



Recycling Market DEVELOPMENT CENTER

Pacific Northwest Textile Circularity Symposium – Committee Recruitment Q&A

What is the Pacific Northwest Textile Circularity Symposium?

The Pacific Northwest Textile Circularity Symposium is a one-day, in-person convening hosted by the Washington State Department of Ecology's Recycling Market Development Center (RMDC). The symposium will take place on May 14, 2026, at the Washington State Department of Ecology headquarters in Lacey, Washington.

Why is Ecology convening this symposium?

Through years of research and engagement, RMDC consistently heard from partners that there are too few opportunities for cross-sector collaboration in the textile space. This symposium responds directly to that need by creating an in-person, action-oriented space grounded in regional priorities and lived experience.

What is the purpose of the Co-Design Committee?

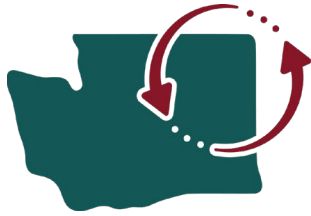
The **Textile Symposium Co-Design Committee** will collaborate with RMDC staff to shape the symposium's vision, content, and structure. Committee members will help design:

- The overall goals and agenda
- Session topics and formats
- Speaker ideas and outreach
- Equity, accessibility, and participation approaches

What outcomes is Ecology hoping for?

While final outcomes will be shaped by the committee, RMDC aims for participants to leave with:

- New cross-sector relationships
- Shared understanding of key challenges and opportunities
- Practical insights or takeaways that can inform future work



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Who should apply?

RMDC is seeking approximately 10 committee members with professional, practical, or lived experience related to textiles, sustainability, circular economy, or community-based systems. Applicants may include industry, nonprofits, designers, recyclers, researchers, entrepreneurs, students, workforce professionals, or impacted community members. Diverse perspectives are strongly encouraged.

Is this limited to Washington State?

Washington-based participants will be prioritized, particularly for compensation eligibility. However, applicants from across the Pacific Northwest, including Oregon and California, are encouraged to apply.

What is the time commitment?

Committee members will participate in **six virtual meetings** (approximately one hour each), held every two weeks from **February–April 2026**, with optional tasks between meetings depending on interest and availability.

Will committee members or speakers be compensated?

Yes. RMDC intends to compensate eligible committee members who are not already paid for this work through an employer and aims to compensate speakers and reduce participation barriers when possible.

Who will attend the symposium?

The symposium will be **free to attend** and open to practitioners across the textile system, including industry, nonprofits, government, policy, and research professionals. Attendance will be limited by venue capacity (estimated up to 200 participants).

How can I apply or stay informed?

Updates and application information will be shared through Ecology's textiles webpage, RMDC newsletters, and partner outreach. Interested individuals are encouraged to apply and stay connected.

[Textiles - Washington State Department of Ecology](#)

Questions? Contact: Megan.davis@ecy.wa.gov