

June News

Master Recyclers Dig Hanging with the Worms at PCC Rock Creek

On May Day, a lucky dozen Master Recyclers toured PCC Rock Creek Campus' vermicomposting closed-loop system. Hosted by Erin Stanforth, PCC Rock Creek Sustainability Coordinator, Master Recyclers learned about the innovative efforts employed at the school. Later this year, 200 gallons of weekly post-consumer waste from the school will become feedstock as part of an innovative UK-developed composting effort on campus. Stay tuned for more details this fall.



The Loop Tour began inside the cafeteria where a post-consumer waste system is underway, and students are being trained to separate compostable dining ware from food waste and other recyclable containers.

After touring the cafeteria, the group went outside and grabbed buckets of kitchen scraps and coffee grounds to be transported to an 8' x 5' vermicomposting bin teeming with worms. Fats, oils, meat, dairy and citrus are excluded from the kitchen mix. Participants asked many questions including evaluating soil texture, caring and feeding of the worms and how to harvest the compost.

The group learned that all food is chopped into very small pieces and begins to decompose in a "hot rot" pile before it's fed to the worms. After bleached coffee filters are removed as an art supply, the remaining coffee is added to the compost. It's even alleged that java grounds invigorate the worms as they travel six to eight inches below the surface. During cold spells, worms are kept warm under a Styrofoam cover and heated from below by a lamp. Temperatures are monitored in multiple locations throughout the bin to ensure there are no hot spots and the worms continue to thrive.



When it's time to harvest the compost, an electronic winch, located at the base of the bin, scrapes the bottom to dump fresh compost onto the ground. This harvest is then transported to the PCC greenhouse and Learning Garden, areas where students learn to grow plant starts and vegetables. PCC staff tends their communal garden, and students execute gardening experiments.

Vegetables grown in the Learning Garden are harvested and returned to the cafeteria to be served to students.

It was exciting to see the variety of sustainable practices at the PCC Rock Creek campus, of which the closed-system composting is just one example. Sharing this information with the group and providing this tour to interested groups is Erin Stanforth's way of demonstrating PCC's interest in bringing the community together. A great big thanks to all who attended!

Latest Nitty-Gritty Details for Far West Fibers Depots

Metro Recycling Information Center staff **Elizabeth Cole (Class 44)** and Patrick Morgan recently met with the managers of the Far West Fibers recycling depots to learn about accepted materials. Visit [Far West Fibers' website](#) or read signage to get the general idea, but for those tricky materials that don't fall under obvious categories, Elizabeth and Patrick shared this list. Some of this information may surprise you.

Remember it is always important to communicate that accepted materials change for local depots. People should realize they may end up having to take materials back home that are not accepted at the time they visit. They can also call ahead of time if they want to save a trip.

YES rechargeable batteries are accepted at the SE location only.

NO alkaline batteries are accepted at any FWF locations.



NO freezer bags.



NO crinkly or tough film - like potato chips or cereal box liners. You have to be able to stretch and easily poke your finger through it.



YES Foam and bubble wrap film is accepted in with the plastic film at all locations.



NO freezer boxes are accepted. **NO NO NO**, not in any bin at any Far West, no matter what any attendant says.



Carpet will soon be accepted at FWF, but only at Beaverton. They are hoping for a June start date. They may be able to accept commercial referrals on a case-by-case basis now. There will be a fee for carpet.

AOR Conference Scholarships Available to Master Recyclers

Interested in free admission to this year's Association of Oregon Recyclers conference in Salem, June 17th to 19th? Recycling Advocates is offering scholarships to ten lucky Master Recyclers to attend.

Recycling Advocates is a local grassroots, non-profit organization promoting waste reduction and recycling in Oregon and SW Washington. The scholarships are one of Recycling Advocates' efforts to motivate Master Recyclers and others to take their participation and awareness about recycling issues to the next level.

Association of Oregon Recyclers (www.aorr.org) hosts Oregon's premier solid waste conference, attracting noted speakers and key players to discuss the

nuts and bolts of successful



recycling programs, upcoming policy issues, and trends in the solid waste field. The conference is a great opportunity for networking, as it attracts hundreds of industry, government, and political representatives and offers fun social events.

