



The EarthWISE Bulletin

The Sustainable Business Bulletin

Marion County

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Winter 2018

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Important dates:

Dec. 21 Winter Solstice

Dec. 25 Christmas

Jan. 1 New Year's Day

Jan. 15 Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Feb. 14 Valentine's Day

Feb. 19 Presidents' Day

Feb. 20 EarthWISE Sustainability Luncheon

Mar. 11 Daylight saving time begins

Mar. 20 Vernal Equinox

Mar. 26 - 30 Spring Break

Are you going to the first ever

EarthWISE Sustainability Luncheon?

Finally, an EarthWISE event that isn't happening on a Saturday night! Here's your opportunity to immerse yourself in a crash course of sustainable possibilities while feasting and mixing with like-minded business folk. Here's what's on tap:

- Latest updates on energy incentives and programs.
- Recycling in Oregon... what's going on?
- What's with electric cars- fad or future?

That last bullet will be addressed by our featured speaker, Zach Henkin, of the non-profit Forth (forthmobility.org) When I asked him to give me synopsis of what he'll be discussing, he wrote:

What do you need to know about the rise of electric vehicles and the charging stations that support them? With many large electric vehicle charging investments planned for 2018 and the passage of Oregon's electric car rebate, the momentum toward clean electric transportation will continue to climb. Find out how easy it is to drive and support plug-in vehicles and get your questions answered on cars, charging, and more.

And if good food is what will swing your vote this way, Better Than Mama's Restaurant will be serving ginger sesame chicken salad (Crisp cabbage with carrots, celery, edamame beans, sweet bell peppers, and cilantro topped with our marinated chicken and crispy wonton strips) with a toasted sesame dressing. A tofu option is available as well.

EarthWISE businesses can join in for only \$7.50; \$10 for the general public. To register visit: www.salemee.org . Don't wait, seating is limited!!

EarthWISE
SUSTAINABILITY LUNCHEON

Hosted by Salem Environmental Education

Connect with other EarthWISE businesses | Catch up on sustainable practices
Learn about the New Vision of Electric Transportation in the NW with Zach Henkin of Forth
February 20, 2018 | Noon to 1 PM | Broadway Commons | mcearthwise.net

Sponsored by: Grand Hotel in Salem, Willamette Ear, Nose, Throat & Facial Plastic Surgery,
Wildwood Mahonia, Marion County EarthWISE

Garten Services and Marion Polk Food Share receive DEQ grants

EarthWISE non-profits receive funds to develop job skills in electronics reuse, pilot project

Garten Services in Salem has been awarded a \$10,000 DEQ grant to recruit and train two new employees to sort electronics for reuse. This will range from harvesting, testing and packaging small parts for resale, to testing computers, printers and monitors, to assessing the cost/benefit ratio of refurbishment of unique items. These new employees will be adults with intellectual and/or cognitive disabilities.

Garten

Serving people with disabilities since 1970.

Another Salem non-profit, **Marion-Polk Food Share**, received \$3,960 to implement a six-month pilot project that is aimed at reducing its environmental impacts through the use of reusable trays and containers for home-delivered and take-home meals.



The **Oregon Department of Environmental Quality's** Materials Management program offers grants that promote the prevention, recovery or reuse of solid wastes. These grants are available to for-profit and non-profit organizations. Another round of waste reduction grants available will be announced sometime in early 2018... so if you have a good idea for reducing waste at your business and could use a boost in funding, keep an eye out on future EarthWISE updates!

Oregon Bottle Bill adding more container types in 2018

Iconic 1971 law responding to legislative timeline



The Oregon Bottle Bill is soon to be adding new types of containers that will now have a ten cent deposit and redemption rate. The Oregon legislature updated the original 1971 law in 2011 to include the following beverage containers:

- Sports drinks
- Energy drinks
- Bottled tea
- Bottled coffee
- Kombucha
- Juice

For more information about the bottle bill visit the following:

http://www.oregon.gov/olcc/pages/bottle_bill.aspx#2018 Expansion

COMMUNITY RADIO
KMUZ

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

Time to recertify already?
These EarthWISE businesses did



**City of Salem
Civic Center
2011 - 2017**



**Cascade Employers Association
2009 - 2017**



**Assistance League of
Salem-Keizer
Daue House
2011 - 2017**

More EarthWISE recerts



Wildwood Mahonia
2012 - 2017



Barnwood Naturals
2009 - 2017



City of Salem
IT Department
2009 - 2017



Designer Cut
2012 - 2017

More recerts? Yep!

