

Safer Choice in Oregon

Green Business Engagement National Network Summit

September 9, 2021



Supporting Small Businesses Pursuing the
Safer Choice Certification



Oregon

Applied

Sustainability

Experience

*Developing Oregon's
environmental workforce through
hands-on student internships*

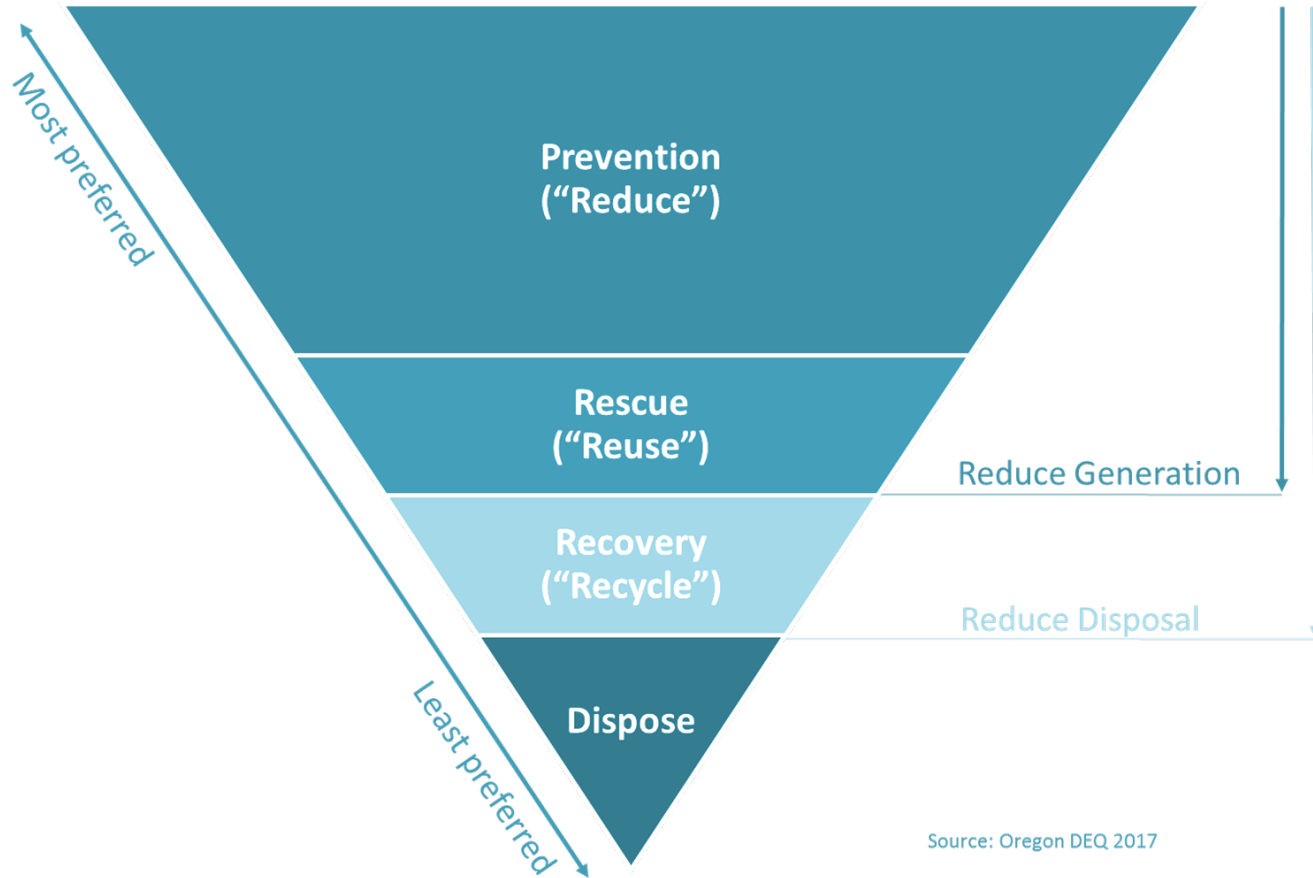




OASE is a Partnership

OASE is Administered by the
Oregon DEQ and Oregon Sea Grant
Funded in part by the US EPA

sustainability internships prevent pollution



Source: Oregon DEQ 2017



Interns are trained and paid a stipend for 10-week internship

Students are placed with businesses to conduct pollution prevention and sustainability research



