

December News

Join Community Warehouse's Home for the Holidays Campaign

Looking for an easy and meaningful Master Recycler payback project this month? Consider setting up a collection for gently used household goods for the Community Warehouse at your office, school or place of faith.

Community Warehouse serves people who transition into homes with limited household goods: women escaping domestic violence, individuals and families who have been homeless, the elderly and people on limited incomes, individuals with mental and physical disabilities, refugee families, youth and adults recovering from substance abuse, and the working poor. Community Warehouse is the only free furniture bank in the Northwest.



We've made it easy for you to help with their Home for the Holidays campaign. Simply send out an email with the flyer below and print and place the poster in the lunch room or community board as well as on the collection box. You could also make announcements at community gatherings.

Be sure and fill in your group's name on the top and the deadline and location of the box. Then bring the collected goods to the Community Warehouse during their regular hours: www.communitywarehouse.org

<http://www.masterrecycler.org/PDF/MRCommunitywarehouseposter.pdf>



Organize Holiday Tree Recycling at an Apartment, Condo or Townhouse Near You This Winter!

Holiday trees can be recycled for mulch or compost, but it can be difficult for residents of multifamily communities to collect all their trees for



composting. Master Recyclers can plan a holiday tree collection at their apartment community or a nearby apartment in their neighborhood. Many scout troops and non-profit organizations offer pick-up services for tree recycling as a fundraiser for a variety of worthwhile projects in the community. Organize a holiday tree collection with three simple steps:

1. Contact Lauren to find out who your multi-family recycling coordinator is for resources (they can help you choose an apartment community, contact the management, print flyers, etc.)
2. Check with Metro's Recycling Information Center to see if there are scout troops or other non-profits collecting in the neighborhood.
www.oregonmetro.gov/holidaytips
3. Contact the property manager/maintenance staff to begin planning the tree collection.

To get started, contact Lauren Norris at masterrecycler@ci.portland.or.us or 503-823-7530.

Waste-free Holiday Gift Ideas

EcoMetro, the folks behind the Chinook Book, introduced the *Green Gift Guide* in time for the holiday season. The guide seeks to improve the quality of our giving at its very root — by offering experiences that don't create waste, products that enrich lives, and by shopping locally to support the economy. The holiday season gives us a chance to think differently about how we shop and change the way we give to others.

For the gift giver, this guide provides unique discounts or refers to Chinook Book coupons for each gift to make giving a little easier. You can download the guide for free at www.ecometro.com/greengiftspdx



Happy waste-free holidays!

Portland Recycles Small Grants Report Shows Success

The Portland Recycles! Small Grants Program is a two-year Portland Recycles! Program designed to offer grant money to neighborhood and diverse community organizations for projects or items that will help them overcome barriers to waste prevention and increase recycling while educating the community.

Waste Reduction Results

Eleven organizations reported a decrease in garbage. The majority of projects purchased durables or equipment. These new purchases replaced materials that would have been thrown away after one use. Items ranged from dishes and flatware to a paper cutter and letter press. These combined groups predicted the number of disposable items they will avoid tossing before next summer is over 250,000.

Cost Savings

Community groups predicted a significant savings by not having to purchase these durable goods. Groups stated that the money previously spent on purchasing single-use materials was over \$6,000. While most recipients were not able to assess their savings on garbage pickup, three groups did have specific data on garbage disposal savings. Holy Redeemer showed a 50% decrease on their garbage bill, Columbia Ecovillage saved \$400 per month, and Whole Child Montessori Center moved from weekly to monthly garbage pick-up.

Education

Grant recipients were required to include education in their projects. The offered education to 9,000 people. Since the efforts themselves are ongoing, the organizations believe the impact will increase to 20,000 by the summer of 2010.

Thanks to Master Recyclers

Many thanks to Genevieve Joplin, Ginny Benware, Jaylen Schmitt, Kelly Panciera and Russell Hollenbeck for providing assistance to the 21 organizations that were granted funds through the program. Thank you also to the many Master Recyclers that participated in some of the funded projects.

Keep an eye out in January and February newsletters for the 2010 Portland Recycles! Small Grants Program application process.

Certified Master Recyclers



Thank you to **Nick O'Neil** (Class 32). Ultimate Frisbee is a big Portland phenomena and hundreds of players flock to two major Ultimate tournaments in the area which generate a lot of fun and waste. Nick ensured that waste was recycled at the games. Starting with containers and glass, Nick later included compos . Thank you for keeping those games green, Nick!

Kelly Panciera (Class 38) offered technical assistance to ensure success of several of the Portland Recycles! small grants projects. She also participated in two Plastics Roundups and staffed every single Sunday in the Parkways this year.

Genevieve Joplin (Class 31) applied her great event coordinating skill she demonstrates in work to her own community in North Portland for her payback. She and **Teri Petersen** (Class 35) helped organize recycling and reuse at their neighborhood cleanup in Kenton Neighborhood. She also helped 5 North Portland neighborhood groups with technical assistance for the Portland Recycles! Small Grants Program.



Bethany Larson (Class 39) and Kelley Panciera (Class 38) at Roosevelt High School Fix-It Fair.

Volunteer Opportunities

Gresham Knock and Talks

Holly Ridge Apartments
(meet at City Hall, 1333 NW
Eastman Pkwy, Gresham)
Saturday, December 12th
1 – 3:30 p.m.

**Don't forget to log
your volunteer hours**
Visit www.masterrecycler.org
and click on the Members tab.

City of Gresham seeks Master Recyclers to go door-to-door at apartments and provide tenants with recycling information.

Contact: Aubrey Lindstrom at 503-618-2206,
Aubrey.Lindstrom@GreshamOregon.gov

