



2011 Green + Solar Fair! p. 5

# Master Recycler Newsletter

## Master Recycler Two-time Award Winner

On Wednesday, August 24th, the Marion County Board of Commissioners presented Deputy **Bob Ferris** with the 2011 Association of Oregon Recyclers Recycler of the Year Award in the government category. A two decade veteran of the Marion County Jail, Deputy Ferris, who is also a Master Recycler, has worked for many years to improve recycling and waste reduction efforts at the county jail. As a result of Deputy Ferris' efforts, the county jail is now realizing savings of over \$20,000 per year by decreasing the size and frequency of garbage collection.



In addition to the Association of Oregon Recyclers Recycler of the Year Award, Deputy Ferris was awarded the 2011 Mid-Valley Green Awards Recycler of the Year in April. A few examples of Deputy Ferris' recycling and waste reduction efforts include:

- ✦ Increased recycling from five co-mingled bins per week to 14 co-mingled bins per week which allowed the jail to go from a 40-yard dumpster to a 30-yard dumpster. Total savings for the year was approximately \$7,540.
- ✦ Reduced the number of times the 30 yard dumpster was picked up by 20 times a year resulting in \$9,280 in annual savings.

*(Continued on page 2)*

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“Service to a just cause rewards the worker with more real happiness and satisfaction than any other venture of life.”  
 -- Carrie Chapman Catt



## Award Winner (cont.)

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- ✦ Switched from paper to cloth towels for cell clean-up for an annual savings of about \$12,000.
- ✦ Recycles about 7,800 pounds of plastic per year and reduced the use of plastic bags by 66,500 per year.



- ✦ On August 1, 2011, began collecting used bars of soap. The soap is recycled by a company called "Clean the World" and is sanitized and given away in 40 different countries.

The Board of Commissioners expressed their appreciation of Deputy Ferris' efforts and the example he sets for the community. Commissioner Sam Brentano remarked on his experience in the waste industry and previous attempts at waste reduction at the jail. He said, "For a successful program, it takes someone dedicated to take ownership of the program. I think we've found that person in Bob." Marion County Sheriff Jason Myers additionally commented, "One of our core responsibilities is the efficient use of taxpayer funds. Deputy Ferris lives out that vision for the Sheriff's Office."

## Plastic Bottle Recycling goes Local!

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More than a year behind schedule, construction on the \$10 million ORPET bottle recycle plant at the Port of St. Helens is at long last under way. To mark this milestone, city and county representatives joined state officials gathered at the site on Aug. 31 for an official groundbreaking ceremony.

The 25,000 square foot facility will process millions of polyethylene terephthalate (PET), a food-grade plastic commonly used in beverage bottles, each year. ORPET expects to be up and running by January 2012.

ORPET is being developed as a collaborative effort between the Oregon Beverage Recycling Cooperative and recycling developers Tom Leaptrott and Dennis Denton. Bringing the new plant to St. Helens became possible once Oregon's Bottle Bill was updated in 2009 to include water bottles in the state's refund law which mandates a minimum return value of 5 cents per bottle.

Denton said the company's plan is to begin putting the roof on the building within the next week and then begin importing needed machinery after that.

What seems to have those attending the groundbreaking most excited is the infusion of 25 jobs ORPET is expecting to bring to Columbia County's economy, and possibly another 25 jobs if the recycling plant is successful. Many of those jobs are considered to be somewhat higher paying jobs than are average for the county. *-from the St. Helens Chronicle*



# Graduate Gallery



Jo Davis

Congratulations to Master Recycler graduates Jo Davis & Susan Boykin. They have completed their 30 payback hours. Thank-you both for your time and commitment!



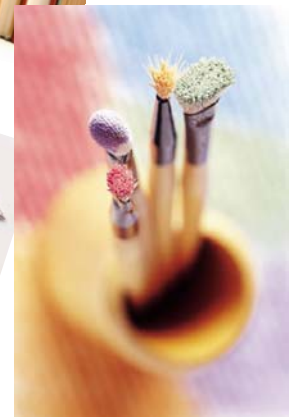
Susan Boykin

## Planet-friendly Back to School Bargains

### 10 back-to-school items to buy used:

1. Clothes and shoes
2. Books
3. Calculators
4. Backpacks and lunchboxes
5. Binders, pencil cases and other basics
6. Math gear
7. Sports & athletic equipment
8. Art supplies
9. Instruments
10. Games & toys

Get the full story at [www.earth911.com](http://www.earth911.com)





# Join the EPA's Food Recovery Challenge

How much of your food and money are you literally throwing away?

