



MASTER RECYCLER NEWSLETTER

February 2012

Contents

- Washington County Class 49 Tours Recology
- One New Plastic Accepted in Region's Curbside Collection
- Appreciations
- Volunteer Opportunities
- Conservation News
- Job Opportunities

Washington County Class 49 Tours Recology

Much like Material Recovery Facilities, the local commercial compost facilities that are beginning to receive mixed yard debris and food scraps are quickly becoming an important part of the region's system designed to recover materials. For this reason, starting this January, a visit to one of the facilities and a presentation on regional developments have both been added to Master Recycler eight-week course.



Class 49 visited Recology at Nature's Needs in North Plains Oregon on January 14th. While Saturdays are not a great day to see trucks bringing in food scraps, the group got to see the composting process as well as storm water and odor control methods.

Currently, garbage and recycling companies bring the mixed food scraps and yard debris to the Metro Central Transfer Station. Soon there will be other transfer locations including two Recology-owned sites in Portland and the Metro Transfer Station in Oregon City. A shredder and screen is used at these transfer sites to further mix yard debris in with the combined food scraps and yard debris. Within a few hours the material is hauled out to one of the local facilities including the Nature's Needs location and Republic Services' facility in Marion County.

Much like our own backyard compost piles, the commercial compost facilities use the four key elements (browns, greens, air and water) to break down materials and minimize odors. But they do it on a grand scale. Large volumes, reversed aeration systems and covers help control odor and storm water and bring the compost piles to temperatures over 160 degrees. After about 24 days of using covered windrows, compost is moved to open air piles where they sit for another 20-24 days. After 45-50 days the compost is ready to be used as soil amendments. This compost is sold mostly to large agribusinesses, but it is also for sale to the public.

How can you get your hands on this "black gold"?

Recology:

6400 SE 101st Avenue, Portland

9570 NW 307th Avenue, North Plains

Compost made from food scraps and yard debris is \$10/yard

Compost made from just yard debris is \$18/yard

(Minimum purchase 1/2 yard)

Republic Services:

Pro-Gro Mixes 26045 SW Grahams Ferry Rd., Sherwood.

Compost made from food scraps and yard debris is \$12/yard

They will also deliver throughout the metro region.



CORRECTION:

An earlier version of this newsletter stated that local jurisdictions intend to include plastic bottle caps into their educational materials over the course of the coming year. The Master Recycler Program regrets that this information was published before the decision was entirely vetted and confirmed throughout the region. Please keep an eye out in future newsletters to see if this material does indeed get added to the 'yes' list for the region's plastic recycling.



[| Return to Top |](#)

Appreciations

With three new Class 36ers completing their 30 hours of payback this month, this class is now over a third certified!

Jason Doerflein (Class 46) worked to promote The ReBuilding Center at home and garden trade shows, and also presented at his apartment building to improve recycling there. But most of his time was spent organizing recovery at the 2011 Holiday Half Marathon and training and supervising volunteers who helped monitor stations. The event was able to recycle or compost about 95% of its waste! Jason is also writing a report so that the event can even improve upon this remarkable effort.



Volunteer helping Jason recover orange peels for compost at the Holiday Half.

Erin Kollar (Class 46) spent much of her payback doing presentations on thoughtful consumption, recycling and composting, and recovering waste at the Washington County District Attorney's office where she has been a Deputy District Attorney. While thanks are in order to Erin for her great outreach work,

we are sad to say good bye. Erin accepted a new position in Cleveland as the Recycling Manager at Case Western Reserve University. Erin wrote: "Although sustainability issues have always been a passion of mine, going through this program truly gave me the courage to try and make a huge career change, which I know will ultimately make me so much more satisfied and happy." Wow Erin, way to follow your passion! We wish you the very best.



Erin at the Better Living Show Be Resourceful booth.

Tom Ramsey (Class 46) spent most of his payback close to home in Sellwood. He worked with fellow neighbors to organize recovery at the Sellwood Neighborhood Cleanup. He organized bottle recycling at SE Soccer League, and joined a team of Master Recyclers to set up a family friendly booth at the Woodstock Farmer's Market.

