



Sustainable Oregon 2025 Request for Presentation Proposals

Proposals are due January 31st, 2025 by 11:59 pm, and may be submitted [here](#).

About the Conference

AOR is pleased to announce that Sustainable Oregon 2025 will be held at the Riverhouse on the Deschutes in Bend, Oregon. We are seeking passionate and effective storytellers who would like to share their innovations, solutions, and stories of change. The annual AOR conference is an opportunity for new and old colleagues in the recycling, waste prevention and sustainable materials management industries to connect ideas, learn what's on the horizon, and be inspired.

We have prepared a guide that provides helpful information about what we're seeking this year. We invite you to review the guide and then complete the proposal form below by January 31st. We anticipate notifying selected presenters in early March, 2025. Thank you for your interest in participating in Sustainable Oregon 2025!

Session Specifics

We are seeking passionate and effective storytellers who would like to share their innovations, solutions, and stories of change. The annual AOR conference is an opportunity for new and old colleagues in the recycling, waste prevention and sustainable materials management industries to connect about ideas, learn what's on the horizon, and be inspired. Do you have a story that will motivate others that work or volunteer in this field? What challenges lie ahead for all of us, or how have you adapted to recent challenges? How have you advanced equity and inclusion in this sector? We are seeking conference sessions that are interactive, informative, and memorable.

Session Details and Lengths:

- **Typical Session:** 60 minutes of presentations, 15 minutes of Q&A/Discussion time. Shorter presentations 20-30 minutes in length are also accepted. The AOR conference committee will combine proposals that address similar areas and topics to form a full 75-minute session. Depending on proposals, some sessions may be shorter or longer.
- **20/20 RE-Slam Style (PechaKucha Style):** Presentations are 20 slides, 20 seconds per slide for a total of 6 minutes and 40 seconds with slides advancing automatically. Presentations will be image focused with limited text.

- **Breakout Session:** Are you able to lead a deep-dive conversation on an important industry issue? We are looking for speakers who can introduce an interesting topic and tee up discussion questions that lead into smaller breakout group discussions.
- **Other Presentation Styles:** Have another presentation style or format you'd like to propose? We'd love to hear it! The most important thing we are looking for in a session is that it is dynamic and engaging, and the more that it can involve the audience, the better. We encourage audience polls/surveys, short videos, and other audience interactions. Maybe you have a short film you'd like to show, and host a conversation after? Perhaps you have a compelling or "controversial" topic that would lend itself to a debate type format. Get creative and let us know! We want to feature your interesting ideas!
- **Workshops:** Workshops have a specific, action-oriented purpose, and aim to generate some concrete answers to current problems in the field. Workshops should deliver a deep-dive into the subject matter and provide attendees the opportunity to learn new skills and to familiarize them with a new topic. We are looking for workshops that are anywhere from 90 minutes to 2 hours in length and are adaptable to either an in-person or virtual setting.

Presentations should:

- Focus on key insights. The goal is for your audience to walk away with a memorable tid-bit, factoid or feeling they want to share with others.
- Highlight tangible results, if relevant. Use real-world examples. Tell us why you care.
- Provide a take-away solution that could be applied by other attendees.
- Compelling visuals are a must and multimedia presentations are highly encouraged.
- We encourage proposals to include a diversity, equity and inclusion perspective.

Presentations should not:

- Present detailed case studies without discussing how they could be replicated or implemented by others.
- Describe ongoing activities, unless there is a recent change, adaptation or innovation that makes the activities relevant in 2025.
- Promote a business, organization, product, or service.
- Use a lot of PowerPoint slides with heavy text.

Evaluation Criteria

Proposals will be evaluated based on their overall alignment with this year's conference theme(s) and provide new and innovative content to attendees. In addition, proposals will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

- Does the session/speaker apply an equity lens to the topic and their work?
- Does the proposal include relevant and interesting information for an hour-long presentation to an audience of recycling and solid waste industry professionals?
- Are there opportunities for discussion and interactivity among participants?
- Are the presenters knowledgeable in the topic area?

- Will the presentation deliver tangible learning takeaways to participants in a compelling format?
- Does the presenter avoid self-promotion, negatively portraying specific members of the industry, and selling of products?
- Does the session include an equity, diversity, and inclusion perspective?

Presenter Benefits

- If selected to present at the conference, speakers will receive complimentary admission to the conference.
- AOR is not responsible for speaker travel and accommodation costs, or other associated expenses of attending the conference.

Presenter Responsibilities

- Presenters must provide their final slides prior to the conference. Failure to provide the presentations by date below may result in slides/media not being available for your presentation as we will not be able to accommodate file uploads during the conference.
- If a confirmed presenter is unable to attend the conference, they must notify AOR at the earliest opportunity and help find a replacement with similar skills and qualifications.

Timeline

Proposal deadline <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Complete proposals will be given priority.</i> 	January 31st by 11:59 p.m.
Notification of Acceptance/Regret	March 2025
Speaker Materials Due: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Speaker agreement form, headshots and bios</i> 	May 1, 2025
Final slides and/or multi-media due no later than:	June 13, 2025
Date of Presentation	June 23, 24, or 25, 2025

Questions?

Contact Amy Roth, AOR Resource Director: amy@oregonrecyclers.org or Lexi Howell, AOR Conference Chair: LHowell@northlincolnsanitary.com