RC Environmental Leadership & Careers Seminar (ELCS)
Master Recycler Class
R101 - Study Guide to Chapter One "Overview"

Name_____ **Date**_____

Log in to your R101 site and go to the first chapter/module entitled *Overview*. Click through the pages and answer the study guide questions below. Some pages won't contain answers to the questions on the Study Guide.

*For each of your answers, indicate the page number from the chapter where you found the answer!

1. What is meant by the term **waste prevention** and why is it important?
2. What is **solid waste**? What is the **waste stream**?
3. Describe THREE benefits from studying solid waste.
4. How much **solid waste** does the average American generate? What is Oregon's average?
5. How does the **EPA** calculate solid waste? What does the **DEQ** include in Oregon's that makes it higher?
6. List FIVE benefits of using less and recycling more.
7. What is **waste generation**? What is **recovery rate**? How are each calculated?
8. Describe THREE ways agriculture (including animal agriculture) contributes to the waste stream.
9. What is the largest component of Oregon's waste stream by weight? What is its percentage?
10. What are the risks of food decaying in landfills?
11. Describe sources of **methane** gas from food production?
12. How much **paper** is in landfills in Oregon? Describe THREE key risks due to paper use.
13. How much **plastic** is in landfills? Describe THREE key risks to using plastics.
14. Which type of plastic manufacturing creates **dioxins**? Why is the problem with dioxins?
15. What is **hydraulic fracturing**? What are TWO key risks from this?
16. What is **bioplastic**? Describe TWO risks and benefits.
17. How much **metal** ends up in the landfill?
18. Why is aluminum such a resource intensive metal to use? What is bauxite?
19. Why is steel one of the most recycled materials overall?
20. What are textiles? What are TWO environmental costs of using textiles?
21. How has garbage changed over time? What are the biggest trends?
22. What's the difference between a landfill and a dump? What is incineration?
23. How has waste generation changed from 1960- 2010 (see p. 43)?

24. How does the DEQ calculate Oregon's waste production (see p. 45) differently that the EPA calculates the US averages?
25. What's the total of organic material in the landfills today in the U.S.?
26. Is landfill space the problem with garbage? Explain.
27. What THREE things do local garbage haulers pick up from homes in Oregon?
28. What is meant by "pay as you throw" garbage hauling?
29. What's a transfer station?
30. What's a waste-to-energy facility? Does Oregon have one? Where?
31. Why is backyard burning environmentally risky?
32. What is illegal dumping and how big of a problem is it in Oregon? What are people dumping?
33. Describe the first comprehensive Oregon law affecting solid waste disposal. (p. 58)
34. What is Oregon's waste management hierarchy? List the steps and priorities in order.
35. Briefly describe what each of the steps above means.
36. What did the 1991 Oregon Recycling Act require?
37. Where are we in Oregon today as far as waste and recycling rates are concerned? Describe the overall trends.
38. How can we use our purchasing power to support recycling efforts?