The U.S. EPA's WasteWise Food Recovery Challenge encourages participants to reduce, donate, and recycle as much of their food waste as possible — saving money and helping protect the environment. Participants will conduct a food waste assessment, undertake three specific waste reduction activities, create a food waste recovery plan, and report progress using WasteWise ReTRAC.

Participating organizations will receive recognition for their Challenge achievements. In addition, WasteWise will present a Food Recovery Challenge award for at least the next three years.

For more information visit [www.epa.gov](http://www.epa.gov)



Do you own or know of a business interested in food waste recovery? Let our expert help! Sarah Keirns, Marion County Waste Reduction Coordinator, has the knowledge and resources to help you get started. Just contact her at [skeirns@co.marion.or.us](mailto:skeirns@co.marion.or.us) or 503-566-4159.

**MARION COUNTY BUSINESSES COMPOST!**

**ALL FOOD**  
Fruits, vegetables, meat, dairy, bread, pizza, coffee and eggshells.

**HOUSEHOLD WASTE**  
Household appliances, tires, paint, oil, antifreeze, car parts, lawn mowers, power tools, and other household items.

**PLANTS**  
Household plants, shrubs, trees, and other plants.

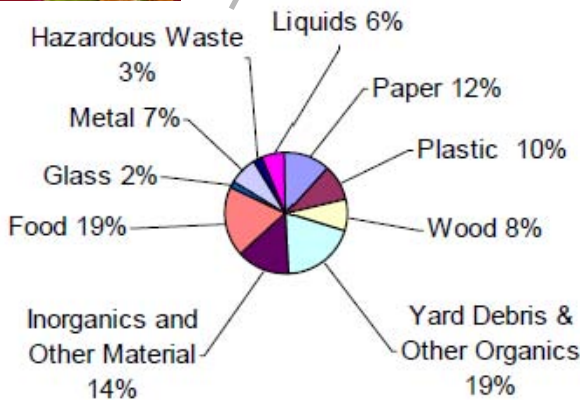
**NO!**  
Flammable liquids, hazardous materials, automotive fluids, oil, paint, antifreeze, car parts, lawn mowers, power tools, and other household items.

**MARION COUNTY WASTE REDUCTION COORDINATOR**  
SARAH KEIRNS  
503-566-4159

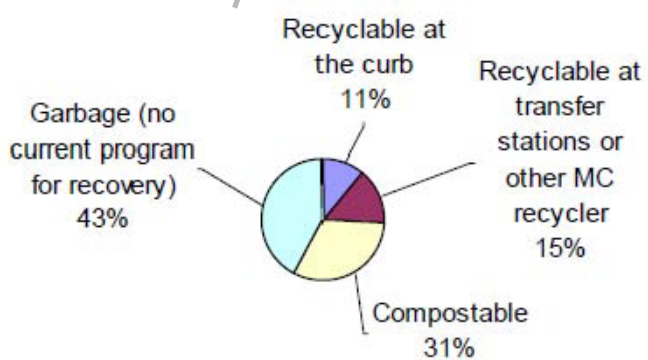
## Fun Facts



Composition of garbage in Marion County from a 2009 DEQ Audit



Breakdown of recoverable items versus garbage from the same audit.



# 2011 Green + Solar Fair

Are you interested in increasing the value of your current home? Would you like to learn more about what green-building leaders in the region have done with their homes? Do you want to talk with green building experts and owners about design, products, and strategies to help you make your home more valuable in a green way?