[| Return to Top |](#)

Volunteer Opportunities

Washington County Tip Your Lid Campaign Outreach

Distribute educational materials to Washington County residents in designated areas to help improve the understanding of the residential recycling mix. Work at your own pace to hang literature on front doors or talk to folks who are home. Pick up literature at Washington County Solid Waste & Recycling office in Hillsboro.

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

Multifamily Knock N Talks and Recycling Bag Delivery

Portland State's Community Environmental Services (CES) staff will visit several large apartment communities interested in improving their recycling programs in February. CES staff will be delivering durable recycling bags door to door as well as briefly introducing the recycling system to each household. Residents are usually very pleased with the bags and will ask additional questions about plastic bags, batteries, electronics and CFLs.

Washington County will provide all materials and a script in both Spanish and English. You can shadow CES staff for a few units to see how it is done. Dates

are yet to be determined but usually are scheduled for Friday or Saturday afternoons – you can drop by and Knock N Talk for as long as you like.

Contact: Heather Robinson, 503-846-3660, heather_robinson@co.washington.or.us

Washington County Fair Recycling and Food Scrap Collection

Roles:

Planning Team Member – Participate on core planning team, attend meetings with stakeholders, assist to coordinate and train volunteers during County Fair. Role commitment is February through July 2012 and includes planning meetings during working hours.

Project Volunteers – Various shifts during July 26th – 29th, 2012

- **Food Vendors/ Monitoring Project:** Master Recyclers will provide technical food scrap collection training to food vendors before and throughout Fair to eliminate contamination. Volunteers may monitor vendor food scrap collection bins and public recycling stations and remove contaminants.
- **Demonstration Project:** Volunteers will work with the Fair Manager and Washington County Sustainability Coordinator to develop a display that “showcases” and demonstrates waste prevention, composting, and/or recycling at the County Fair.

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

Contact for *Project Volunteers*: Heather Robinson, 503-846-3660, heather_robinson@co.washington.or.us

ReuseConex 2012 “Building Reuse Communities”

The [national Reuse Alliance conference and expo](#) takes place in Portland October 18th – 20th, 2012. Master Recyclers are invited to join in now to help with several aspects of planning for the event:

- Logistics sub committee to help plan the sustainable practices of the conference.
- Outreach and Marketing sub committee.
- Special events committee to add to creative reuse to the conference celebrations.

Contact: Andy Olds, andy@communitywarehouse.org

LOG YOUR VOLUNTEER HOURS

Click on the Members tab at www.masterrecycler.org

Be Cart Smart – Beaumont Middle School Open House

Beaumont Middle School, 4043 NE Fremont, Portland

Thursday, February 9th 6 – 8 p.m.

Join BPS staff to talk with families about adapting to the curbside collection changes and how to compost food scraps. Set up and breakdown, and engage with families.

Contact: Babs Adamski, 503-823-8753, Barbara.adamski@portlandoregon.gov

Spring Home and Garden Show: ReBuilding Center Table

Portland Expo Center, 2060 N Marine Drive, Portland

Wednesday, February 22nd 11 a.m. – 8 p.m.

Thursday, February 23rd 11 a.m. – 8 p.m.

Friday, February 24th 2 p.m. – 8 p.m.

Saturday, February 25th 10 a.m. – 8 p.m.

Sunday, February 26th 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Come out to this great show and help spread the word about services of The ReBuilding Center right when people are thinking about changes to their home. A required training is scheduled for Monday, February 13th from 6 – 7 p.m.

Contact: Rosie McGown, 503-467-4985, volunteer@ourunitedvillages.org

Include the Food Door-to-Door Training

Northeast Coalition of Neighborhoods, 4815 NE 7th Ave, Portland

Thursday, February 23rd 6 – 8 p.m.

Portlanders are doing a great job adapting to the new Curbside Collection Service with food scrap composting and the change to weekly pick up of the green Portland Composts! roll cart and every-other-week garbage collection. The City wants to continue to help Portlanders adapt and to answer questions about the changes.

