

Basics on Commercial Recycling Requirements

Master Recyclers learn that businesses plus construction & demolition are two important pieces in the region's recycling puzzle. Because of the size of the two sectors and amount of material generated, their recycling practices can have huge impacts on our region's goals to reduce, reuse and recycle. For that reason, Metro and local governments offer special technical assistance programs to help them improve waste reduction.

The regional decision makers realize that an incentive-based approach alone will not meet goals. Therefore, new requirements for the business and construction communities have recently been enacted. It is important Master Recyclers understand these requirements, particularly those doing payback in green teams and improving recycling systems at work.

Encouraging Regional Recycling in Businesses

All kinds of businesses throughout the Portland metropolitan area are doing their part by recycling at work. However, during an average year, businesses still send more than 100,000 tons of recyclable paper and containers to our local landfills.



Yvonne Garcia (Class 33) and Cyd Cannizzaro (Class 31) now Recycling at Work Specialists.

To encourage recycling in our region, Metro has adopted Business Recycling Requirements (BRR). BRR state that businesses must recycle the same items residents already recycle at home. Each local jurisdiction is working to implement these requirements and will notify businesses when they go into effect. In general, businesses will be asked to:

- Recycle paper, cardboard and containers (aluminum cans, plastic bottles and glass).
- Ensure there are containers for collection of these recyclables.
- Post signs at collection areas, indicating which materials should be recycled.

While this is a Metro requirement, local governments are responsible for enforcement. Most cities and counties have adopted local ordinances to match the Metro rules and are currently in the final stages of planning enforcement policies and processes. Most are matching Metro's goal of a 50% recycling rate in the business sector, while Portland is aiming for 75%. These recycling rates are not to be confused with the requirements made on businesses. Businesses are not being required to recycle their waste to 50% and 75%. The rates are the goals Metro is requiring local jurisdictions to aim towards achieving in the business sector. One strategy for meeting the 50% and 75% goals is to require that businesses recycle paper and containers. Another is to offer technical assistance to identify other materials to recycling and to improve waste prevention strategies.

Construction, Remodeling and Demolition Waste

In the metro region, an ordinance entitled Enhanced Dry Waste Recovery Program (EDWRP) requires that dry waste from construction and demolition be processed at a dry waste recovery facility to pull out recyclables before the waste is dumped in a landfill.

Portland has additional requirements. For all building projects within the city where the total job cost (including both demolition and construction phases) exceeds \$50,000, the general contractor shall ensure that 75% of the solid waste produced on the job site is recycled. In addition, the following materials must be recycled or reused:

- Rubble (concrete/asphalt)
- Land Clearing Debris
- Corrugated Cardboard
- Metal
- Wood

The general contractor is responsible to ensure recycling at the job site, including recycling by sub-contractors, and for completing a [Pre-Construction Recycling Plan Form](#). Where no general contractor has been named on the permit application, the property owner is considered the responsible party. Enforcement will be complaint driven and a penalty of up to \$500 may be imposed on those who do not comply.



Waste Management Hillsboro Landfill Dry Waste Material Recovery Facility.

Master Recyclers Tour PDX

Written by **Chatten Hayes (Class 44)**

Travelers. Security. Airplanes. Vehicles. Vendors. And one Aviation Environmental Compliance Manager dedicated to reducing waste at Portland International Airport.



Master Recyclers happily at tour.

Stan Jones has managed the Port of Portland's PDX recycling program since 2003. And he's a Master Recycler too, so he proudly shared some the terminal's processes with Masters Audrey Desler, Felictia Montebianco, Lisa Clifton, Kelly Bryan, Su-wen Chen, Mitzi Sugar, Gustav Sculptor and Chatten Hayes on April 7th. He educates many people in his position, but his favorite audiences are well-informed already. "You're a perfect group for this presentation," he says.

Airplanes off-load about four tons of waste daily, nearly 40 percent of the 10 tons of daily waste generated by PDX terminal operations. Regrettably, some companies aren't doing the recycling job they should. For example, many airlines aren't as green as advocates of recycling would like to see. Captive passengers and earnest flight crews may not be aware that many bags containing deplaned recyclables (like cans and newspapers) eventually head to the terminal's dumpsters, not recycling bins.



"Horizon is one of the few airlines with a successful deplaned waste recycling program," according to Stan.

One factor is the complexity of "deplaning" waste. Many hands have roles in removal: flight attendants, flight kitchen staff, and cabin service providers.

