

## August News

### Metal Recovery

Ask Metro's Steve Apotheker what material Portland metropolitan area residents could recycle better and you may be surprised at what he would say, 'Hands down: we need to improve our recycling rate for metal.' Mr. Apotheker conducted studies in 2005 that looked in curbside garbage and recycling for materials accepted in curbside recycling programs. They found that about 12% of the metals accepted as curbside recycling ended up in the recycling carts/bins. A total 88% of steel and aerosol cans, aluminum foil, and scrap metal went into the trash.



Meanwhile Materials Recovery Facilities (MRFs) find metal going into recycling that is destructive to their machines and dangerous for workers. Wire, tire chains, wire clothes hangers and lawn chairs continuously enter the MRFs, tangle around equipment and sometimes literally whip around in the air before machines can be shut off.

The extraction of metals from the earth is destructive to land and waterways. However, metal is one of those fabulous materials that do not have to be down-cycled. The material can be melted down and recycled over and over. Because the production of new metal is so intensive, there are also significant energy savings in recycling metal. David Allaway of the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality says that "aluminum is basically solidified energy."



*Compressed aluminum "pucks" at Metro Metals.*

Master Recyclers can help residents better understand how to recycle metal with three key messages: 1) A clear list of accepted metals for curbside recycling exists. 2) There are some simple tricks to capture some of the smaller and flatter pieces. 3) Call Metro's Recycle Information Center at (503)234-3000 for the local depots to recycle hard to process metal objects.

### Metals Accepted Curbside

<b>Steel Cans</b>	Cans include: aluminum, tin and steel food cans and empty, dry, metal paint cans. Rinse food cans to remove food particles.	Do not flatten.
<b>Aerosol Cans</b>	Cans must be empty.	Do not include plastic caps. Do not flatten or puncture cans or remove nozzles.
<b>Aluminum Foil</b>	Remove food from foil. Crumple into a ball.	
<b>Scrap Metal</b>	Include scrap metal that is smaller than 30 inches in any direction and less than 30 pounds.	Do not include metal that has plastic or food attached.

### Nifty Tricks to Ensure Metals Get to Intended Markets

Flat objects like metal jar lids and aluminum foil can easily hide under the tons of paper that passes through the region's MRFs and end up, unwanted, at paper mills. Small or odd shaped pieces of metal like stripped screws, bent nails or small coils fall through the machinery and end up on the floor of the facilities.

There are two tricks the inspired recycler can use to help capture these materials:

1) *For Small, Odd Shaped Pieces*

Open steel cans so that the lid stays attached. Place cans next to your recycling center and as small bits need to be recycled, put them inside. Sometimes you have to fold the jar lids to make them fit. Once the can is full, shut the top and crimp the sides with a pair of pliers to hold it in place.



A word of caution: be thoughtful about when to include this idea in your presentations. Helping enthusiastic recyclers capture these tidbits is great. But when you are presenting to a less invested crowd, such as tenants in an apartment complex who have been placing garbage in the recycle bins, it is best to stick with more basic messaging such as "when in doubt throw it out" or "no plastic bags, glass on the side."



2) *For Clean Aluminum Foil*

Make an aluminum ball to ensure the flat aluminum does not hide under paper at the MRF.

**What happens to metal that is sent off for recycling?**

Depending on the materials, metal is processed in Oregon, Wisconsin, the Southeastern United States, Canada and Asia. Mixed metals are shredded and then separated by magnets into ferrous and non-ferrous piles. Steel is melted at temperatures that destroy contaminants like paper labels, dried paint and ink. Aluminum is less tolerant of impurities and should not be included in recycling if it has food, plastic or other contaminants. Because aluminum is very light, it is often compressed before shipping to reduce volume. Electronics that can be plugged in, such as computers, alarm clocks, hair dryers, irons, appliances, and even electric cords all have metals that are extracted from their casings and processed for recycling.





*A bale of Christmas lights at Metro Metals.*

Recycling metals can save anywhere from 75-95% of the energy it costs to make products from raw materials. The renewable material can be melted back into cans, furniture, building frames, trains, airplanes and more, then melted down and used again. To close the loop in recycling and the use of virgin source materials, it is very important to seek metal products made from recycled content.

## Master Recycler Continuing Education

### Master Recycler Spanish Recycling Workshop

Metro 600 NE Grand Ave., Portland  
Saturday, August 8th  
10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Do you speak Spanish but feel a bit nervous about signing up for Spanish-language Master Recycler outreach opportunities because you don't know words like "bin," "Styrofoam," "waste prevention" or "climate change."

Have we got the workshop for you!

Two bilingual Master Recyclers, Astrid Ollerenshaw (Class 41) and Maria Elena Guerra (Class 22) invite you to an interactive workshop that will help build your environmental vocabulary and boost your speaking confidence. It will also engage participants in a brainstorm session on outreach in the Hispanic community. Help get the word out about recycling and waste prevention to the Hispanic community.

