your landfill/garbage cart as well as plastics #1 & 2 that are not bottles. You can find the number in the middle of a chasing arrows symbol on the bottom of the container.

Thompson's Sanitary Service customers are being notified this week by direct mail and email (if provided).

If you are a TSS customer, please check your mailbox for complete information.

As of March 1", the Newport Recycling Center, located at 7450 NE Avery Street, Newport (next to the TSS office), will be charging \$10 per visit to non-curbside TSS customers for drop off of mixed recycling including plastics #1 & 2 bottles only, cardboard, mixed paper, and metal. Paint, battery, and electronics recycling are still free of charge for drop-off.

It is likely there will be more changes in the future to recycling. Any changes will first be posted to Thompson's website, thompsonsanitary.com, along with direct mail to customers, press releases to the newspaper and radio, as well as on our Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter accounts.

### 1/3 Cut – in billing.

Recycling Changes

As of March 1st, our curbside Comingled/Mixed Recycling blue cart will **no longer accept plastics #3-7** (number found on the bottom of the container) as well as **no shredded paper**.



Visit <a href="mailto:thompsonsanitary.com">thompsonsanitary.com</a> for more information



Plastic #1 & 2 Bottles Only including milk jugs. fruit juice bottle/jugs and soda/pop bottles.



look for this!

Plastics #3-7, including Styrofoam, tubs, yogurt containers, berry boxes, meat trays, flower pots, and cups

### Concurrence Letter



Department of Environmental Quality

Western Region Eugene Office 163 East 7th Avenue, Suite 100 Eugene CR, 97401 (541) 686-7830 FAX (541) 680-7851

February 27, 2018

### TRANSMITTED VIA ELECRONIC MAIL

Mr. Rob Thompson, General Manager Thompsons Sanitary Service, Inc PO Box 643 Newport OR 97365

RE: Conditional Material Handling Concurrence

### Dear Rob.

As you are aware, China prohibited the import of certain mixed paper and plastic grades beginning on Jan. 1, 2018. Additionally, China has announced a new and exceedingly stringent recyclable contamination standard of 0.5 percent. China is the main market for Oregon's recyclable mixed paper and plastic. This has created a condition where the primary market for much of Oregon's recyclable materials is severely constrained and in jeopardy of disappearing.

In an effort to meet the tightened contamination standards, recycling processing facilities have slowed their sorting lines. This has resulted in a slower throughput of materials. The flow of materials from Oregonians sent for recycling has not slowed to match this constraint. Without an outlet for the collected materials, sorting and storage capacity have become constrained. In some cases, processing and storage capacity have already been exceeded and recycling costs exceed disposal costs.

DEQ, working closely with representatives from the recycling industry and local governments has initiated a short-term stopgap solution to help alleviate the flow of materials throughout the collection and processing system. When all options to find markets for recyclable commodities have been exhausted, DEQ concurs that landfilling these materials on a temporary basis is an unfortunate but needed uption at this time.

This concurrence is subject to the conditions set forth below:

Effective date: February 27, 2018

Duration: This concurrence will expire May 1, 2018 unless otherwise notified. Adjustments may be made if conditions charge.

### Recycling Depot





### Recycling Depot (signage)





### Recycling Depot (signage)



# BE LIKE GREEN TEAM RECYCLE!



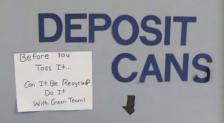
- Teaching Sustainability to Youth
- Educating the Public





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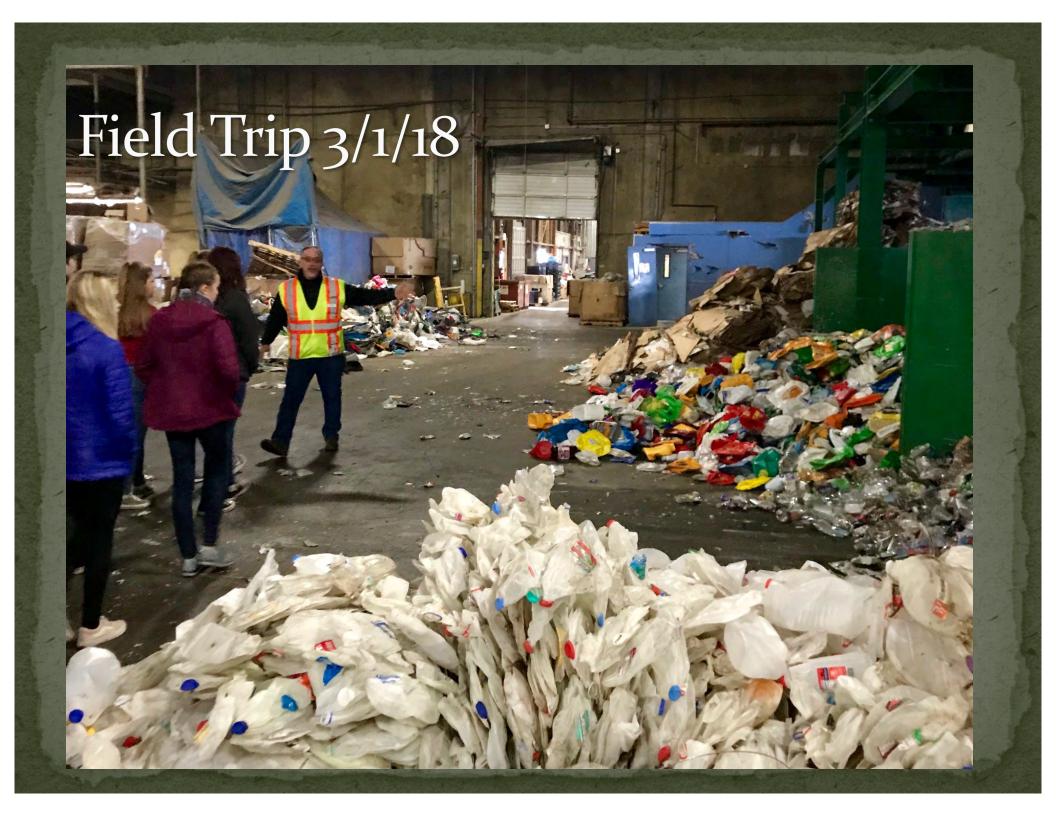




### Green School – 2/27/18









### Great Law of the Iroquois

To think seven generations ahead (about 140 years into the future) and decide whether the decisions they make today would benefit their children seven generations into the future



