

May
2010



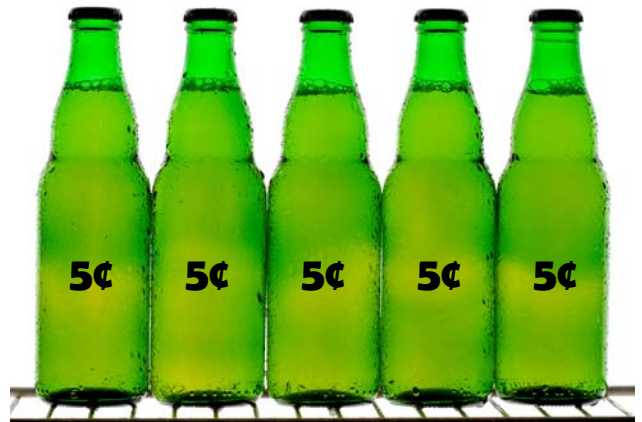
Master Naturalist Survey p. 3

MARION COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS - ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

Master Recycler Newsletter

A New Source of Redemption?

The *Oregonian* reports that a new system for redeeming deposit cans and bottles is being tried out in the northeast Portland metro area despite Governor Kulongoski's recent veto of a bill that would have set up a statewide network of similar centers. The OLCC recently approved this first center which is slated to open in July.



The center in Wood Village operated by the grocery-industry backed Oregon Beverage Recycling Cooperative will replace local supermarkets in the area as the place to get back those nickel deposits. Instead of going to one of three local grocery stores, residents will now go to the redemption center where employees will count small amounts (up to 200) of containers and give cash refunds, or patrons can use machines similar to those in grocery stores.

People who regularly have larger quantities can set up an account at the center. They will be provided with barcodes for their bags and will only have to drive through and drop their bags off. The cans will be counted at a later time, and the funds credited to an account that can be drawn from with an account card that works in machines on the premises.

Critics of the system, including the governor, say that this will make it less convenient for residents who often take back their containers at the same time they come to stores to shop, and they worry that those without transportation will not have easy access.

Proponents of the plan say this will make it easier overall because the centers will be able to take all types and brands of deposit containers and can take unlimited amounts from those who set up an account., making it easier for activities like can-drive fundraisers.

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*"How wonderful
that no one need
wait a single*

moment to improve the world."

— Anne Frank

Earth Day Fair Revisited.....

A good time was had by volunteers and attendees alike at the 2010 Earth Day Fair on April 17th!

Judy McCubbins shows her enthusiasm for making recycled crafts.



Connie Lambert & Larry Carter help people make recycled bookmarks.

(above) Lonna Boucher, Suki, Susan Botkin and our own Alan Pennington spread the good news of composting.

(right) Lane Co. Master Gardener Bonnie White gets hands on with a compost demo.



Sammi Sutherland & Ann Hillig help peel old crayons for recycling into new ones.

An Invitation to the Congregation

How to green up your House of Worship

When it comes to sacred cows, the 3 Rs cut across all religious and denominational lines. Are you tired of watching fellow parishioners throw away styrofoam cups and church bulletins into the trash every Sunday? How about leaving those lights a'burning in the bathroom--does that bug ya?

Then come join Alan Pennington, Waste Reduction Coordinator for Marion County, and other lay folk as we explore ways to educate your various flocks and find ways to get them "on board" with sustainability. Please... contact him soon so that he can arrange the appropriate sized meeting space beforehand.



When: Weds. May 26, 6:45 p.m.

Where: To be announced

What: Get more info by calling 365-3188 or emailing apennington@co.marion.or.us

Why: Because you care

Another Master Opportunity Coming Soon

The Oregon Master Naturalist Program is a new program coordinated by Oregon State University Forestry and Natural Resources Extension Service. This program will teach Oregon residents about a broad range of Oregon's flora, fauna, natural processes, and resource management topics through a combination of formal instruction and hands-on field experiences. Participants would give back in volunteer service upon completing formal training. The program is funded by the following partners: Or. Department of Forestry, Or. Parks and Recreation Department, OSU Extension Forestry and Natural Resources Program, OSU Extension Agricultural Sciences Program, OSU Extension 4-H Youth Development Program and Oregon Sea Grant.



In less than a year, OSU will be launching the new Oregon Master Naturalist Program (OMNP) and is seeking your assistance so that they may develop the best possible Master Naturalist program for the state. You are being asked to complete a brief survey. It should not take more than 15 minutes of your time.

Your responses will remain confidential, and will be combined with other responses as an average. By completing this survey, you will help develop a program that will provide participants with the best, most applicable information about Oregon's natural resources.

For questions about this survey, please contact me at Jason.OBrien@oregonstate.edu or at 541-737-3856
www.surveymonkey.com/s/oregonmasternaturalistaudience demographics

Connect with Your Fellow Master Recyclers!

