

MASTER RECYCLER NEWS

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Recycling Bins for Event Recycling

Lane County Waste Management now has recycling bins that you can borrow to collect recyclables at your next event. The bins were donated by the City of Eugene Solid Waste and Recycling department when they purchased new bins. The system includes a foldable metal frame, a durable plastic bag and a plastic lid which affixes to the top.

Master Recyclers, and community organizations, like the McKenzie River Trust, have already been using the bins with success. They have been used at neighborhood picnics, volunteer recognition events and at events like Art in the Vineyard. If you have an event coming up in your community or will be attending a big family gathering, contact Nina Whitney for help getting started and to schedule a time to pick up the bins.

The City of Eugene's Event Recycling Toolkit, is ideal for larger events; an 8'x10' cargo trailer that comes equipped with all the necessary event recycling equipment and will be dropped off and picked up at the event

by SWR staff. For more information contact Annie Donahue at 682-5542.

The most important tip for event recycling is to *start early*. If you can control what comes in to the event you can recover more material coming out of the event.

There are excellent resources to help you with your planning and time line. The guide, "Special Events Toolkit Guidelines." is posted on the City of Eugene's website at eugenerecycles.org

This excellent event recycling guide includes information about what is recyclable, contact information from haulers to biodegradable container distributors, and a time line. Another guide from Recycling Advocates is at <http://www.recyclingadvocates.org/pdf/pubs/events.pdf>. If you do not have access to the internet call and we can help you get you the information you need, 682-2059.

North West Earth Institute's Eco-parties in Lane County

Are you interested in getting your friends, neighbors and colleagues excited about waste prevention, resource conservation and recycling? Why not host an Eco-party?

The North West Earth Institute now has trained facilitators in our area ready to facilitate an Eco-party for you and your friends. At a home eco-party, a host invites friends to her or his home. A trained

volunteer facilitates an interactive, two-hour discussion on opportunities to make homes more earth-friendly based on a checklist completed by the guests in advance. Some of the topics on the checklist include water use, recycling practices, cleaning products, buying recycled, composting and energy use.

To schedule a party please call Julie at 484-6158.



Take a 'Bite' Out of Waste and Pollution!

By Joshua Welch, Master Recycler

I would like to invite Master Recyclers to focus on the one most important aspect of our lives that impacts

waste reduction and conservation: our diet. The daily decisions we make regarding what--or who-- we choose to eat creates enormous effects on the conservation and/or waste of the environment we depend upon.

Here's some vital information to 'chew on.'

Between watering the crops that farmed animals eat, providing drinking water for billions of animals each year, and cleaning away the filth in factory farms, transport trucks, and slaughterhouses, the farmed animal industry places a serious strain on our water supply. Nearly half of all the water used in the U.S. goes to raising animals for food. It takes 2,500 gallons of water to produce 1 pound of meat, while growing 1 pound of wheat only requires 25 gallons. A totally vegetarian diet requires only 300 gallons of water per day, while a meat-eating diet requires more than 4,000 gallons of water per day. You save more water by not eating a pound of beef than you do by not showering for an entire year.

According to Oregon State University agriculture professor Peter Cheeke, factory farming constitutes "a frontal assault on the environment, with massive groundwater and air pollution problems."

The Environmental Protection Agency reports that chicken, hog, and cattle excrement have polluted 35,000 miles of rivers in 22 states and contaminated groundwater in 17 states.

Farmed animals produce approximately 130 times as much excrement as the entire human population (about 86,000 pounds per second,) much of which ends up polluting our water, destroying our topsoil and contaminating our air.

A study in Texas found that animal feedlots in the state produce more than 14 million pounds of particulate dust every year and that the dust "contains biologically active organisms such as bacteria, mold, and fungi from the feces and the feed." The massive amounts of excrement produced by these farms emit toxic gases such as hydrogen sulfide and ammonia into the air.

The EPA reports that roughly 80 percent of ammonia emissions in the United States come from non-human animal waste.

According to a report by the California State Senate, non-human animal waste lagoons emit toxic airborne chemicals that can cause inflammatory, immune, irritation and neurochemical problems in humans.

A recent report by EarthSave International, based on the work of leading climate scientists, shows that adopting a vegetarian diet is far more effective at reducing global warming than is reducing emissions from cars or power plants. This finding was confirmed by a groundbreaking study at the University of Chicago, which detailed the enormous environmental advantages (as well as the personal health benefits) of adopting a vegan diet.

Statistics from the Environmental Protection Agency show that animal agriculture is the single largest cause of methane emissions in the U.S. While driving a hybrid Toyota Prius instead of a "regular" car saves the equivalent of just more than 1 ton of

carbon dioxide a year, a vegan diet generates at least 1.5 fewer tons of carbon dioxide than does the average American diet. Adopting a vegan diet is more important than switching to a "greener" car in the fight against global warming.

More than one-third of all fossil fuels produced in the United States are used to raise animals for food. Eating meat is the most inefficient and resource-intensive thing we do.