For an application go to www.recyclingadvocates.org. Deadline is June 4th.

Master Recycler Sustainability Tour of the Oregon Convention Center

77 Northeast MLK Blvd, Portland
Saturday, June 5th 10 - 11:15 a.m.

As a leader in sustainable meeting and event facilities, the Oregon Convention Center earned LEED®-EB Silver re-certification in September 2008. Go behind the scenes to see how the building is designed and operated with sustainability in mind – including an extensive recycling & food composting program, rain garden, daylighting & energy efficient lighting, water efficient fixtures, guest & staff education, and community partnerships.

Space is limited and restricted to Master Recyclers only.

RSPV: Jeff Epstein, jeff@waste-diversion.com

Certified Master Recyclers

Scott Haas (Class 39) helped out all over the region. He participated in Hillsboro's last Plastics Roundup, the Fix-It Fair in Parkrose, a neighborhood cleanup in Mt. Tabor, and door-to-door canvass for the Portland Composts! food scrap pilot.



Scott and Rob Kappa (Class 37) tabling together at the Fix-It Fair.

Wendy Marshal (Class 41) focused much of her outreach in Gresham. She participated in the 2009 and 2010 Gresham Earth Day Events. Her

green team also implemented innovative waste prevention programs in the office, including a reuse office supply closet.



Wendy front and center at the Gresham Earth Day.



Nastassja with Surfrider activity.

Nastassja Pace (Class 42) is jazzed about plastic (or fighting it at any rate). She tabled at every Fix-It Fair this winter (and you know folks heard about plastics on her watch). She joined Surfrider for whom she created an interactive information booth like no other. She created a scavenger list of items you might find on a beach and kids can dig in a sandbox for the items and determine if they are animal life, plant life, human made or rocks.

Volunteer Opportunities

Family Friendly Recycling Presentation

Hacienda CDC Salón Comunal, 5856 NE Killingsworth St, Portland
Friday, May 28th 5 – 6:30 p.m.

Do you thrive in engaging diverse young people and their families? Check out a kit and offer a recycling presentation in English to this diverse apartment community. Or, even more fun: try checking out the Wheel of Fortune kid friendly kit, literature and prizes from metro.

Contact: J Lauren Norris, 503-823-7530, masterrecycler@portlandoregon.gov

Lake Oswego Farmer's Market

Millennium Park, 200 First St, Lake Oswego
Saturday, May 29th 7:30 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Join Master Recyclers to staff an information table about composting and recycling.

Contact: Robin Woolman (Class 44), 503-635-8289, woolman@gmail.com

Hillsboro Farmers Market

Historic District Main Street and 2nd Ave, Hillsboro
Saturday, June 5th and June 19th
Shifts: 8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Table 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

2010 Wilsonville Festival of the Arts - "Recycled & Upcycled"

Visitor Information Center at Town
Center Park
29600 SW Park Place, Wilsonville
Saturday, June 5th 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
and 2 – 6 p.m.
Sunday, June 6th 10 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. and 1:30 – 5 p.m.



Check out Clackamas County's Office of Sustainability Recycling kit/display and fit right in with the Festival's theme. For more information, visit www.wilsonvillearts.org.

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

Kim Cottrell 50th Birthday Presentation

638 NE 43rd Ave, Portland

Saturday, June 5th 1 p.m. - 2 p.m. (flexible)

From Kim: "I just turned 50 and as a way to celebrate, I'd like to see if a Master Recycler could come to my block and teach me and my neighbors about how to organize and decrease what goes into the landfill.

I have a very long driveway with space to spread out if we want to do an actual demonstration... I have 15-20 friends and neighbors who would come to something like this."

Contact: Kim Cottrell, 503-890-6865, kim@kimcottrell.com

Mother Earth Gatherings

Silver Falls State Park, Silverton

Saturday, June 12th time flexible

Present on a topic of your choice at this gathering in Silverton. Includes a free pass to the gathering, lunch and camping.

Visit www.earthgatherings.org for more info.

Contact Joan Steihl, 503-866-6883,
diversegatherings@gmail.com

Orengo Farmers Market

NE Orengo Station Parkway and NE 61st,
Orengo

Sunday, June 13th

Shifts: 9:30 a.m. - noon

and 11:30 a.m. - 2:30 pm



Heidi Lambek (Class 39) tabling on Greener Cleaner.

