



The EarthWISE Bulletin

The Sustainable Business Bulletin

Marion County

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Important dates:

- April 20** "What's up with recycling?" program at Salem City Club
- April 21** Earth Day celebration at the Oregon Garden
- April 22** Earth Day observed
- April 28** Art Supply Swap at Salem Public Library
- May 13** Mother's Day
- May 28** Memorial Day
- June 13/14** Schools out
- June 17** Father's Day

Marion County Recycling Reset

Market closures in China affect local programs

Marion County is hitting the reset button on its popular curbside recycling program. This means residents and businesses won't be able to recycle some plastics and other items from now on. The reset is due to the global recycling crisis caused by China's crackdown on imported recyclable materials.

To put the problem in perspective, it's helpful to understand that China has for many years consumed over half of the world's recyclable materials. However, a significant amount of the recycled material China was getting contaminated with food waste, garbage, and other unusable materials.

As of January 1, 2018, China made good on its promise to significantly limit the amount of material it imports from other countries. The ban created a major disruption in recycling and there is no excess capacity in worldwide recycling markets to absorb the material China no longer accepts. This leaves Marion County recycling processors, as well as other jurisdictions, and few markets.

"Our goal is to make sure that collected recyclable material is marketable and will actually be recycled and not end up in a landfill...."

Will Posegate, Garten Services

Will Posegate, Garten Officer, said, "Given recycling markets is near future, we have materials for which we know there are markets, both global and domestic. Our goal is to make sure that collected recyclable material is marketable and will actually be recycled and not end up in a landfill in some other part of the world. If manufacturers aren't buying certain materials, we have no choice but to throw them away."

In our zeal to protect the planet, we've all put something in the mixed recycling roll cart and hoped that it will be recycled. This "wishful" recycling is part of the problem; roughly 10% of Marion County's recycling collection is garbage. Removing items that are not on this list will play a role in the solution. Cleaning up our recycling is a community issue that not only involves putting the right material in the mixed recycling roll cart, but making sure items are empty, clean and dry – when in doubt, throw it out.

RECYCLE RIGHT

MIXED RECYCLING



Paper & Cardboard

Junk Mail
Greeting Cards
(no foil or glitter)
Magazines
Newspaper
Phone Books
Paperback Books
Paper Bags

Papel y Cartón

Correo no Deseado
Tarjetas de felicitación
(sin aluminio o glitter)
Revistas
Periódicos
Libros telefónicos
Libros de tapa blanda
Bolsas de papel



Metal | Metal

Steel (tin) cans | Latas de acero (estaño)
Aluminum cans | Latas de aluminio



Plastics | Plásticos

Bottles | Botellas
Jugs | Gallones

EMPTY CLEAN DRY
VACÍO LIMPIO SECO



Marion County Environmental Services, the City of Salem, local garbage haulers and recycling processors recognize that changing the curbside program requires thoughtful re-education about contamination and materials that are no longer considered “recyclable.” Customers will soon receive new recycling educational materials. But for now, all the items listed above are currently recyclable.

“In making these changes to the countywide mixed recycling roll cart program, we hope to enable our customers to recycle items for which there are sustainable, accessible, and affordable markets – now and into the future,” said Brian May, Marion County Environmental Services Manager. “Despite the current challenges in the recycling realm, Marion County remains committed to protecting the health and welfare of our residents by providing environmentally sound solid waste management services.”

More recycling information and printable posters of the above graphics (11 x 17) can be downloaded at: mcRecycles.net.

Story provided by Jolene Kelly, Marion County Board of Commissioners.



Tune into the latest stories about the 3R's
Waste Matters: On the Air

KMUZ

Every 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month, an EarthWISE business or special waste reduction guest is featured on the Mid-Willamette Valley's only show devoted exclusively to waste! Our show, airing at 1:00 PM, explores interesting and unusual topics that you just might find fascinating. Do **you** have a story to share? Give us a call at 503-365-3188.

100.7 FM

88.5 FM

www.kmuz.org

Going that extra green mile

Three organizations earn EarthWISE Green Awards

By Beth Casper

Garten Services, Wildwood/Mahonia and Spring Valley Dairy took home prestigious Green Awards at the first-ever Sustainability Luncheon in February.

Marion County's Green Awards recognize organizations that excel in eco-friendly practices. These three longtime Salem businesses showcase how sustainability enhances business, creates new opportunities and saves money.