One suggestion that Master Recyclers have repeatedly made is that we create a listserv so that Master Recyclers that have taken any of the 21 classes that we've offered to date can share information with one another and communicate directly via email. This seemed like a great idea to us, so a year or two ago we created the Marion County Master Recycler Listserv.



So far though, we've only had 20 people sign up for it, so we would again like to encourage you to join the Master Recycler Listserv. The intent of this is to help you share information with others. We ask that only Master Recyclers join and that your submissions to the list are related to the topics that we cover in class or have some other environmental connection. Please do not submit political, religious or other information that does not relate to the topics that we cover in the class. We also ask that you not try to sell anything, promote your business, and of course that you play nice!

What is a Listserv?

The widespread use of email is not only efficient, convenient, and an inexpensive way to communicate, it also saves lots of paper! Regular email is ideal for one-on-one interactions, but listserves advance the concept by allowing you to send a single message simultaneously to a large group of people, such as the Master Recycler community.

Signing up for the Master Recycler Listserv is EASY!

Just send an email to:

LISTSERV@LISTSERV.CO.MARION.OR.US

In the subject line & the body of the email, write the following, but nothing else:

SUBscribe MCMR@LISTSERV.CO.MARION.OR.US



TASTY TIDBITS



One Step Closer

On Monday, April 26th the Salem City Council voted unanimously to allow the curbside pick-up of all food waste in the green roll carts. This brings the Salem area one step closer to a large-scale waste reduction opportunity—food accounts for nearly 20% of Marion County’s waste stream.



There is a proposed 35-cent monthly rate increase for this service, but it will not be finalized until the City of Salem conducts a rate investigation, makes a recommendation to City Council, and holds a public hearing.

The City of Keizer is also pursuing food waste collection in the hopes of bringing it online the same time as Salem.

One facility north of Corvallis is permitted for food waste composting, and Compost Oregon in Aumsville is currently in the permitting process.

Being Green Saves Green

Being green means more green in the bank, a new survey shows.

Buck Consultants said its second annual "Greening of American Workplace" survey indicated that 53% of employers have green programs in place. That’s up from 43% during the previous year.

"The survey indicates that more companies and their leadership are not only deploying green programs in the workplace but also realize the significant benefits to their business," said Allison Artnak, director at Buck Consultants.



"From increased employee involvement to costs savings, the survey is evidence that going green can boost morale and the bottom line."

-from Waste & Recycling News.

21st Century Mag.



The Cascadia Green Building Council publishes an excellent electronic magazine call *Trim Tab* that highlights the best of design and green building in the northwest as well as delving into other issues of sustainability and lifestyle.

The magazine is visually stunning (at least in your editor’s humble opinion) and presents well researched and written articles.

It’s electronic format allows you flip the pages like you are browsing a paper copy, but also provides “click-through” access to websites through some of its ads and articles. Check it out at cascadiagbc.org/trimtab.



Ditching the Davenport



Grandma’s sleeper sofa was just too heavy.

A new survey reports that millions of Americans have already or plan to discard a large piece of furniture when moving, according to AmericanListed.Com, a free, hyper local online classified Web site.

More than 25% of those surveyed during a telephone survey that they simply abandoned or plan to leave behind furniture when moving instead of recycling or selling the items. And that means plenty of material headed to landfills, the Web site said.

To help increase couch recycling, AmericanListed.com has launched a campaign to stop what it calls "couch abandonment" and to educate consumers on the issue.

-from Waste & Recycling News.

Go Go Grants!



There is still plenty of time to write up a grant for that great waste reduction project you have

always wanted to do!

Marion County’s spring grant offering closes on May 28, 2010.

Individuals, businesses, non-profits and local governments are encouraged to apply.

\$100,000 will be available to fund eligible projects for this cycle. Funding is provided by out-of-county medical waste disposal fees.

Contact Beth Myers-Shenai at 503-588-5169 x 5920 or smyersshenai@co.marion.or.us for more information.

Job Opportunity!

Zero Waste Event Team Coordinator



Opportunity to promote, facilitate and coordinate Zero Waste Events in the Marion/Polk County area. ZWE service focuses on composting and container recycling, and ranges from the loan of collection receptacles to staffing events for collection, quality control and processing of materials. It involves working with event managers & vendors, local haulers and Garten recycling operations. Garten’s mission is to support people with disabilities in their effort to contribute to the community through employment, career and retirement opportunities. We strive to increase our community’s awareness of human potential.

For more info including hours and salary, contact John Matthews: jmatthew@garten.org or (503) 581-4472 x3303

Call to Serve



Marion County's Master Recyclers are amazing! We now have over 550 people that have gone through the program since it first began in 1992! Here are some opportunities for payback hours this month.