## Salem Green + Solar Fair 2011

### “Increasing the Value of Your Current Home”

Brought to you by Salem AIA, Pringle Creek Community, and Marion County Public Works Environmental Services

#### DATE & TIME

Saturday, October 1st, 2011  
10:00 am - 6:00 pm

#### SCHEDULE

**10:00 am to Noon** – Morning presentation  
**Noon to 2pm** – Vendor fair & tours of LEED platinum homes & production facility  
**2pm to 4pm** - After-party at Organic Fresh Fingers & Wandering Aengus production facility

#### LOCATION

Painters Hall at Pringle Creek Community  
3911 Village Center Drive SE  
Salem, Oregon 97302

**Directions:** <http://tiny.cc/paintershall>

#### COST

Suggested donation of \$5 to Pringle Creek Sustainable Living Center.

The focus of this year’s fair is increasing the value of your home through green remodeling & renovation!

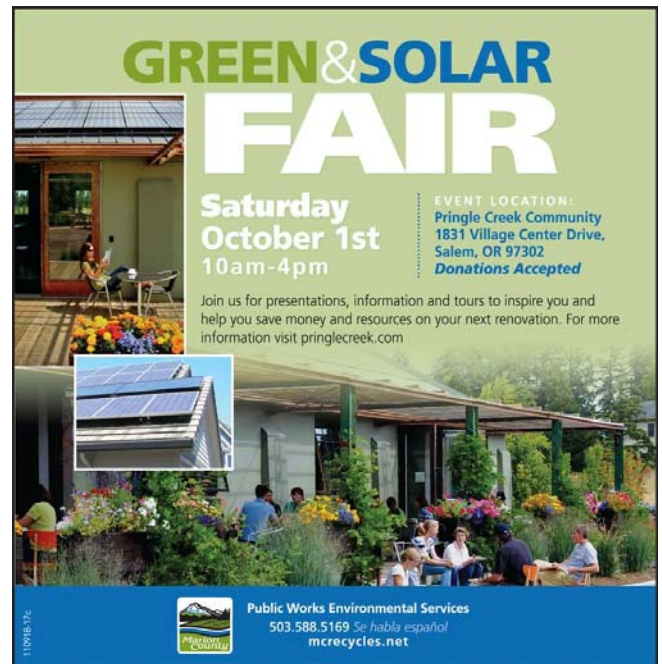
We will begin the day with a presentation from President and Founder of Green Hammer Construction, Stephen Aiguier, who has built and renovated several high-performance LEED Platinum and Passive House certified homes. Stephen will profile his most recent green home renovations, energy strategies, products, design considerations, and ways to increase existing home value for the long-term.

[www.greenhammer.com/remodels.shtml](http://www.greenhammer.com/remodels.shtml)

Following Stephen’s presentation we will have a Vendor Fair, as well as tours of LEED Platinum homes and the new Organic Fresh Fingers & Wandering Aengus Production Facility on Fairview Industrial Drive. The day will conclude with an after-party at their new production facility!

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION

Contact 503-315-1055 or [info@pringlecreek.com](mailto:info@pringlecreek.com) or visit <http://pringlecreekcommunity.blogspot.com>.





## TASTY TIDBITS



### Kudos to the MC!

Marion County Public Works Environmental Services recently won a national award for its Integrated Solid Waste Management System.

The Solid Waste Association of North America recently bestowed the Silver award to Marion County in this category at it's annual conference in Nashville, Tennessee.

Check out the application at [www.swana.org](http://www.swana.org)



Jeff Bickford, Environmental Services Division Manager

### Cooks Tour ups its "Green"

This year, for the first time, the Assistance League's Cooks Tour is a Zero



Waste event! All supplies and materials are compostable and will go in Mixed Organics Collection bins supplied by D&O Garbage Service. Chefs on the tour are working cooperatively toward this goal, and the Assistance League has worked hard as an organization to make it happen.

The Cooks Tour is Monday, September 26 from 10am-5pm in the Creekside Ridge neighborhood of Salem. Tour will include 9 homes with a local chef offering samples of their wares at each stop.

For tickets and information visit [www.assistanceleaguesalem.org](http://www.assistanceleaguesalem.org)

### Clothing lives on

Uniqlo, a Japanese clothing company, is expanding its Recycling Initiative to all its stores in the U.S., Great Britain and France. The initiative has collected 11.51 million used items of their clothing. Initially, the recycled clothing was for industrial use, but much was found to be reusable and is now passed on to nonprofits for distribution to people in need.