Interns recommend environmental solutions with cost benefit data

first cohort: 2017 interns



second cohort: 2018 interns



BOEING

 **Columbia**
Sportswear Company®

NEW SEASONS
MARKET



**NOSSA
FAMILIA**
COFFEE

**Oregon
Applied
Sustainability
Experience**

Developing Oregon's
environmental workforce through
hands-on student internships



 **KNIFE RIVER**
CORPORATION
AN MDU RESOURCES COMPANY



Northwest
Green Chemistry



**CRAFT BREW
ALLIANCE**

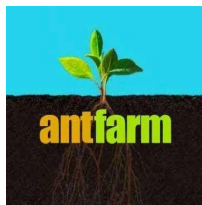
third cohort: 2019 interns



RiverBend
MATERIALS
A CRH COMPANY



EMA



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fourth year; safer choice



Image: screenshot of EPA Safer Choice webpage

Pilot:
Exploring Safer
Choice certification
with businesses



fourth year; safer choice



Photo: screen shot of Oregon Soap Company web page

fourth year; safer choice



Photo: screen shot of Good Clean Love web page

fourth year; safer choice

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7 Octo

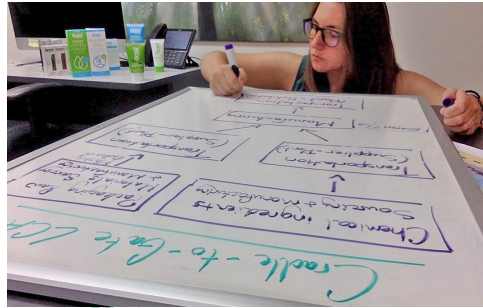
★ REVIEWS

Wash The Funk Out!

Defunkify COVID-19 Statement

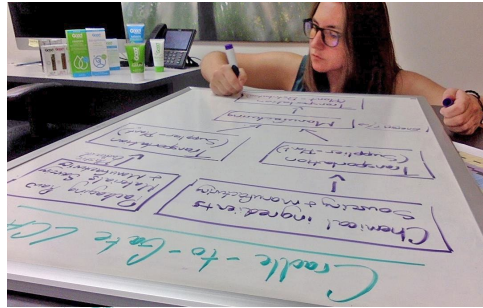
Photo: screen shot of Defunkify web page

fourth year; safer choice lesson learned



- New product categories pose additional obstacles such as increased costs and time for reviews
- Small businesses don't have built-in capacity for this work
- Auto-approved ingredients would make the process significantly easier and
- Having a national approve list to point to is critical

fourth year; safer choice lesson learned



-There is a wide range of estimated costs

-The time frame for approvals can vary based on many factors (4-8 weeks for application process and 6 or more months for approval) and have doubled in the past few years

-The process can be long and complicated, especially for small businesses

fourth year; safer choice lessons learned

This Month We're Donating To Groups Fighting For Justice. [Learn More.](#)



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Our Story

Revolutionizing Sexual Health and Feminine Hygiene

[? Help](#)

Photo: screen shot of Good Clean Love web page

fourth year; safer choice lessons learned



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★ REVIEWS



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Photo: screen shot of Defunkify web page



Image: screenshot of EPA Safer Choice webpage

Next Step:
**Building a More
Robust Program**





Guidance Manual

Developing a guidance manual to streamline the
Safer Choice product certification process



Image: Unsplash, Beatriz Perez



Image: OASE Intern, Angel Contreras Cruz



Place Fellow with Host Businesses

Recruit manufacturers to host a dedicated Fellow who will guide and assist staff on the Safer Choice certification process



Provide Incentives



Image: Pexels, Polina Tankilevitch



Third-party chemical assessment
base fees are approx. **\$5,000.**

This program will incentivize
certification by covering base fees.



Procurement Training

Focused on BIPOC-owned and -operated businesses and the cleaning sector



Questions?

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