

February 2010

Portland Recycles! Phase II: Food Scrap Coming in April

As part of the Portland Recycles! Plan, the City of Portland will conduct a project this spring to test changes in Portland's waste collection system.

Goals for Portland's waste and recycling system include:

- Zero growth in the waste stream.
- Increase recycling rate to 75 percent by 2015.
- Make the whole system more sustainable: safer for garbage haulers and neighborhoods.
- Reduce toxics and greenhouse gasses.

The residential portion of the Plan outlines several strategies to help meet these goals including redesigning the curbside collection system. These strategies were broken into two phases. Phase I, implemented in the spring/summer of 2008, included the use of new blue recycling and green yard debris roll carts and the expansion of recyclable plastics collected curbside.



The City is in the process of designing and testing Phase II of the Portland Recycles! Plan. The second phase calls for including food scraps with yard debris and switching to weekly collection of the combined organic material. Household food scraps include vegetables, meat, bones, dairy, and grains. This expansion will bring Portland in line with other major west coast communities including San Francisco, Alameda County, Seattle, Bellevue, Everett, Kent and other Washington jurisdictions.

Along with the addition of weekly food scrap collection, the City is also changing to every-other-week garbage collection. With expanded recycling opportunities, most residents will not need garbage collection every week. Every-other-week garbage service complements expanded recycling services and helps to reinforce a waste prevention ethic.



Mentor Molly Chidsey (Class 28) canvass training for Cully Neighbors for Portland Recycles! Phase I.

This reversal of pickup schedules will help offset the rate increases needed to offer weekly yard debris and food scrap service. Preliminary analysis suggests that switching to every-other-week garbage service — combined with weekly recycling, yard debris and food scrap collection — would not raise rates for most Portland customers. Residents will also more likely place their food scrap in the yard debris container if it is more frequent than garbage collection. The goal is to make every-other-week garbage service the new standard for Portland. Residents who need it will have the option of maintaining weekly garbage service, but at a much higher cost.

Finally, the City plans to also test the feasibility of every-other-week recycling collection. Reducing the frequency of pickup provides benefits in for air quality and reduced rates for customers. In addition, anecdotal evidence suggests that many households do not fill their blue recycling carts each week. The City will closely monitor recycling rates to determine if reducing recycling collection frequency has a detrimental effect.

The City plans on offering Phase II service changes starting this spring to approximately 2,000 households. During this period, household recycling, garbage and yard debris set-out behavior, service levels and participant feedback will be collected, analyzed and used to design and develop the citywide Phase II roll out.

Be a part of this new phase of how Portland Recycles!

Master Recyclers will play an important role in improving resident understanding of their new system as well as evaluating messages. One week after the new system is implemented, Master Recyclers will go door-to-door and explain the benefits and how to use the new system, identify concerns, and evaluate the clarity of our printed materials. You can help by coming out evenings for three hours or by helping lead crews and managing maps and paper work.

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

Certified Master Recyclers

Rhonda Leo (Class 39) talked to many people about alternatives to toxic cleaners in the home. Staffing tables from Hillsboro to Parkrose, Rhonda can feel good about improving the health of our community for people and the environment.

Michael Richter (Class 39) has been diligently working to encourage his church in Beaverton to switch over to durables during their coffee hour and other church functions. After much gentle prodding, word from the church purchaser is that purchasing of paper cups have dropped significantly.

Janet Fisher-Welsh (Class 40) is one of those few brave Master Recyclers who completed her hours by mostly doing presentations. She acted as a great ambassador to recycling at rotary clubs, senior centers and neighborhoods.



Rhonda Leo and Heather Randol (Class 38) table for Metro's Healthy Homes.

Volunteer Opportunities

Senior Group Recycling Presentation

Gethsemane Lutheran Church, 11560 SE Market St, Portland
Wednesday, February 10th 1 – 1:30 p.m.

Check out a Portland Recycles! kit and offer a presentation to this senior group.

Contact: Audrey Magnuson, ramagnuson@aol.com, (503)387-5115
Kit contact: Alicia Polacok, 503-823-7107, apolacok@ci.portland.or.us

Yard, Garden and Patio Show

Oregon Convention Center, 777 NE MLK, Jr. Blvd, Portland
Friday, February 12th – Sunday, February 14th

Shifts:

Friday: 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. and 3 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Saturday: 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. and 3 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Sunday: 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. and 2 p.m. – 6 p.m.



Help staff Metro's Healthy Homes booth. Conversations include use green cleaners, making compost (or worm bins) and general recycling.

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

Gresham Knock and Talks

Gresham Village Square Apartments
Saturday, February 20th 1 – 3:30 p.m.

Hood Village Apartments
Saturday, March 20th 1 – 3:30 p.m.

City of Gresham Recycling & Solid Waste seeks volunteers to work as a team going door-to-door at apartment complexes to provide tenants information about recycling. Training, materials and transportation provided.

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

Spring Home and Garden Show

Expo Center 2060 North Marine Dr, Portland

Wednesday, February 24th to Sunday, February 28th

Shifts:

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday: 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. and 3 p.m. – 8 p.m.

Saturday: 10 a.m. – 2 p.m., 2 p.m. – 5 p.m. and 5 p.m. – 8 p.m.

Sunday: 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. and 2 p.m. – 6 p.m.