Outdoorsy clothing maker Patagonia Inc. hopes to get its customers to reduce their footprint through its Common Threads Initiative. Patagonia will while repair its items that break and will partner with eBay to resell old garments.



Those that are truly worn out can be recycled.

The Bra Recyclers is a venture started in 2008 to help collect unwanted bras and donate them to women's shelters. They collect them by mail, during events and from manufacturers. Unusable bras are recycled.

Visit [www.BraRecycling.com](http://www.BraRecycling.com) for more info.



### Right to Recycle



A long-elusive goal of environmental advocates might be close to becoming a reality,

after the California legislature passed a bill that would require owners of apartment buildings to offer recycling services to their tenants.

For years, environmental groups and California legislators have tried to pass bills that would bring recycling services to the over 7 million residents of the state who live in apartments. The most recent came last year when a bill passed the legislature, but was vetoed by then Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger.

But with a new governor in office, environmental advocates are bullish that the current bill will be signed into law.

-from Resource Recycling

### Recycle Bowl

Students nationwide, from elementary school to high school, will compete this fall in Keep America Beautiful's "Recycle-Bowl," an incentive-based recycling competition and benchmarking program.

The four-week competition, which runs from Oct. 17 to Nov. 12, will have participating schools track and report how much recyclable material they collect for a chance to win prizes.



At the end of the competition, the school in each state that collects the most recyclable material per capita will win \$1,000. A national champion will then be chosen from among the statewide winners to receive an additional grand prize of \$2,500.

<http://recycle-bowl.org/overview/>

### Hot Compost!

A fire recently broke out at the Marion County compost facility located at Brown's Island Demolition landfill.

The fire was reported the morning of Sunday, August 29th in a pile of fresh debris staged for composting.



Salem Firefighters responded and put out the bulk of the blaze and Marion County Environmental Services staff continued the effort by spreading the smoldering pile and putting out hot spots over the next week.

The Marion County facility collects material from it's own parks as well as Salem's, and also accepts leaves collected in fall Leaf Hauls.

Existing compost was not affected, but the fire could limit supplies of compost from the facility next year.



# Master Recycler Call to Serve



## Trinity Lutheran Church Date/time flexible Mt Angel

Master Recycler needed to give a talk to a group of 15 - 20 students at Mt. Angel Trinity Lutheran Church. The date of the talk is flexible and we have materials that you can use (i.e. paper making kit, worm composting bin, recycling sorting game, recycling videos, etc.). If you are interested in this opportunity, email Bailey at [bpayne@co.marion.or.us](mailto:bpayne@co.marion.or.us).

## Willamette Heritage Center at Mission Mill - Fall Family Festival; Celebrating a Season of Change Saturday, Sept 24, 2011

11:00 am to 3:00 pm **One more volunteer needed!**

A Master Recycler is needed to staff an informational table at this event. If you can help, please contact Alan Pennington at 503-365-3188 or [apennington@co.marion.or.us](mailto:apennington@co.marion.or.us).

## Friday, October 21 - Sunday, October 23 Salem Home & Remodeling Show - State Fairgrounds

MR volunteers needed to help us get the word out about composting in good ole' Marion County. This fun show features all the updates you ever wanted to make on your bungalow and brings out a crowd that seems pretty interested in all things recycling-wise. Shifts available from 10 a.m. until 8 pm. Contact Alan Pennington at 503-365-3188 or [apennington@co.marion.or.us](mailto:apennington@co.marion.or.us).

## Saturdays through October Zero Waste Zone Project Salem Saturday Market

Volunteers needed for the "Zero Waste Stations" at the Salem Saturday Market. Volunteers educate shoppers about how to sort their items, keep containers free from contamination, and help with set-up and tear-down as needed. Ongoing volunteers also needed to help plan and organize Zero Waste Zone's projects. Email [zerowaste@friendsofsalemsaturdaymarket.org](mailto:zerowaste@friendsofsalemsaturdaymarket.org) to sign up.

