Wenatchee Valley Industrial Symbiosis Initiative
As of August 19, 2026

Since January 2026, Our Valley Our Future (OVOF) has been coordinating and facilitating meetings of the Wenatchee Valley Industrial Symbiosis Initiative, a cross-sector working group looking to generate and nurture industrial symbiosis projects in the region.

Chelan Douglas Regional Port Authority has provided the initial funding to get the local initiative off the ground — including for coordination, facilitation, community outreach, and meeting space.



A total of 17 collaborative meetings of the overall group and its four subgroups (Resource Recovery Facility, Local CO_2 Supply, Heat & Power, and Community Resource Network) have been held since mid-February, with total attendance of 174. The number of hours committed to the project from group members and OVOF have totaled 345 to date.

In July 2026, the Wenatchee Valley was chosen, along with six other communities in the state, to receive technical assistance to develop industrial symbiosis parks or hubs and to assist microbusinesses and makers from the Center for Sustainable Infrastructure (CSI). Funding for the technical assistance comes from $1.8 million awarded to the CSI from the state Department of Commerce through its Industrial Symbiosis Technical Assistance Program (ISTA), with funds derived from the state's Climate Commitment Act in the 2025-2027 budget.

OVOF applied for the technical assistance on behalf of the Wenatchee Valley Industrial Symbiosis Initiative. This work will commence in September 2026 and conclude in June 2027.

ISTA Program's goal is to provide technical assistance to communities seeking to develop industrial symbiosis parks and looking to nurture microbusinesses and makers engaged in symbiosis. Industrial symbiosis parks are shared sites where organizations co-locate and partner in the sustainable use of resources through the integration of waste materials, wastewater, or waste heat into production and/or industrial processes.

The Wenatchee Valley initiative is focusing initially on two areas where industrial symbiosis park or parks could be located: Olds Station in Chelan County and Baker Flats in Douglas County.

The technical assistance from CSI will kick off with a Sept. 9, 2026, meeting at the Confluence Technology Center in Wenatchee. Presenters will include experts from Denmark, where industrial symbiosis was pioneered in the mid-1970s.

On Sept. 17, OVOF will hold an Industrial Symbiosis Symposium at Wenatchee Valley College so more people can learn about the Wenatchee Valley Industrial Symbiosis Initiative and its opportunities.

Here are the public sector, private sector, and nonprofit sector organizations that have been represented at the initiative meetings:

Private:

- Ameresco
- GODOT
- Icicle Brewing
- ReCapturit Inc.
- Salcido Group of Companies
- Stemilt Growers
- Sustained Use Disposal Service (SUDS)
- TekniPlex (Dolco and Keyes Fibre)
- Winton Mfg.
- Yonder Cider

Public:

- Chelan County PUD
- Chelan County Solid Waste Department
- Chelan Douglas Health District
- Chelan Douglas Regional Port Authority
- City of Wenatchee
- Douglas County
- Douglas County Sewer District
- Douglas County Solid Waste Department
- State Department of Ecology
- Wenatchee Valley College

Nonprofit:

- Cascadia Conservation District
- Eastside Rebuild
- Good Business Network of Washington
- Methow Recycles
- Our Valley Our Future
- Repair x Reuse Washington
- Sustainable NCW
- 911 Glass Rescue

Sustainable NCW and OVOF have been leading the initiative's community outreach, which has generated several local media articles and radio broadcasts, along with social media posts and newsletter mentions. In May, the Resource Recovery Facility Subgroup toured Royal Family Farms and learned about the regenerative agriculture operation near Royal City from farm co-owner Austin Allred. The Flywheel Conference in Wenatchee included a panel discussion in May on industrial symbiosis and the local initiative, with Wenatchee deputy public works director Jessica Shaw serving as moderator. In June, OVOF coordinator Steve Maher, Chelan Douglas Regional Port Authority construction manager Nick Rohrbach, and City of Wenatchee deputy public works director Jessica Shaw conducted presentations on the local effort during the Pacific Northwest Industrial Symbiosis Conference at Vancouver, Wa.



Several organizations engaged in industrial symbiosis in the Northwest — including the CleanTech Alliance, Sustainable Northwest, Burnham, and Next Cycle — have reached out to OVOF to learn more about the local initiative.

Initial Projects Identified

Research by the four subgroups, including initial resource mapping and discussions with members, has led to the identification of the following potential industrial symbiosis projects in the region. The projects are at various stages in their development.