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

Oregon City Farmers Market

Clackamas County Public Service Center, 2051 Kaen Rd, Oregon City
Saturday, June 19th 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.

There are two opportunities for this event:

Clackamas County table. Clackamas County Office of Sustainability has kits/displays on Recycling, Composting, Greener Cleaners, and more. Pick a topic that interests you.

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

Greener Cleaners. Help out at a both focused around reducing plastics and making green cleaners as part of the Health Fair that day.

Contact: Jeanne Becker, 503-453-5740, jbecker@canby.com



Astrid Ollerenshaw and Helena Lee (Class 40) at Explorando 2009.

Explorando el Columbia Slough

Whitaker Ponds Natural Area, 7040 NE 47th Ave,
Portland

Saturday, June 19th 1 – 5 p.m.

¡Celebremos la naturaleza en la ciudad y el ambiente del Columbia Slough! Staff a table with Bellow Master Recyclers and Metro staff at this fun family event. Free canoe rides, raptures, folkloric dancing/music and informational booths help introduce the bilingual community to the city's natural environment.

Contact: J Lauren Norris, 503-823-7530, masterrecycler@portlandoregon.gov

Forest Grove Farmers Market

Main Street between Pacific Ave. and 21st Ave, Forest Grove

Wednesday, June 23rd

Shifts: set-up 3:30 – 6 p.m. and take-down 6 – 8:30 p.m.

Staff a table at this farmers' market. If you'd like to stay a longer or shorter time, that can be arranged. Spanish is helpful, but not required.

Contact: Margaret Rodriguez Springer, 971-344-8806, sunnymug@gmail.com

2010 Lake Oswego Festival of the Arts

George Rogers Park, 611 State St., Lake Oswego

Friday, June 25th 11 a.m. - 2 p.m., 2 - 5 p.m., 5 - 8 p.m.

Saturday, June 26th 11 a.m. - 2 p.m., 2 - 5 p.m., 5 - 8 p.m.

Sunday, June 27th 11 a.m. - 2 p.m., 2 - 5 p.m.

Help Master Recycler Peter Marfell table on recycling.

Contact: Peter Marfell, 503-697-6273 or 503-954-3472,
petermarfell@comcast.net

North American Brewers Festival

Overlook Park, 1301 N. Fremont St, Portland

Friday, June 25th noon - 9 p.m.

Saturday, June 26th noon - 9 p.m.

Sunday, June 27th noon - 5 p.m.

Train and supervise the volunteer
"Recycling Czars" who will oversee
proper disposing of recyclables.



Visit www.naobf.org for more event info.

Contact: Mitzi Sugar, 503-772-1852, iandi.mitzisugar@yahoo.com

Good in the Neighborhood

King School Park, 4815 NE 7th Ave, Portland

Sat, June 26th 6 - 9:45 p.m.

Help launch Portland's new
thoughtful consumption
campaign, "Be Resourceful" at
this multicultural music and food
festival, held annually in NE
Portland. This fun new interactive
tabling experience will include on-
site training.



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



Sunday Parkways - North

Sunday, June 27th 12:30 – 3 p.m.

What do recycling, bikes, and parks have in common? Use the new waste prevention kit, “Be Resourceful” in this fun-filled opportunity to walk, bike, skateboard, run, and roll on 7.5 miles of traffic-free streets in North Portland. The 7.5-mile North Portland Sunday Parkways route will have two loops, connecting Kenton, Arbor Lodge and Peninsula Parks, plus the beautiful Willamette Bluff.

For more information on Sunday Parkways, please visit www.portlandsundayparkways.org.

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

Job Opportunities

Multifamily Recycling Program Community Outreach Specialist (two positions)

The Multifamily Community Outreach Specialist will provide direct resource conservation education and outreach to affordable and low-income housing communities through building relationships with on-site property managers, residents and resident service coordinators.

Positions available in Clackamas County and Portland.

Please visit www.northwestserviceacademy.org for more information.

MORE JOB OPPORTUNITIES

can be found in Job Seekers at the
Master Recycler Forum.
www.MasterRecycler.org