Is your business interested  
in saving money and resources?

earth **WISE**<sup>TM</sup>  
Workplace Initiative for Sustainable Enterprise

Call our EarthWISE certification specialist or visit our website today!

 Public Works Environmental Services  
503.588.5169 *Se habla español*  
[mcEarthwise.net](http://mcEarthwise.net)

110501-21c

# Events & Occasions



**Tuesday, Sept 20, 2011, 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm**

**Transformational Lecture Series: *Nature, Human Development and Design of the Built Environment***

**University of Oregon, White Stag, 70 NW Couch St, Portland**

Dr. Stephen R. Kellert is a Senior Research Scholar at the Yale University School of Forestry and Environmental Studies. His work focuses on understanding the connection between nature and humanity with a particular interest in environmental conservation and sustainable design and development. Cost: \$10 <http://cascadiagbc.org/>

**Sunday, Sept 18, 10:00am-4:00pm**

**BRING Home and Garden Tour: The Art of Sustainable Living  
Eugene, OR**

Join BRING for their third annual Home and Garden Tour: The Art of Sustainable Living, co-hosted this year by the City of Eugene and EWEB. Visit 14 homes and gardens on a self-guided tour. Gain tips on: backyard farming, Green building, creative reuse of materials, active and passive solar, energy efficiency, and urban density solutions. Tickets: \$10/each; 2 for \$18; or 15 for \$100. Visit [www.bringrecycling.org](http://www.bringrecycling.org) for more info.



**Wednesday, Sept 21, 8am-12pm**

**Association of Oregon Recyclers Fall Forum  
Abernethy Center, Oregon City**

Registration is now open for AOR's Fall Forum! Join us as we explore opportunities to expand aseptic and carton recycling in Oregon. More details will be posted on AOR's website as they become available. Members: \$55; Nonmembers: \$75 (continental breakfast included) [www.aorr.org](http://www.aorr.org)

**Thursday, September 22nd, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.**

**From Lawn to Native Plant Rain Garden  
Straub Environmental Learning Center**

For the past 11 years, Aislinn Adams has gradually converted her shady front yard in downtown Salem from a scrubby lawn to a verdant native plant wildlife garden that hosts approximately 60 native species. A member of the Native Plant Society of Oregon, Aislinn will describe how she transformed her yard. The talk is free and open to the public. For more information, contact Jean Rover at 503-364-8097 or John Savage at 503-399-8615.



**First Tuesday of every month, (next one Oct. 4), 9:30am**

**Consumption and the Environment**

**FREE Webinar Series from EPA**

This series covers topics relating to consumption and its interaction with the environment. Visit <http://yosemite.epa.gov/R10/ECOCOMM.NSF/climate+change/consumption> to register, or do a search for "EPA Consumption and the Environment Webinar Series". **Highly recommended!**

**Thursday, Oct. 13th, Doors open at 6:15, film at 7 pm**

**Salem Progressive Film Series: *Unnatural Causes -Is Inequality Making Us Sick?***

**Grand Theater, Salem**

Admission: Adults \$4 Students \$3 [www.unnaturalcauses.org](http://www.unnaturalcauses.org)

**Salem Progressive Film  
series**

**Wednesday, November 9, 8:30am - 12:30pm**

**Workshop—The Essence of Sustainability: Connecting the Dots**

**Chemeketa Center for Business & Industry, 626 High St NE, Salem - Room 203**

This free workshop introduces sustainability, green concepts, and practices. Participants will learn common terms, relevant issues, the triple-bottom-line (people-planet-profit) model, and a systems-thinking perspective. INSTRUCTOR: Jill Sughrue, Sustain-NW. Contact Kendall Lenhares at [klenhares@jobgrowers.com](mailto:klenhares@jobgrowers.com).



## The Back Page



The first class of Food Corps service members, who in August set off for diverse communities across 10 states - including Oregon, where they will spend a year serving in high-need public schools teaching nutrition, building school gardens, and sourcing healthy food from local farms.

[www.foodcorps.org](http://www.foodcorps.org)



Marion County Public Work—Environmental Services

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### Waste Reduction Coordinators:

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