Please RSVP to [masterrecycler@ci.portland.or.us](mailto:masterrecycler@ci.portland.or.us) (Workshop is for Master Recyclers only.)



*Astrid Ollerenshaw and Helena Lee (Class 41) at Explorando el Slough.*

## Master Recycler Summer Tour!

Award Winning Total Reclaim E-Recycler  
Thursday, August 20th 9 – 9:45 a.m.



Robin Rodgers (Class 38) invites fellow Master Recyclers to attend a tour of Total Reclaim.

Founded in 1990, Total Reclaim is a privately owned, Seattle-based company specializing in recycling regulated and hard-to-handle waste. It is the largest processor in the Pacific Northwest of electronics and ozone-depleting refrigerant gases. Total Reclaim processes computers, monitors, and TVs under product stewardship programs. Throughout its history Total Reclaim has been an innovator and promoter of progressive recycling programs. Visit [www.totalreclaim.com](http://www.totalreclaim.com).

Please RSVP to Robin Rogers, [robin.rogers.8@gmail.com](mailto:robin.rogers.8@gmail.com). There will be a 30 person limit. (Tour is for Master Recyclers only.)

## Certified Master Recyclers



Barbara at Fix-It Fair with Carey Collins (Class 34).

### **Barbara McLean (Class 32)**

participated in many a Plastics Roundup, neighborhood cleanup, and Fix-It Fair. She also worked to create the best recycling system possible with her employer, the Portland U.S. Census. Barbara plans to stay active by participating in Mayor Sam Adams' Tote Bag Distribution Task Force.

### **Renate Ryan-Jeppeson (Class 37)**

is *the* Certified Master Recycler in Eagle Creek! Renate started a green team at her Estacada church where, among other things, they switched their flatware and cutlery from disposable to durable. Renate also gave several compost presentations and info tables

at Clackamas County garden fairs and the Estacada Farmers' Market.

**Molly Artman (Class 39)** joined many of her classmates to table at Hillsboro locations such as the farmers' market and Whole Foods.

Molly really dug in to work by offering technical recycling assistance for the Portland Ministries Food Pantry.

Three Master Recyclers from **Class 40** certified in July, teaming up to help Clackamas County create three new kits: recycling, compost and greener cleaner. **Brian Flores** also presented to a multifamily tower in downtown Portland that resulted in a green team. **Ildiko Plesko** and **Miriam Reeber** both tabled at the Spring Garden Fair and Oregon City Farmer's Market. Master Recyclers will be utilizing the displays this team created for years to come.



*Miriam at the Canby Cares Fair.*

## Three new members of the Century Club!

Unfortunately for Portland, **Joe Sixta (Class 28)** is moving to Minnesota; but not before he put in enough hours to induct him into the Master Recycler Century Club. The bulk of the effort that Joe focused on was planning and implementing a rummage sale at Lewis and Clark and starting an ambitious green team at his work, Human Solutions. Joe's good works will be missed here in Portland. The best of luck to him!



*Joe tabling at a 2004 Fix-It Fair.*

**Jaylen Schmitt (Class 38)** was just getting started when she certified by tabling at local Portland events and dancing with a cart in the Starlight Parade. Since then she has been showing Alameda Elementary School just what happens when a Master Recycler gets involved with her kids' school. Of course instead

of being the typical soccer mom, she starts a green team. Instead of a bake sale she organized fundraisers where durable lunch equipment like sandwich wraps and water bottles are sold. Kids go home with homework on specific action points they can take to lower their carbon footprints. Two hundred of Alameda Elementary students kept a log of their actions. Jaylen also worked with the green team to do a collection event on Earth Day and also gave a recycling presentation at a school assembly. And if that's not enough, Jaylen has been

helping the City of Portland with the Portland Recycles! Small Grants program. Jaylen offered technical assistance and evaluation to five of the grantees to help make their projects a success.

**Christy Kuziinsky (Class 36)** also spends much of her time on a school green team, this time at Sunstone Montessori. The green team, kids and teachers worked together to help the school earn the Green School certification through Oregon Green Schools. Projects included post consumer purchasing, durables, Portland Composts, waste-free lunches, and water and energy conservation. Christy's first 30 hours were focused on creating a sustainable food business presentation and taking it on tour. Since then, she has continued her work in tandem with Recycle at Work staff in Portland, assisting the local food industry green their practices.

Thank you to Master Recyclers who have completed their 30 hour commitment and those who have deepened their commitment by becoming new members of the Century Club!

## Volunteer Opportunities

### Washington County Fair

Washington County Fair Complex 873 NE 34th Ave, Hillsboro  
Thursday, July 30 – Sunday, Aug 2, 2009  
Shifts: 10 a.m. – 7:30 p.m.