Luncheon host, Salem Environmental Education's Jon Yoder, opens the EarthWISE Sustainability Luncheon.

Garten Services



Gaelen McAllister and Tim Rocak accept an EarthWISE Sustainable Non-Profit of the Year Award

"Garten Services epitomizes what it means to be a sustainable business because they take so seriously the three 'Es' of sustainability: environmental stewardship, social equity and economic vitality," said Marion County waste reduction coordinator Bailey Payne as he presented the Nonprofit of the Year Green Award.

Garten provides jobs to hundreds of people with disabilities in recycling, commercial laundry, mail services, packaging and assembly, custodial services and secure document destruction. Its daybreak program in Dallas and South Salem provides day activities and other enrichment activities to another 250 people with disabilities.

In its recycling operation, Garten has discovered several new opportunities that have expanded job opportunities as well as helped the environment. In the electronics recycling area, a team of workers refurbishes computers to be sold in Garten's store or on eBay. For general recycling, workers are trained to notice still-good items and pull them off the conveyor belt. Workers have gleaned reams of paper, file folders, lunch trays, label makers and metal file cabinets.



Garten offers refurbished computers, monitors, and computing odds and ends at their electronics outlet.

It has meant that the Garten Electronics and Reuse Store has been so successful that it opens its doors twice as often as it did in the past.

Wildwood/Mahonia



(L to R) Bill Lucas, Bailey Payne, John Miller, and Deb Cozzie, look on as Wildwood Mahonia receives an EarthWISE Green Award for Sustainable Small Business of the Year.

Similarly, Wildwood/Mahonia has found that sustainability makes for great business.

Wildwood/Mahonia is a family of companies whose holdings include a plant nursery and sustainable vineyard, innovative green buildings rented to local environmentally minded businesses, and community efforts such as an annual literary and arts publication that honors watershed restoration. In each endeavor, the company incorporates community service.

Wildwood/Mahonia took home the Small EarthWISE Business of the Year Green Award.

Its businesses include: Woodscape Glen, the first-of-its-kind sustainable residential development; Mahonia Vineyard, which is certified by 2 different eco-friendly certification companies; Mahonia Nursery, where rare white oaks are grown after being rescued from development sites; and developments such as the East Pringle Innovation Center, a 12-acre development with a solar thermal hot water system, solar panels, and energy-efficient lighting and HVAC systems designed to be a hub for food processing and agriculture-related businesses.

“We love to help businesses that use Oregon-grown agricultural products grow and prosper,” said John Miller, president and founder of Wildwood/Mahonia. “Energy efficiency improves their bottom line and their “green” practices help them in the marketplace.”



Wildwood Mahonia performs a rescue relocation of an at-risk species, the Oregon white oak.

Spring Valley Dairy

The third winner of a 2018 Green Award, Spring Valley Dairy, underscores the fact that businesses can go green and also save money. Spring Valley Dairy received the Large EarthWISE Business of the Year Green Award.

Spring Valley Dairy, which keeps restaurants and coffee shops supplied with fresh dairy products, examines all of its resource use to find ways to reduce waste.

“Spring Valley Dairy has also done a lot to reduce paper waste,” said Marion County’s Payne. “By going digital, they now save 8,400 reams of paper a year...We feel lucky to have a business like Spring Valley Dairy here in Marion County.”

The switch also means money saved due to accuracy—inventory is rarely lost now that the handheld computers scan and track everything.

The company is so deliberate about its waste-not mentality that it is even paying attention to how many paper checks it sends with its employees. Its goal is 100 percent direct deposit and it has almost reached its goal.

For a company that needs to deliver fresh products to customers in a timely manner, a fleet of trucks is a priority. But it isn’t a drain on the environment for Spring Valley Dairy. The trucks themselves have been overhauled to meet the green standards at the dairy. Of the 50-truck fleet, 16 of them are equipped with plug-ins to run on electricity when not being driven. This is important for a business that relies on cold temperatures in the truck container overnight to preserve its products until the drivers arrive to deliver along their routes.



By plugging Spring Valley’s refrigerated trucks up to an electrical source instead of letting them idle, they save over 2,500 gallons of diesel fuel each year.