A key problem for keeping good processes rolling is the turnover in staffing at PDX restaurants and businesses. For practical purposes, PDX is a city of 10,000.

Stan is an innovator of better terminal practices. Those pre-security liquids bins in Boston and, and Austin? They were Stan's idea, tried here first. "We've been a leader in many areas of airport recycling," he says modestly. Beverages collected at the stations are poured into the sanitary sewer, and the empty bottles are easily recyclable. Another bonus: reduced janitorial costs at checkpoints due to weight reduction.

Stan would like to see is a refill station after checkpoints, so travelers don't struggle refilling bottles at drippy angles from fountains. But guess what? Airport vendors want to sell the bottled water and bottle refilling stations are viewed by some as lost sales. "You've got the business component of this I'm constantly reminded of," he says.

Water is one thing, but what about that other ubiquitous Portland beverage? Over six *thousand* cups of coffee leave the airport's many coffee bars *each day*. Stan's got a plan in cooperation with Starbucks. After amassing 300 pounds of used cups, the load heads north to Longview Fibre and the cups are tossed into the pulper.

Water is one thing, but what about that other ubiquitous Portland beverage? Over six *thousand* cups of coffee leave the airport's many coffee bars *each day*. Stan's got a plan to experiment in cooperation with Starbucks. After amassing 300 pounds of used cups, they are headed north to Longview Fiber to toss the cups into a pulper and see if they are able to extract enough fiber to recycle to be worth the costs.

Some materials come full circle much more easily. Terminal food vendors' filtered waste grease is reprocessed and returns to fuel PDX's maintenance fleet in the form of B20 biodiesel blend.

Stan never fails to remind people to ask the "right" question: not, "How do we get all those recyclables out of that huge pile?" but rather, "Why is that pile so darn big?"

Certified Master Recyclers

Earth Day saw Master Recyclers all over the region, and seven of them certified while they enjoyed the festivities.



Sabrina at the South Tabor Neighborhood picnic.

Sabrina Litton (Class 38)

participated in and spent many hours to organize recycling and reuse at her Richmond Neighborhood Cleanup.

Lynne Johnson (Class 44) spent her payback hours close to home in Eastmoreland at the Farmers' Market, in the neighborhood and at school events. She also started a green team at her work.

Elizabeth Cole (Class 44) started her hours by helping the City of Portland canvass underserved business districts, letting them know about the Recycle at Work services and resources. Liz also talked with her neighbors in Cornelius and Hillsboro at several community events. She plans to continue working on an effort to start a Hillsboro Tool Lending Library.

Barb Mc Dermott (Class 44) spent most of her hours in North Portland including organizing the St. Johns Neighborhood Cleanup. Called Trash 2 Treasure, this cleanup is the best model of promoting reuse in Portland. While people can drive to the back to recycle bulky waste, the front and inside of the church is where all the activity is found. Neighbors swapped more than 45,000 items for reuse!



Lynne and Courtney (Class 44) at Eastmoreland Milk Jug Race.



Aimee celebrating a great event.

Aimee Fahey (Class 46) organized the Adidas Earth Day Information Fair this year with multiple vendors, food and fun and a lot of work!

KB Mercer (Class 46) dreams big! Starting a new non-profit called ARTSMARTpdx, the effort will be a one-stop reuse and recycling warehouse for the performing arts. Artists will be able to come to there to swap sets, costumes and more.



KB and Sal Del Cid (Class 46) wearing hats KB created for the Better Living Show.

Wendy Posson (Class 46) has been tabling at all sorts of fun events including City Repair Earth Day, Fix-It Fair and Home and Garden Show. She also started a blog about waste reduction called [Trashing My Reputation](#) where she shares her enthusiasm and knowledge to a community of 300-400 readers.

Volunteer Opportunities

Make Your Recycling Efforts Count.

Tip Your Lid



Tip Your Lid – Literature Distribution

Knock and talk and distribute educational door hangers in Washington County to help residents learn what is and is not recyclable at home. A great opportunity to enjoy the weather, improve recycling efforts and gain outreach experience. Literature and route map available from Washington County offices.

Contact: Michelle Pimentel, 503-8746-3651,
Michelle_Pimentel@co.washington.or.us

Milwaukie Farmers Market

Between Harrison St. and Jefferson St, Milwaukie

Sundays, May 22nd, June 12th and June 19th 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Join Master Recycler Mentor (and Master Gardener) Rob Kappa (Class 37) to staff a recycling table at this bustling farmers market. If you can't make this date, check the MR calendar for other dates. Rob will be there many dates throughout the summer.