**Kerr Concentrates
2009 - 2017**



**Phiz Spa
2012 - 2017**



**City of Salem
Fire Department
2009 - 2017**

**City of Salem
Urban Development Department
Director's Office
2009 - 2017**



More...Yes!



Oregon State Prison
2012 - 2017



City of Salem
Public Library
2009 - 2017



Assistance League of Salem-Keizer
Encore Furniture
2011 - 2017



Pringle Creek Community
2010 - 2017

**Ask
Mister
Sustainability**

Question: It Seems like we're getting mixed messages. Is recycling going away or not? I hear that some places in Oregon are throwing their recycling away or not even taking it in the first place. True or pants on fire??

Boy howdy (!), that is certainly a tale that is being whisked about faster than Superman on speed. And like so many other internet "facts", it has just enough grains of truth to pass muster as the "final word." Lemme see if I can help shed some light on all this...and bear with me, it's a bit convoluted. Here goes:

The West Coast has, on a whole, become somewhat dependent on China to buy a lion's share of our recovered materials—paper, plastics, metals, etc., for the past 20 years or so. Transportation on cargo ships was relatively cheap and Chinese manufacturers were hungry for materials. And since it was so lucrative to ship it out, local manufacturing markets were not widely developed.

However, a significant amount of the recycled material they were getting was contaminated. Food waste, garbage, and unusable materials were often included in these shipments. For a long time, this was accepted in China as "the cost of doing business." But by 2011, they'd had enough. The Chinese government stepped in and began systematically working on improving the quality of what was acceptable. By 2013, the **Green Fence** program was established that created a national system of quality control.

Fast forward to 2017. In July, China announced a ban on importation of all post-consumer plastic and unsorted paper, along with other materials, by the end of this year. The ban created a major disruption in recycling, and currently there is no excess capacity in the recycling markets that can absorb the materials that China is banning. Material recovery facilities are slowing down sort lines in an effort to remove more contaminants to meet China's new, higher standards. This has resulted in materials backing up through the supply chain. And due to Oregon's strong recycling ethic, the flow of incoming material is not slowing down.

So...lots of recycled materials, fewer markets. The crux of the biscuit is that while new markets are being sought the value of our recycled "assets" is hitting historic lows. It's becoming harder and more expensive to sell materials, especially for recyclers out of the Willamette Valley. Thus, some recyclers are getting temporary state dispensation to not collect recycling...but not in Marion County.

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....

Stay tuned!

Factoid Department

What's the most recycled item in the USA? That would be cardboard (AKA corrugated paper). In Oregon that would be yard debris, followed by metals, and then cardboard.

While the USA only recycles just under 35% of it's resources (**EPA**), the recycling industry is a \$200 billion dollar business.

Just imagine what that dollar amount would be if the rest of the country matched Oregon's recycling rate of 41.6% (**Oregon DEQ**, 2016).

How does Marion County fare in all this? We recovered 49.4% of our generated waste. Good enough for second best.

Lane County topped out at 50.4%.

The state, overall, generated 5,316,989 tons of waste, up 2.7 % from 2015.

Why, you might ask.

Experts point to an improved economy, construction, and folks buying more stuff. Also, a loss of recycling markets for wood and paper fiber affected recovery numbers.

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
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
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 MCRcycles.net to get on the right track.


Environmental Services
MCRcycles.net | 503.588.5169



[Answer to Uncle Chester's age puzzle]

Great Uncle Chester's birthday was Dec. 31st, and he told me that story on Jan. 1st. **How can that be?** Like this...Chester was 85 on Jan 1, but on the day before yesterday—Dec. 30th—he was 84 (and turned 85 on Dec. 31). Now that he was 85 he wouldn't become 86 until the last day of the year...Dec. 31. Thus, he'd be 86 most of the following year at which point he'd turn 87 on the last day of that year! The angels have their hands full.