

W. T. A.

**AGENDA COVER MEMO**

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DATE: November 10<sup>th</sup>, 2004

TO: Lane County Board of Commissioners

DEPT.: Public Works

PRESENTED BY: Pete Chism, Waste Reduction Specialist,  
Waste Management Division

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: IN THE MATTER OF AWARDING ANNUAL TRASHBUSTER AWARDS.

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I. MOTION

Move approval of board order awarding annual Trashbuster awards.

II. ISSUE OR PROBLEM

Lane County has established through its Board of County Commissioners and its Resource Recovery Advisory Committee (RRAC) a process for recognizing individuals, organizations, and businesses in the community who make outstanding efforts in the area of waste reduction.

III. DISCUSSION

A. Background

The Board approved a Recycling Recognition Award program proposed by RRAC in 1992. RRAC subsequently renamed the award program "Trashbuster" to denote a wider spectrum of activity beyond just recycling. Typically, the Trashbuster awards are given around November 15<sup>th</sup>, which is America Recycles Day.

B. Analysis

**Local Government Trashbuster, Anne Donahue and the City of Eugene**

Recipient of award: Anne Donahue  
*Commissioner: Pete Sorenson*

Accomplishments:

- Technical compost advisor and educator for the City of Eugene and through the Master Recycler Program, all of Lane County.
- Through work, Anne maintains 3 compost education sites in Eugene.
- Provides education to the community on a variety of subjects including: EcoLawns, Grasscycling, home composting, using compost, building compost bins, mulch and manure sources and worm composting.

- Coordinates education booths at the Lane County Fair, Art and the Vineyard, and the Earthday Celebration.
- In 1997, Anne and the City of Eugene offered free worms bins and a 2 hour instructional workshop.
- In 1999, Anne and the City of Eugene made available 7 Earth Tubs for large scale composting at schools and stores in the county.
- Is the Secretary for the Oregon Green Schools Association and has certified 11 Eugene schools as Oregon Green Schools.

### **K – 12 School Trashbuster, Agnes Stewart Middle School**

Recipient of award: Carrie Patterson  
*Commissioner: Bill Dwyer*

#### **Accomplishments:**

- Carrie Patterson, with the help of her students, has created and maintained a comprehensive composting system at Agnes Stewart Middle School 7 years running.
- A student team moves the bulk of the compostable material, but all in the school are involved.
- Cafeteria monitoring: A couple students are assigned to monitor the after lunch sorting table which includes the recycling of beverage containers, paper bags, and plastic containers. Forks are reused, and the non-meat food is collected to be composted in the school worm bins.
- Paper recycling: On a regular basis, students will collect newsprint, white paper and mixed paper from all of the rooms in the school for recycling.
- Feeding the worms: Students not only move the food waste into one of 7 worm composting bins, they also monitor the progress of the worms, noting any changes in activity for the next students that feed the worms. This activity is a graded elective. Each student that gets a passing grade for the day gets a ten cent coupon for the school store.
- Carrie also established a reuse effort with Rapid Refill, reusing ink cartridges. This year she was informed that this effort had been made a district wide program.

### **Individual Trashbuster, Zachary Zakon**

Recipient of award: Zachary Zakon  
*Commissioner: Pete Sorenson*

#### **Accomplishments:**

- Zachary has been a Master Recycler for many years, but officially he became a Master Recycler through the Lane County program in 2000.
- Involved and influenced a higher rate of recycling and a higher level of awareness at many local events including, the Art and the Vineyard, Eugene Celebration, Willamette Valley Folk Festival, the Lane County Fair and the Filbert Festival.
- Has worked tirelessly to increase recycling opportunities for block foam (Styrofoam) material. As a volunteer at Sacred Heart, Zachary has diverted numerous trucks of block foam to Portland to be densified, and then shipped to California to be recycled.
- At Sacred Heart, Zachary also volunteers by educating staff about recycling, collecting aluminum tabs for dialysis patients, reuses block foam and packaging peanuts, and also targets plastic bags and shrink wrap for recycling.

## **Business Trashbuster, Rapid Refill**

Recipient of award: Kelly Cahill  
*Commissioner: Pete Sorenson*

### Accomplishments:

- Provides a reuse option for inkjet and laser toner cartridges for printers, copiers and fax machines.
- Refills 10,000 cartridges per month.
- Also recycles cardboard and office paper in retail outlets.
- Office and business furnishings such as countertops, carpet and walls all contain recycled content material.
- They also encourage customers to reuse bags that hold cartridges.

## **Product Manufacturer Trashbuster, Pacific Pallets**

Recipient of award: Casandra Piereina  
*Commissioner: Bobby Green*

### Accomplishments:

- Pacific Pallets refurbishes over 100,000 pallets per year for reuse.
- As a by-product of the refurbishing process, Pacific Pallets annually recycles over 2700 tons of wood to be recycled into chipped wood products.
- Pacific Pallets also recycles office paper, cardboard and purchases cartridges for their office from a local refurbishing company, Redundant Cartridge.

### C. Alternatives/Options

The Board may award or choose not to award Trashbuster awards to the proposed recipients.

### D. Recommendations

I recommend approval of the Trashbuster Award as proposed by the Resource Recovery Advisory Committee. The potential recipients meet all award criteria established by the Committee.

### E. Timing

A time certain agenda placement is requested at 10:00am so the Board can present a plaque to those selected for recognition.

## IV. IMPLEMENTATION/FOLLOW-UP

None

## V. ATTACHMENTS

Board Order

IN THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF LANE COUNTY,  
OREGON

ORDER NO.

)IN THE MATTER OF AWARDING  
)ANNUAL TRASHBUSTER  
)AWARDS.

**WHEREAS**, the Board of County Commissioners established a Lane County recycling recognition program (now called "Trashbuster Awards") for individuals, organizations, and businesses in the community who make outstanding efforts to reduce waste generation, recycle, or reduce waste products, and make innovative uses of materials that might otherwise become part of the waste stream, and

**WHEREAS**, November 15<sup>th</sup> is America Recycles Day,

**WHEREAS**, the purpose of the program is to honor those individuals and organizations that practice and promote waste reduction, and

**WHEREAS**, the Resource recovery Advisory Committee has recommended that Anne Donahue and the City of Eugene, Zachary Zakon, Agnes Stewart Middle School, Rapid Refill and Pacific Pallets be recognized for their outstanding efforts in the areas of recycling and waste reduction,

**NOW THEREFORE IT IS HEREBY ORDERED**, that Anne Donahue and the City of Eugene, Zachary Zakon, Agnes Stewart Middle School, Rapid Refill and Pacific Pallets are publicly recognized with Trashbuster Awards.

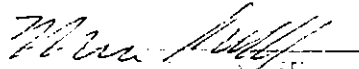
Adopted this \_\_\_\_ day of November, 2004.

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Bobby Green  
Chair, Lane County Board of Commissioners

APPROVED AS TO FORM

Date 10-29-04 Lane County

  
COUNTY COUNSEL

IN THE MATTER OF AWARDING ANNUAL TRASHBUSTER AWARDS