Join efforts to reach 40,000 residents in target neighborhoods, including St Johns, Woodlawn, King, Concordia, Cully, Centennial, Lents, Powellhurst-Gilbert, Brentwood Darlington and Woodstock. Answer questions and encourage behavior. Another way to get involved is to mobilize volunteers and fundraise for community organizations.

Contact/RSVP: Renee Johnson, 503-823-1862, renee.johnson@portlandoregon.gov



Better Living Show - Be Resourceful and ReUse PDX



Expo Center, 2060 North Marine Drive, Portland
Friday, March 23rd
11:30 a.m. – 3 p.m., 3 – 6 p.m., 6 – 9 p.m.
Saturday, March 24th
10:30 a.m. – 2 p.m., 2 – 6 p.m., 6 – 9 p.m.
Sunday, March 25th
10:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m., 2 – 6 p.m.

Be Resourceful is partnering with ReUse PDX again this year and are promoting reuse in the home. An optional training may be offered so look for additional details soon.

Contact: Alicia Polacok 503-823-7107, alicia.polacok@portlandoregon.gov

Conservation News

Block Styrofoam

| [Return to Top](#) | [Recycling Round-up](#)

6361 SW Capitol Hwy across

from Food Front, Hillsdale

Sunday, February 5th, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Maplewood and Rieke Elementary Schools' Green Teams and Hillsdale Main Street co-sponsor this block Styrofoam drive.

- \$10 suggested donation per standard carload
- \$5 for small bags, \$15-20 for larger vehicle loads
- Block white Styrofoamtm only (EPS, may be labeled #6)
- No food or medical containers
- Limited capacity -- arrive early!

This event is not a Master Recycler payback opportunity.

Reduce Your Waste, Reduce Your Impact

Northwest Earth Institute, 107 SE Washington St, Suite 235, Portland

Tuesdays, February 7th, 14th and 21st 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Betty Shelly (Class 2), who manages to only generate one garbage can a year, invites you to attend these interactive and engaging classes on solid waste (aka garbage) but will also touch on reducing water, energy, and other

resources. Explore actions and behaviors, and learn ways to make lasting change. For more on Betty, check out [this KATU segment](#).

Deadline for sign up: Friday, February 3rd.

Fee: \$25(cash only, due in full at the first meeting)

Contact: Betty Shelley, 503-244-8044, greenhouseone@gmail.com

Master Recycler Gathering

Madison's Grill, 1109 SE Madison St., Portland

Wednesday, February 15th 7 p.m.

Join fellow Master Recyclers every 3rd Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m. to brainstorm, talk about projects, discuss Master Recycler-related topics and have a few beers! This is an informal way to stay connected after completing your classes and keep the momentum going by sharing ideas and networking. Spouses and friends are welcome.

Contact: Mitzi Sugar, sweetgreenevents@gmail.com

or Kevin McCarter, kkavn@yahoo.com



20th Annual BEST Awards Now Accepting Applications Through February 10, 2012

The BEST Awards recognize companies within the Portland Metropolitan Statistical Area that exemplify ambitious and creative solutions for sustainability while promoting social, economic and environmental equity for the Portland community. Applications and eligibility requirements are available at the [BEST Awards website](#).

Contact: 503-823-7037, info@sustainabilityatworkpdx.com

| [Return to Top](#) |

Job Opportunities

Green Lifestyle Expert Writers

Qualified writers and copy editors needed to contribute to Green Living, a new section on NationalGeographic.com. Visit [Greenjobs online](#) to learn more.

Evergreen Consulting Group, Beaverton - Project Coordinator

Process commercial and industrial lighting projects from the initial submission of a lighting analysis tool to the processing of incentive payments. More information at [Evergreen Consulting](#).

Ecova Product Manager, Home Energy Improvement

Develop and execute product strategies that support business goals, meet customer needs and drive a high level of customer satisfaction. More information at [Ecova](#).

| [Return to Top](#) |



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

can be found in
Job Seekers at the
Master Recycler Forum

www.MasterRecycler.org

Contributors to this issue of the Master Recycler Newsletter include Wing Grabowski, J Lauren Norris, and Alicia Polacok.