Saturday, May 15

Woodburn Public Works Days

11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Come join the Woodburn PW gang as they inform the residents about what they do and show off their road and water gear to the community. Master Recyclers are needed to staff a booth on recycling opportunities.

To volunteer contact: Alan Pennington, 530 365 3188, apennington@co.marion.or.us

Friday, May 28

Tour Leader Needed

Earthwalk Tour Guide for 10 kindergarten students during the school day. Call Michelle Buckley to arrange time. Contact Kat Franken at 566-4159 or kfranken@co.marion.or.us for information on giving the tour, then remember to report your hours to Bailey Payne 503-588-5168 x5991 or bpayne@co.marion.or.us.

Events & Occasions....

Monday, May 3, 7-8:30 p.m.

Senate Hearing Room, Courthouse Square, 555 Court St. NE, Salem

Public meeting

Join Cascade Pacific Resource and Conservation Development to discuss projects to support local communities and healthy ecosystems. Visit www.cascadepacific.org or call 541-967-5925 x128



Thursday, May 6, 7:00 p.m.

Straub Environmental Learning Center Issues Forum: Oregon's Energy Future

Paulus Lecture Hall, Willamette University

Free and open to the public. Call or email Lisa at 503-391-4145 or lisa@fselc.org.

Saturday and Sunday, May 8 & 9—10 a.m.

Silver Falls State Park Mother's Day Birding and Wildflower Festival

Wildflower walks, beginning at 10 a.m. will be offered throughout both days. Members of the Native Plant Society of Oregon will lead the walks. Starting point will be the historic South Falls Lodge. Bird walks, presentations, and classes and workshops also will be available. For a full schedule of activities, call Dorothy Brown Kwaiser at 503-874-0201. Free and open to the public.

Events & Occasions (cont...)

Wednesday, May 12, 9:00 a.m.—4 p.m.

Manure Composting & Profitable Horse Business Workshop

Fallbrooks Farm, 12040 Jackson School Rd, North Plains, OR

This pair of workshops is designed for horse owners, trainers & stable managers. The day includes a workbook, lectures, tour of Fallbrook farm and compost facilities and lunch. \$150 for registrations up to May 1st, \$175 after. The facility is 30 min. west of Portland. Visit www.fallbrooksfarm.com to register.

Wednesday, May 12 (2nd/3rd grades), 4:00-5:30 p.m.

Wednesday, May 19 (4th/5th grades), 4:00-5:30 p.m.

Nature Kids Youth Naturalist Class: Animal Sounds

Straub Environmental Learning Center, 1320 A Street NE, Salem

FREE and open to the public! RSVP required due to limited space. Call or email Lisa at 503-391-4145 or lisa@fselc.org to reserve your space.

Oregon Association of Recyclers Annual Conference

Salem Convention Center

June 17—19, 2010



Thursday, June 17, 8 am to 7 pm

- Opening/Keynote
- Products and Policy Impacts on Climate Change
- Messaging Your Information Through Social Media
- Implementing Sustainable Events
- Product Stewardship
- Cleaning up with Green Washing
- Energy from Our Organics
- Life Cycle Analyses
- Sustainable Business Practices
- Green Building – A Short Course
- Reception with Exhibitors

Friday, June 18, 8 am to 11 pm

- 9-hole Golf Tournament
- “Roundtable Chat” with the AOR Board Chair
- Choice of 5 Tours
- Sessions for the day:
- Communicating waste prevention to residents: A conversation with conference attendees
- Annual Members meeting and Board Elections
- Attitudes about consumption
- Far West Fibers Bowling
- Recycler of the Year Awards Banquet

Saturday, June 19, 8 am to 3 pm

- Breakfast Buffet
- Sessions for the day:
- AOR Policy Session
- Markets Panel
- Green Building Phase 2
- Dirty MRFin
- Waste Prevention in Oregon
- The Motivations from Bans, Incentives and Mandates
- Roundtable discussion – Sustainable consumption, environmental design and consumer behavior

The Back Page

Composters for a Cause!



Master Recycler and Waldo Middle School teacher Sally White is offering a \$75 bokashi indoor composting system in return for a \$50 donation to her school's recycling/gardening fund. She has 9 available. The first few respondents will also receive a package of the bokashi microbes (\$12 value) too!

Similar to the process used to make wine, the bokashi system relies on fermentation to decompose the matter rather than putrefaction, so no offensive odor is produced. In about 10 days, you can bury the nutrient-rich matter in the garden or empty the Bokashi kitchen compost bucket into your compost pile or garden to help improve physical, chemical and biological environments in the soil. Sprinkle a handful of Bokashi onto the waste every time you add to the bucket. One bag of bokashi is good for one bucket full of compost.

For more information leave a message for Sally at 503.399.3215 or email her at white_sally@salkeiz.k12.or.us



Marion County Public Work—Environmental Services

5155 Silverton Rd. NE

Salem, OR 97305