#### Washington County Booth

This year's table is located in the Sustainability Expo plaza located near the front of the Fair gates! Talk to local residents about residential recycling, greener cleaners, composting and waste reduction.

Contact: Michelle Pimentel,  
(503)846-3651,  
michelle\_pimentel@co.washington.or.us



*Michelle Pimentel at Washington County table.*

#### Metro Booth

Help answer questions about green cleaners and composting at Metro's Healthy Homes display.

Contact: Caran Goodall, (503)797-1693, caran.goodall@oregonmetro.gov

## **Orengo Farmers Market**

NE Orengo Station Parkway and NE 61st

Second Sunday of every month

Shifts: 9:30 a.m. – noon and 11:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Join Heidi Lambek (Class 39) tabling on recycling and Greener Cleaner (and worms later in the season). Times include set up and breakdown.

Contact: Heidi Lambek (503)475-5850, oregontreehugger@gmail.com



## **National Night Out 2009**

National Night Out is designed to heighten crime prevention awareness and strengthen neighborhood spirit. Most cities and towns celebrate National Night Out with a variety of special neighborhood events such as block parties and cookouts.

## **Maplewood Neighborhood Annual Picnic and National Night Out**

Maplewood School, 7452 SW 52nd Ave, Portland

Sunday, August 2nd noon – 4:30 p.m.

Talk with residents of this SW Portland neighborhood about waste prevention, recycling and composting.

Contact: Alicia Polacok, (503)823-7107, apolacok@ci.portland.or.us

## **City of Cornelius National Night Out Picnic**

Harleman Park, corner of S. Heather and S. 10th, Cornelius

Tuesday, August 4th 5 – 8:30 p.m.

This will be a fun-filled evening for residents to learn about basic recycling in this community which is new to roll carts. English and Spanish speakers welcome. Washington County staff will deliver displays and materials to the site prior to the event and collect them after 8:30 p.m.

Contact: Michelle Pimentel, (503)846-3651,  
michelle\_pimentel@co.washington.or.us

**Don't forget to log  
your volunteer hours**  
Visit [www.masterrecycler.org](http://www.masterrecycler.org)  
and click on the Members tab.

### **Argay National Night Out**

Argay Park, NE 141st & Shaver, Portland  
Tuesday, August 4th 5:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Talk to East Portland neighbors about Portland Recycles! and other Bureau of Planning and Sustainability programs.

Contact: Alicia Polacok, (503)823-7107, apolacok@ci.portland.or.us

### **New Columbia National Night Out**

N. Dwight and N Portsmouth, Portland  
Tuesday, August 4th 6 – 8 p.m.

Staff a recycling and waste prevention table with Metro's wheel of Fortune. New Columbia and Master Recyclers have been working in this housing community to help create an excitement and commitment to recycling.

Contact: Bill Steimer, (503)308-2290, 60bigtime2005@gmail.com



### **Moreland Farmers Market Event Recycling**

Bybee and SE 14th, Portland  
Wednesdays from May 13th to Sept 30th 3:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Three Master Recyclers plan to help Moreland Farmers' Market improve their recycling system. Help staff an information booth on any Wednesday afternoon this spring and summer. The topics will vary throughout the month.

Contact: Laura Wendel, laura@morelandfarmersmarket.org

### **Eastbank Farmers' Market**

SE 20th at Salmon between SE Belmont & SE Hawthorne, Portland  
August 6th 3:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Staff a table at this popular Portland farmers' market.

Contact: Audrey, reuse.it.now@gmail.com

### **PSU Capstone Class Presentation**

Nature Center Tryon State Park, 11321 SW Terwilliger, Portland  
Saturday, August 8th 1 – 2 p.m.

Master Recyclers are invited to present to students on residential recycling and waste prevention, including state, Metro and local jurisdiction roles and policies.

Contact: Stephanie Wagner, (503)636-4398, stephanie@tryonfriends.org

### **Celebrate! Hillsboro**

Hillsboro Civic Center 3205 SE Minter Bridge Rd, Hillsboro  
Saturday, August 8th 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

This event draws thousands of individuals from nearby communities to enjoy music, food and goods vendors, World Records setting, and great summer fun for the whole family!

Contact: Michelle Pimentel, (503) 846-3651,  
michelle\_pimentel@co.washington.or.us

### **Montavilla Farmers Market Durable Dish Project**

SE 76th & SE Stark Streets, Portland  
Sundays, August 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th, 10 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Montavilla Farmers Market will be replacing disposable serviceware at one or more of our ready-to-eat vendors with durable, reusable plates. Help make this project a success by providing education & outreach to the public at the participating vendors' booths or by conducting onsite customer experience surveys.