By hooking these trucks up to an electrical source instead of letting them idle, Spring Valley Dairy saves 2,500 gallons of diesel fuel each year. Even the ones that don’t plug in are on an automated start-stop switch so that they are not running constantly.

“A lot of the time, being more environmentally friendly completely coincides with saving money,” said Stephanie Hoy of Spring Valley Dairy. “A lot of the time, the best cost savings is the cleanest, greenest way to do things.”



(L to R) Stephanie, Jayne, and Gordy Hoy, received a 2018 EarthWISE Green Award for Sustainable Large Business of the Year.

Time to recertify already?
These EarthWISE businesses did



**Allied Video
2011 - 2018**



**Willamette Lutheran Retirement Center
2009 - 2017**

More EarthWISE recerts



**Capitol Auto
2013 - 2018**



**Temple Beth Sholom
2011 - 2018**



**State of Oregon
Surplus Property
2009 - 2017**

More...Yes!



**DeSantis Landscaping
2007 - 2018**



**Law Office of Eden Rose Brown
2011 - 2018**

Ask Mister Sustainability

What in the world has happened to recycling and why can't we still do it and why are other areas still accepting this stuff and, and, and...?

My, oh my. If you remember Mr. Sustainability's little epistle from the last newsletter (**EW Bulletin**, Winter '18), you might recall the story about how we got into this mess in the first place. If you didn't, you can find it at mc.EarthWISE.net. Regardless, here's what the last paragraph read:

Our recyclers can find markets for most of what they collect, at least for now... but that may not be the case two months from now. So... reduce and reuse as much as possible. And when you do recycle, recite this bit of doggerel: When unsure what goes in, please don't toss it in the bin.



Well guess what...they don't have markets for some of this stuff so it's been piling up. Some have actually begun renting storage to stuff their bales. That can only go on for so long. Almost every processor in the state has asked for permission to exclude some items from collection and huge numbers of rural counties have stopped collecting residential recycling altogether. And, if it's not being recycled, it's being landfilled.

Even though they are still accepting most materials in Multnomah County, those processors are charging huge fees to accept materials for recycling—that's right, the haulers have to pay the processors to take it off their hands—and it's more expensive to have it recycled than trashed.

How long can that last?

Nevertheless, it's still not the end of the world...Statewide, the percentage of materials that are NOT being collected/processed amounts to less than 2% of the materials that were collected this time last year. A significant drop, yes, but these are materials that have historically been subject to lots of contamination—namely, plastic and mixed paper.

So look at the image on page 2; those items are not a lot different than what you were recycling before in your mixed recycling roll cart. Just no more plastic tubs or jars; no more shredded paper; only metal cans.

Can you still recycle shred? Yes, Garten Services will take it. Can you still recycle metals other than cans? Yes, just not in a mixed roll cart. There are a 1,001 places that'll take metal besides the transfer stations. Try the Habitat ReStore, your local auto shop, ask your hauler, visit mcrecycleguide.net for details. Can you recycle plastic tubs and jars? See page 2. If they are **NOT** a jug or bottle, then **NO!**

It's a reset, a time to work on getting it right—and this is a big "and"—it's time to stop producing so much one-time, disposable stuff that leaves us—the consumers and rate payers and municipalities—with the task of managing waste materials when we are literally left "holding the bag."

Factoid Department

What's the most recycled item in the USA? Nationwide, that would be lead acid car batteries. Over a whopping 99% of these high toxicity wonders are recovered every year.

What was the number one residential waste material in all of Oregon in 2016? Food waste accounted for 23.45% of the total.

Second most frequent item in residential garbage in 2016?? That would be pet litter and feces.

In 2016 plastic made up 11.77% of the waste disposed in Oregon. Important? That's about 175 lbs. of plastic for every person in Oregon.

Overall, Oregonians generated 7.1 pounds of waste per day in 2016. Only 3 pounds of that waste was recovered or recycled. The rest went into the landfill.

The "everyman's" newest all-electric car—the Tesla Model 3—is rolling out nearly 975 models a week. At 35k a pop that's over \$34 million dollars a week in sales.

Unbelievably, some financial-types say they need to produce them even faster to be successful. Go figure.