The case for a plant-based diet is airtight before you consider the absolutely atrocious treatment of non-human animals that is inherent in the food-animal industry and the negative effects on human health. I think the choice is clear.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns.
Joshuawelch@comcast.net

Most of this information along with the primary sources can be found at www.goveg.com/environment.asp

If you are interested in learning more about this subject the following books are excellent choices:

The Way We Eat: Why Our Food Choices Matter By Peter Singer & Jim Mason

Harvest for Hope: A Guide to Mindful Eating By Jane Goodall

Upcoming events and volunteer opportunities

Call Nina to sign up to volunteer for events or attend a tour 682-2059

September 28th

Master Recycler Potluck

Goodson Training Room - 3040 N. Delta Highway - 6:00 - 8:30 pm

This quarter's potluck will include some new tricks and surprises. Bring a dish to share, plate, utensils and be ready to discuss your recycling success stories, projects and information. Master Recycler, Joshua Welch, will be giving a presentation, and we have a few more tricks up our sleeves: maybe a recycled art project, come and find out!

October 7th

Better Head to Jerry's - Compact Fluorescent (CFL) collection event

Both Jerry's locations,- 2600 Hwy 99 North in Eugene. 2525 Olympic in Springfield - 8am- 2pm

Master Recyclers are needed to help collect bulbs and inform the public how and where to safely dispose of Fluorescent lamps. The collection is in conjunction with Savings With a Twist (SWAT), .99 cent CFU sales. Staff from Energy Star, Ecos Consulting and Lane County Special Waste will be on hand. The Special Waste team will give instructions for safe handling and packing of the bulbs, and provide brochures about CFU collection sites and gloves and other personal protective equipment for your use. Shifts at both stores are 8-11am and 11-2 pm.

October 11th - 13th

2006 fall Street Faire

University of Oregon, 13th St. between University and Kincaid, 10:30 am - 5:00 pm

Volunteers are needed to monitor and maintain zero waste stations while educating the public. Contact Brad Syrie at 346-2354 or via e-mail at crsec@uoregon.edu with your availability by October 9th.

October 22nd

New Moon Kudana Marimba Dance Party! - A benefit for BRING

Planet Improvement Center - 4446 Franklin Boulevard, Glenwood - 3-5 pm

Get a sneak preview of BRING's new home! Tours start at 2:00pm. Bring friends and family, celebrate the new moon and dance with Kudana: joyful Zimbabwean dance music. Tickets on sale at BRING Warehouse and office.

America Recycles Day November 15th

November 18th-19th

Less is Best Holiday Fair promotion and waste prevention holiday tips booth

Holiday Market at the Lane County fairgrounds, 10 am - 6 pm

Seeking Master Recyclers to help share holiday waste prevention tips, demonstrate recycled gift wrapping and help promote the Less is Best Holiday Fair. Shifts are 10 am - 12, 12- 2, 2-4 and 4-6 pm on both days.

December 1st-3rd

Less is Best Holiday Fair

MECCA, 43 W. Broadway, Eugene, Friday 5-9 pm, Saturday & Sunday 11-4pm

The fair starts Friday evening with the First Friday Artwalk. Artists will be showing and selling their recycled art work. Features craft tables, a reuse boutique and information about how to make the holidays more meaningful and less wasteful. Sponsored by BRING Recycling, MECCA and Lane County Master Recyclers. Master Recyclers are needed to help teach crafts, share information and make this event a success. Shifts are Friday 3:30-5:30, 5:30-7:30, 7:30-9:30, Saturday 11-1:30 pm, 1:30-4pm and Sunday 11:00 - 1:30 and 1:30- 4:30.

Tours

October 20th, 1-2 pm

Aurora Glass

2545 W. Broadway, Eugene

November 18th, 11:00- 12:00

Computer Reuse and Recycling Center

222 Polk St. Eugene

**Lane County Public Works
Waste Management Division**

Master Recycler Program
3100 E. 17th Ave.
Eugene OR 97403



Phone: 541-682-2059
Fax: 541-682-2353
Email: nina.whitney@co.lane.or.us

What have you been up to?

Please report your volunteer hours (“payback”) quarterly. Even when your first 30 hours are done, we still love to hear what you are doing. We keep



track of the total impact of all Master Recyclers in our community, both hours and activities. Mail in a reporting log, send me an e-mail or give me a call.

Master Recyclers bridge the gap between awareness and action by motivating people to reduce solid waste in homes and workplaces.

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Haute Trash Fashion Show at Lane County Fair’s Sustainable Sunday



Karyn Kaplan in first and second place ribbons



Sarah Grimm wearing a Channel garment bag



Old Twister game lives on as a skirt



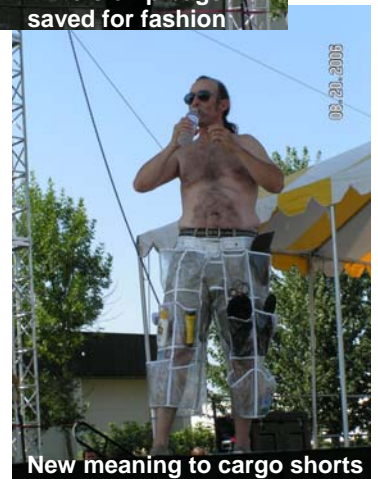
Frito's chip bags saved for fashion



Master Recycler, Ruby, in her own creation; a crocheted film bag gown, pickle lid boa & coffee can



The “In Tents” line, worn by Alex Cuyler



New meaning to cargo shorts