Contact: Kristin Wildensee, (503)330-8232, kkww@comcast.net

### **Job and Community Resource Fair**

National Association for Black Veterans  
18640 NW Walker Road, Beaverton  
Friday, August 14th 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Check out a residential recycling kit from Washington County and set up a booth about recycling and about the Master Recycler Program at this diverse job fair. Talk to folks about how the Master Recycler

Program and volunteerism is a great way to get started in career development in the field.

Kit contact: Michelle Pimentel, (503) 846-3651,  
michelle\_pimentel@co.washington.or.us

Event contact: Napoleon Hodgers 503.997.1577,  
N4success@gmail.com

## **Sunday Parkways – South East**

What do recycling, bikes, and parks have in common? Seeking Master Recyclers to join in Transportation's fun-filled opportunity to walk, bike, skateboard, run, and roll on 7.5 miles of traffic-free streets in Southeast Portland. The route connects four parks - Laurelhurst, Colonel Sumner, Sunnyside and Mt. Tabor. Each have fun activities. Master Recyclers will staff an information table at one of the parks. Visit [www.portlandsundayparkways.org](http://www.portlandsundayparkways.org).



*Satish Palshikar (Class 36) and Heather Randol (Class 38).*

Shifts:

Info booth: 8:30 – noon and noon – 4 p.m.

Contact: Alicia Polacok (503)823-7107, apolacok@ci.portland.or.us

## **Clackamas County Fair**

Clackamas County Fair Grounds, Canby

Tues. – Thurs., Aug 18th – 20th, Shifts 2:30 – 6 p.m., and 6 – 9 p.m.

Fri. – Sat., Aug 21st – 22nd, 11 a.m. – 2:30 p.m., 2:30 – 6 p.m., and 6 – 9 p.m.

Family fun rides, multiple stages, animal shows. Talk to local residents about residential recycling, greener cleaners, composting and waste reduction. Past year events have drawn over 100,000 attendees over the four days! Have a great time and enjoy the fair!

Contact: Sherri Dow, (503)742-4463, sherridow@co.clackamas.or.us

## **Portland Center for Performing Arts (PCPA) Sustainability Fair**

SW Main St between Broadway & Park

Wednesday, August 26th 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Come share information with a Portland Recycles! table at this fair, which will occur at the same time as the Portland Farmers Market in the Park Blocks.

Contact: Annette Dinneen, (503)796-6516, annette@pcpa.com

## **Proper Festival**

Kenton Park, 8417 N Brandon Ave, Portland

Saturday, August 29th 11:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.



Table for Portland Recycles! at this North Portland community event. Join local businesses, churches and organizations for free food, family entertainment, local talent and speakers.

PROPER seeks to improve communities through pro-active communication and greater awareness by generating open dialogues and lasting relationships between local businesses, organizations, churches and individual people.

Contact: Alicia Polacok, 503-823-7107, apolacok@ci.portland.or.us



## **Art in the Pearl Event Recycling Volunteer Training**

Various locations, The Pearl District, Portland  
Saturday, September 5th to Monday, September 7th  
9:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Assist Portland's premiere fine art and craft festival in reducing their waste. They've made big plans, with signage and staff to organize and haul recycling, and volunteers to staff recycling stations. They invite Master Recyclers to instruct volunteers at the beginning of each workshift the three days of the Festival. Two workshifts each day that begin at 9:30 and 1:30 respectively. Visit [www.artinthepearl.com](http://www.artinthepearl.com).

Contact: Ginger Steele, 503-809-9353, gingersteele@insomniapottery.com

# Conservation News

## **How To Be An Agent of Change (A Six-Session Course)**

Group 1: Six Tuesdays, Sept. 22, 29, Oct. 6, 13, 20, 27, and Nov. 17

Group 2: Six Wednesdays, Sept. 23, 30, Oct. 7, 14, 21, 28, and Nov. 18

Each of us is a member of circles of influence. Workplace, neighborhood, club, school, center of faith, extended family, condominium association, etc. Each circle provides a natural arena for the work of a person who assumes the role of an agent of change to create a more ecologically sustainable culture.

This class covers the theory, practice, and tools of a change agent working within a chosen circle of influence. Each participant will select one circle of influence and, in consultation with other members in the class, develop a strategy and take steps of early implementation. For more information about the Center, visit [www.earthleaders.org](http://www.earthleaders.org).

There is no charge for the class, but advance registration is required. Contact Emily Cain, (503)227-2315, [emily@earthleaders.org](mailto:emily@earthleaders.org).

## Job Opportunities

### **Metro Recycling Education Assistant - Temporary**

For more information or to apply, please visit [www.oregonmetro.gov/jobs](http://www.oregonmetro.gov/jobs).



**MORE JOB OPPORTUNITIES**  
can be found in Job Seekers at the  
Master Recycler Forum.

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



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