- **Winton Mfg. Facility Expansion —** The composting facility near Leavenworth has capacity to expand its processing of organics. It is looking into expanding into biochar production. During wildfire season, the facility has been receiving and processing wood cleared by fire crews in the Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest. Its current service area covers all of Chelan County and parts of Douglas and Grant counties.



- **Wenatchee Resource Recovery Facility —** The City of Wenatchee is considering building a resource recovery facility that would process organic and inorganic waste streams. Its current wastewater plant on Worthen Street is at 85

percent capacity and rather than expand that, the City may build a full-fledged resource recovery facility elsewhere in the community.

- **GODOT CO_2 and Hydrogen Producer —** The start-up would utilize processors to convert agricultural and industrial waste into food-grade CO_2 and hydrogen. While there is a big need for less expensive and readily available food-grade CO_2 in the region, GODOT expects to produce way more than the local demand. GODOT's hydrogen production would complement the Douglas County PUD hydrogen plant.

- **Icicle Brewing CO_2 Reuse Project —** The Leavenworth brewery is planning to buy the technology and equipment to recapture its own CO_2 for reuse. There is potential for some of that CO_2 to be sold to other breweries in the region.

- **Sustained Use Disposal Service (SUDS) Plastics Recycling —** The plastics recycling start-up is aiming to convert agricultural and industrial plastic waste into repurposed material. Stemilt Growers has 620,000 pounds of annual plastic waste.

- **ReCapturit Inc. Building Materials Reuse Hub —** The start-up is looking to develop a large processing/distribution hub in Central Washington for recaptured building materials. There are large amounts of such materials not being captured now before they hit the landfill. Founder Larry LaMotte said one estimate pegs the reuse rate of building materials in the region at just 5 percent.

- **Douglas County Wastewater Facility —** The Douglas County Sewer District is considering building a wastewater facility in Baker Flats. It also is looking into composting.

- **Wenatchee Clean Soils Project —** The City of Wenatchee is selling clean soil to contractors, with plans to build a larger $3.9 million facility to dry soil, utilizing heat from its Worthen Street wastewater plant, as demand increases.



- **WA Reuses-Sustainable NCW Online Materials Marketplace —** WA Reuses is launching an online materials marketplace platform for large amounts of materials in late summer. Sustainable NCW is interested in partnering and having the WA Reuses widget on its website, adjacent to the Waste Wizard online resource directory widget.

Work of the Initiative's Subgroups
(From February thru May 2026)

Resource Recovery Facility Subgroup

Findings:

- The region is in need of additional facilities, including ones that process inorganic waste. It makes sense for the region to have a resource recovery facility in the western part of Chelan County and one in the Greater Wenatchee Area due to the region's geographic size and the cost of transportation. Mobile units are another option.

- The Subgroup initially focused on just a resource recovery facility for organics. But after a presentation from **Sustained Use Disposal Service (SUDS),** an early-stage, scalable plastics recycling venture, the Subgroup determined there is a need for a resource recovery facility for inorganics as well.

- The recycling of glass in the region is problematic. In Chelan, **911 Glass Rescue** is scheduled to come back on line this fall following a fire, but the facility is set up to serve mainly just the Lake Chelan Valley. Other glass recycling locations in Leavenworth and the Methow pay to have glass hauled to Western Washington. There is no glass recycling operation in the Greater Wenatchee Area. A key need is a place that will aggregate the glass. San Juan County is using glass sand in its concrete aggregate.

- The **City of Wenatchee** has interest in building a facility that would process organic and inorganic waste streams.

- **Winton Manufacturing,** located in western Chelan County, processes food waste, yard debris and wood waste. Winton also is permitted to take inorganics or biosolids for composting and has potential to serve as a full-fledged resource recovery facility for the Upper Valley. Its service area covers all of Chelan County and parts of Douglas and Grant counties. Winton has additional capacity to process forest fuels and organic waste and to turn that into biochar as a fertilizer for orchards. Soils enriched with biochar can reduce carbon and nitrous oxide emissions by 50 to 80 percent, making it an effective carbon sink. Winton has potential to expand physically at its location, a former sawmill.

- The region should take advantage of what it has within its midst to generate industrial symbiosis opportunities. There are businesses and others interested in providing their outputs to resource recovery entities. Fruit packing sheds, for example, produce large amounts of orchard waste and plastic waste annually. The region also sits amid a national forest that is overgrown and in need of thinning, and at constant risk of wildfires.