There are two tabling opportunities for this event:



Russell Hollenbeck (Class 35) tables for the ReBuilding Center.

The Rebuilding Center

Contact: Ty Schwoeffermann,

503-467-4985,

volunteer@ourunitedvillages.org

Metro's Healthy Homes booth

Conversations include green cleaners, compost and general recycling.

Contact: Caran Goodall, 503-797-1693,

caran.goodall@oregonmetro.gov

EARTH DAY VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

It may seem early but event coordinators around the region are looking forward to celebrating Earth Day in April. To help them plan successful events, please contact coordinators as soon as you can.

Latino Cultural Festival

Civic Center, 150 E. Main St, Hillsboro

Sunday, April 11th 12 p.m. – 5 p.m.

Enjoy using your budding Spanish-language skills to interact with the Latino population at this business and safety focused community festival. There are two tabling opportunities for this event:

Metro Recycling and Hazardous Waste

Contact: Judie Miller, 503-797-1503, Judie.Miller@oregonmetro.gov

Washington County Recycling

Contact: Michelle Pimentel, 503-846-3651,

michelle_pimentel@co.washington.or.us

Lincoln Center Earth Day Event

Lincoln Center, 10220 SW Greenburg Road, Tigard
Thursday, April 22nd 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Join Washington County Recycle at Work staff to talk about greener cleaner and business waste prevention for this Shorenstein property management earth day event.

Contact: Kersten Broms, 503-998-9148, kbroms@msn.com

Earth Day Sustainability Fair

Garden Home Community Library/Community Center, 7475 SW Olson Road, Portland

Thursday, April 22nd 4 – 7 p.m.



*2nd Grader Benny
Cox Wins contest
to name Welches
Earth day event.*

This is the first annual Garden Home Community Library's Earth Day Sustainability Fair. Table with other eco-agencies on basic recycling information, green cleaners and waste prevention.

Contact: Michelle Pimentel, 503-846-3651,
michelle_pimentel@co.washington.or.us

Mt Hood Green Scene

Welches Middle School, 24903 E Salmon River Rd,
Welches

Saturday April 24th 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Clackamas County staff invite Master Recyclers to join them in staffing a table on residential recycling at this family friendly event.

Contact: Shannon Martin (Class 29), 503-742-4458,
smartin@co.clackamas.or.us



Conservation News

Announcing Urban Growth Bounty 2010

The Urban Growth Bounty 2010 education series, presented by the Bureau of Planning and Sustainability's food program, offers 82 classes to help residents learn how to transform their yards into "urban farms", keep chickens and bees, preserve their harvest, make cheese, and prepare great tasting and healthy meals.

For class descriptions and online registration, visit:

www.portlandonline.com/bps/ugb

Portland Recycles! Offers \$25,000 in Small Grants for Waste Prevention and Recycling

The Residential Recycling Program is offering the second Portland Recycles! Small Grants Program in February. The goal is to offer grant money to neighborhood, community and nonprofit organizations for projects or items that will help them overcome barriers to waste prevention and increase recycling while educating the community.

Grant amounts range from \$500 to \$2,500. The total amount of funding available is \$25,000. Grants will be awarded through a competitive process.

Last year, BPS received a total of 70 applications and 21 groups, ranging from schools to neighborhood groups to grassroots organizations, were funded through the program.

Proposals must be received by 4 p.m. on Monday, March 1, 2010.

For more information, to download an application or to view last year's recipients, please visit www.portlandonline.com/bps/grants or call 503-823-7107.

Bridlemile School 2nd Annual Styrofoam Drive

Bridlemile Elementary School, 4300 SW 47th Dr, Portland
Sunday January 30th 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

The Bridlemile Green Team, New Seasons Market of Raleigh Hill Green Team and Total Reclaim are sponsoring this Styrofoam Drive. \$5 per car load or \$10 per pickup truck/van/SUV.

18th Annual BEST Awards Now Accepting Applications

The mission of the BEST (Businesses for an Environmentally Sustainable Tomorrow) Awards is to inspire the business community by showcasing innovation and commitment to sustainability. Deadline is February 16, 2010 at 5 p.m.

For more information and to apply:

www.bestbusinesscenter.org/bestawards

bestawards@bestbusinesscenter.org, 503-823-6111

Rubber Bands Available

Purdy Paintbrush Factory produces about 40 pounds of rubber bands a day and would like to find an alternative to throwing them away, but have exhausted all usual avenues. If you know of a company that is in the need of a steady stream of rubber bands, please contact Brenda Demaree (Class 37) at 503-595-1325, brenda.j.demaree@purdycorp.com.



Job Opportunities

Community Energy Project In-Home Services Program Manager

For a detailed position description and the application process, please visit www.communityenergyproject.org/jobs.html.

Portland Farmers Market EverGreen Coordinator

Organize outreach, education, staffing and reporting requirements for Portland Farmers Market waste reduction campaign.

To apply, submit a detailed letter demonstrating why this position is a good fit for your skills, experience, and aptitude as well as a resume to: anna@portlandfarmersmarket.org with "EverGreen Coordinator" in the subject line. For more information, visit the Master Recycler Job Forum at www.masterrecycler.org.



More Job Opportunities in the Master Recycler Forum

Visit www.masterrecycler.org
and click on the Members tab.