EarthWISE Member Directory

★ Denotes new EarthWISE business

Automotive

AJ's Auto Repair, Inc.
Brooks Automotive
Capitol Auto Group

Construction

Arbuckle Costic Architects, Inc.
Barnwood Naturals, LLC
Carlson Veit Architects, P.C.
CB | Two Architects
dalke Construction
Fluent Engineering, Inc.
Jet Industries
Modern Building Systems, Inc.
Nathan Good Architects
Pfeifer Roofing ★
Studio 3 Architecture, Inc.
White Oak Construction

Education

Chemeketa Community College
Chemeketa Center for Business & Industry
Straub Environmental Center

Financial

Country Financial
Northwest Farm Credit Services
SELCO Community Credit Union

Food

Bentley's Grill
BrucePac - Silverton & Woodburn Plants
Cascade Baking
Kerr Concentrates, Inc.
LifeSource Natural Foods
NORPAC Foods - Stayton, Brooks, & Salem Plants
Rafns' Restaurant
Roth's Fresh Market - Central Office, Sunnyslope, Vista,
Hayesville, Lancaster, Stayton, & Silverton stores
Spring Valley Dairy
Sweet Couture
Willamette Valley Fruit Company

Government

Marion County Dog Shelter
Marion County Public Works—Silverton Road Campus
OR Department of Administrative Services- 20 Buildings
OR DAS - Salem Motor Pool
OR DAS - Property Distribution Center
OR Dept. of Corrections (DOC) CDC/Warehouse
OR DOC Gath Road Range
OR DOC Mill Creek Correctional Facility
OR Santiam Correctional Facility
OR State Corrections Institution
OR DOC State Penitentiary
OR Department of Energy
OR DMV Headquarters OR Exposition Center
OR Dept. of Public Safety Standards & Training
OR Lottery
OR State Capitol
Salem Center 50+
Salem Civic Center
Salem Fire Department
Salem Housing Authority
Salem - Information Technology
Salem - Public Works Willow Lake WPCF
Salem Shops
Salem - Urban Development's Airport Division
Salem - Urban Development's Director's Office
Salem Public Library

Landscaping

DeSantis Landscapes, Inc.
The Garden Angels
Green Acres Landscape, Inc.

Medical

Holly Chamberlain D.D.S., L.L.C.
Chiropractic Physicians, P.C.
Mid-Valley Oral, Maxillofacial & Implant Surgery
Northwest Rehabilitation Associates ★
Spinnaker Pediatric Dentistry
Willamette E.N.T. & Facial Plastic Surgery, LLP

Not For Profit

Assistance League of Salem - Daue House
Assistance League of Salem - Encore Furniture
Center for Hope & Safety
Family Building Blocks
Garten Services, Inc.
Habitat for Humanity of the Mid-Willamette Valley
Marion-Polk Food Share
SAIF Corporation
Saint Mark Lutheran Church
Salem Art Association
Temple Beth Shalom
Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Salem
United Way of the Mid-Willamette Valley
Willamette Lutheran Retirement Home

Personal Services

Designer Cut
Phiz Spa

Professional/Services

AAA Cleaning Service - Metro, Inc.
ABC Window Cleaners & Building Maintenance
Allied Video Productions
Cascade Employer's Association
Collier Law
Compex Two Computers
Law Office of Eden Rose Brown
VanNatta Public Relations/Spire Management

Real Estate & Commercial Properties

Coldwell Bankers Commercial Mountain West Real Estate
The Epping Group/Creekside Corporate Center
Pringle Creek Community
Wildwood | Mahonia

Recycling/Solid Waste

Agri-Plas, Inc.
Covanta Energy, Marion Facility
D & O Garbage Service Inc.
Loren's Sanitation & Recycling Services
Marion Recycling Center
North Marion Recycling & Disposal
Pacific Sanitation

Retail/Wholesale

Cooke Stationery Co.
Crosby Hop Farm, LLC
Habitat for Humanity ReStore (Salem)
Habitat for Humanity ReStore (Woodburn)
One Fair World
Rapid Refill

Tourism/Entertainment

Grand Hotel in Salem
Salem Convention Center
Salem Riverfront Carousel
Travel Salem

Transportation

South Salem Cycleworks
Salem Keizer Transit

SUSPECT RECYCLING

Are you recycling right or are you an accomplice?

Keep workers safe and do the right thing.
Visit MCRecycles.net to get on the right track.



Environmental Services
MCRecycles.net | 503.588.5169

Earth Day 2018
The Oregon Garden

Free Event!
See Details
Oregongarden.org