- One project underway: **Cascadia Conservation District** is conducting a pilot biochar project, utilizing mobile units, in partnership with the **City of Leavenworth** and **Stemilt Growers.** This was of interest to the Subgroup as moving waste is expensive but moving

processed materials is less expensive in the long run as the product being transported is more valuable.

- **Chelan County** has been studying the possibility of opening a forest products campus. A study conducted in 2024 identified two potential sites — one in Malaga and the other in the Chelan area.

- The Subgroup learned of **ReCapturit Inc.,** a start-up that wants to operate a processing and distribution hub in the region that would sell reused building materials (construction and demolition waste).

- The Subgroup learned about the **Stemilt Organic Recycling Center** in Wenatchee, which processes about 40,000 tons of agricultural and yard waste. The recycling center's 16,000 tons of compost go strictly to one of the Stemilt Growers' owners. Fruit companies buy compost from elsewhere.

- The **Waste Management landfill** in East Wenatchee also processes yard waste and turns it into compost.

- In mid-May, Subgroup members toured **Royal Family Farms,** a large-scale regenerative farm in Royal City.

Potential projects:

- **Winton Manufacturing** has potential to expand into a full-fledged resource recovery facility. It has plans to begin producing biochar and has the land to expand. The Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest is in line for major tree thinning in the future to mitigate the threat of wildfires, but is not known how much wood may be available. During last year's wildfires, Winton partnered with the **state Department of Natural Resources** and the **U.S. Forest Service.**

  An idea from Chelan County PUD's Jim White: Turn orchard and forest wood into carbon-rich biochar, charge it with nutrients, and then put it into the orchard, thus creating a "carbon negative apple." The more apples that people consume from such orchards, the more they would taking carbon out of the atmosphere.

  Note: The C6 Forest to Farm Biochar Plant was a pilot project in the Leavenworth area. It turned logging slash/small trees into biochar. But the project shut down when C6 went out of business in 2025.

- The **City of Wenatchee** is considering building a resource recovery facility that would process organic and inorganic waste streams.

- **Sustained Use Disposal Service (SUDS)** is aiming to convert agricultural and industrial plastic waste into repurposed material. Owner Reid Fryhover said SUDS has a willing supplier — **Stemilt** generates 620,000 pounds of plastic waste annually — but raising capital is the hard part. SUDS also has met with **TekniPlex** employees to discuss potential partnerships.

- **ReCapturit Inc.** is looking for property in Central Washington to house its building materials reuse hub. There are large amounts of such materials in the region that are not being captured before they hit the landfill. The area being studied for the facility is between Leavenworth and Moses Lake and between Chelan and Yakima.

- **Chelan Douglas Health District** has approved **Allen Construction's** concrete/asphalt recycling yard at Chelan. The Health District believes there is a need for a similar facility in the Wenatchee Valley, as the waste concrete/asphalt now is trucked to the Waste Management landfill in East Wenatchee.

Local CO_2 Supply Subgroup

Findings:

- Local breweries and cideries have been confronted with food grade CO_2 that is both expensive and difficult to get. Most of the CO_2 is currently trucked in from Texas. It was agreed that another CO_2 supplier is needed in the community due to cost and supply issues.

- Subgroup members reviewed maps in Chelan and Douglas counties, looking for locations believed to be in need of CO_2.

- Subgroup members agreed the idea of a local CO_2 co-op is not viable and it should be left to businesses to manage their own CO_2 — such as buying it from a CO_2 supplier or capturing the CO_2 itself.

- **Icicle Brewing** is pursuing the recapturing of its own CO_2 and then reusing it. Other breweries indicated their CO_2 needs are minor in comparison and don't foresee investing in the technology and equipment to recapture CO_2.

- Local breweries and cideries said the waste they generate is trucked to the landfill or to farms. OVOF has developed but has yet to send a survey to fruit companies to get a better idea of much orchard and fruit packing waste is available in the region to be converted into CO_2.

Potential projects:

- The Subgroup sees **GODOT** as a potential supplier of CO_2 to breweries, wineries, and others. The proposed GODOT facility in the community would convert agricultural and industrial waste into CO2 and hydrogen. GODOT's hydrogen production would be complimentary to what the **Douglas County PUD** plans to produce at its green hydrogen plant near Lincoln Rock State Park as the processes utilized are different. GODOT is looking at potential sites at Olds Station (Chelan County), Baker Flats (Douglas County), and Pangborn Airport area (Douglas County) for its facilities.

- The Subgroup also likes **Icicle Brewing's** endeavor to recapture its own CO_2.

Heat & Power Subgroup

Findings:

- Subgroup members reviewed maps in Chelan and Douglas counties, looking for business and public sector locations believed to be generating medium or large amounts of waste heat. The exercise identified about 40 locations, including clusters in Olds Station, inner Wenatchee, Pangborn Airport area, Leavenworth, Cashmere, and Baker Flats. However, while their exact amounts of heat are not known, most locations are believed to be producing small to medium amounts of waste or excess heat.

- An exception are fruit packing operations in Olds Station, which are believed to be producing larger amounts of excess heat. The Subgroup wondered if adjacent properties — some of which are vacant — could be brought into an industrial symbiosis exchange of some kind and whether the **Chelan Douglas Regional Port Authority** would be interested in marketing those as such.

- There is potential to utilize the **City of Wenatchee's** Worthen Street wastewater treatment plant to heat the **Regional Port's** proposed Craft District along Columbia Street. However, this would require new infrastructure, and while the **City of Wenatchee** has plans to replace aging infrastructure along Columbia Street, it will not do so anytime soon as the costs are high.

- The Subgroup learned of the **City of Wenatchee's** Clean Soil Project. At the encouragement of the state Department of Ecology, the City is currently drying soil that comes from its work projects, and then reselling it at a discount to developers and contractors who need top soil at old orchard sites. The soil was previously trucked from south Wenatchee to the Waste Management landfill in East Wenatchee.

- Data centers near Pangborn Airport are steady producers of mostly lower grade waste heat, but using that heat and moving it from Point A to Point B often doesn't pencil out unless the distance is short and the infrastructure in place beforehand. The Subgroup concluded the Malaga area, where **Microsoft** data centers and a **Helion Energy** fusion power plant are under construction, has potential opportunities if infrastructure is put in ahead of time while sites are being developed. It was suggested that Microsoft be invited to join the Subgroup.

- It was suggested that **Winton Manufacturing** be brought into the Heat and Power discussion as its planned biochar operations could potentially generate heat.

- **Waste Management** was reportedly looking at capturing gas from its East Wenatchee landfill and doing a digester project. But the project is believed to have been put on hold.

Potential projects:

- The Subgroup analyzed the **City of Wenatchee's** plan to expand its Clean Soil Project and recommended it be considered as a potential industrial symbiosis project for the region. City has property along Worthen Street and across from its wastewater treatment plant, where a larger facility, utilizing heat from the wastewater plant to dry soil, could be built. The cost for the project is an estimated $3.9 million. The building would be covered and there would be no odors.

- The **Douglas County Sewer District** is looking at a perhaps building a wastewater facility in Baker Flats.

- **Salcido Group of Companies,** which operates a data center out of the basement of the CTC Building in Olds Station, also is studying heat-and-power opportunities.

Community Resource Network Subgroup

Findings:

- The Subgroup decided to research what is already available to enhance the region's resource network, rather than trying to create a new service from scratch. The Subgroup has focused on the need for an online platform that would generate Craigslist-like trading and selling of materials and has been talking to **WA Reuses,** an online materials marketplace that will launch later this year. Sustainable NCW has hosted the "Waste Wizard" online resource directory on its website since 2022. The Waste Wizard has had 32,000 unique users and 463 different materials listed since its start. Funding for the software subscription to operate the Waste Wizard comes from the **Chelan County Solid Waste Department** and the **Douglas County Solid Waste Department.**

Potential projects:

- **Sustainable NCW** has had conversations with **WA Reuses** about its business-to-business marketplace platform for nonprofits, and other organizations to sell, trade and/or give away large amounts of materials. WA Reuses is a a collaborative of the Washington **Good Business Network, Repair x Reuse Washington, Zero Waste Washington,** and the **state Department of Ecology.** The marketplace utilizes matchmaking protocols, regional activations, and in-person meetups to cultivate materials exchange. **Eastside Rebuild** of Cashmere and **Methow Recycles** have been serving on the WA Reuses working group. Sustainable NCW members have been invited to join.

  On May 28, Sydney Porter, **Good Business Network of Washington** program coordinator, provided a deeper look at **WA Reuses** during a Community Resource Network Subgroup meeting. The main goal is to find more productive uses of materials going to landfills. WA Reuses expects to launch its website in early fall 2026. The cost for WA Reuses to embed its platform on other organizations' websites is a one-time fee of $1,000, plus additional maintenance costs.