Contact: Rob Kappa, (503)653-9575, falkor01@comcast.net

Metro Next Adventure – Sunday Parkways

Ed Benedict Community Park, SE Powell Blvd & SE 102nd Ave., Portland

Sunday, May 22nd

10 a.m. - 2 p.m. (includes set up)

1 - 5 p.m. (includes tear down)

Join Metro staff in the brand new "Bin it to Win it" recycling bean bag game and also Greener Cleaners.

**DON'T FORGET TO LOG
YOUR VOLUNTEER HOURS**
Visit www.masterrecycler.org
and click on the Members tab

Contact: Maria Davila at 503-813-7578, Maria.Davila@oregonmetro.gov

New Columbia Village Market Grand Opening

4632 N Trenton St, Portland

Saturday, May 28th Time TBD

Share the Be Resourceful message and kitchen themed resources with residents at the grand opening event.

The Village Market is committed to providing its community with quality, fresh, healthy, affordable groceries. The Store will be a convenient, safe and clean environment for everyone, and it will reflect the needs of the community. The Village Market will be community governed and will provide jobs for youth and adults.

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

Beaverton Recycling Day

3950 SW Cedar Hills Blvd– former Westgate Theater site, Beaverton

Saturday, June 4th

Shifts: 8 a.m. to noon and 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. (Includes set up and break down)

Deadline to sign up is June 1st.

Join this free annual “hard-to-recycle” collection event. More than 1,000 vehicles have drop off electronics, TVs, small appliances, metal, light bulbs, bicycles and Styrofoam. This year plastics will be added to the mix (rigid, media, and film). Help ensure the plastics are properly sorted. Lunch is provided.

Contact: Jason Wachs, 503-526-2543, jwachs@BeavertonOregon.gov

Lake Oswego Community Wide Clean Up Day

4101 Kruseway, Lake Oswego

Saturday, June 4th 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.



Help with recycling and reuse questions at an info booth at the West End Building in Lake Oswego. The Community Warehouse will be on site to collect usable furniture and household items. E-waste, scrap metal, yard debris will also be collected.

Contact: Amy Monahan, 971-404-7008, gpmohan@comcast.net

Lake Oswego Farmers' Market

Millennium Plaza Park, 200 First St, Lake Oswego

Sundays, June 11th, July 9th and July 23rd

Shifts: 8:15 a.m. – 11 a.m. and 11 a.m. – 1:45 p.m.

There will be an info booth where Master Recyclers will educate people on a special focus theme.

Contact: Robin Woolman, woolman@gmail.com

Raleigh Hills Business Association Community Fair

Executive Building, 6500 SW Beaverton-Hillsdale Hwy, Portland

Sunday June 12th 10:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. (includes 30 minutes set-up/break down)

Table about recycling and waste reduction at this community fair. Community Warehouse will be on hand to accept housewares and furniture donations. When you make this contact, you will be asked to fill out a few forms to set up the table. There is no fee for tabling, it is just a formality.

Contact for event: Toni Curry, RHBA Co-Chair, 503-730-8869, currytalk@gmail.com

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

Lake Oswego Festival of the Arts

Lakewood Center for the Arts, 368 South State St, Lake Oswego

Friday, June 24th and Saturday, June 25th

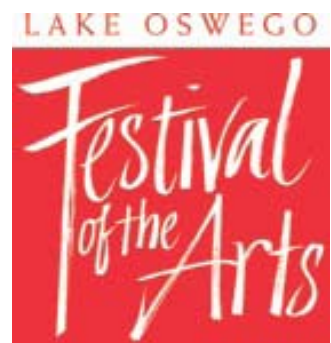
10 a.m. – 8 p.m.

Sunday, June 26th 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Shifts: 10 a.m. – 1 p.m., 1 p.m. – 4 p.m., and 4 p.m. – close

Staff an information booth at this fun creative arts festival.

Contact: Pete Marfell, 503-697-6273, petermarfell@comcast.net



Good in the Neighborhood

King School Park, NE 6th Ave. & Humboldt St, Portland

Saturday, June 25th

Shifts: 2:30 - 6 p.m. and 6 - 9:30 p.m.

Staff the Be Resourceful table at this event.

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

Sunday Parkways – North

Park to be announced, Portland

Sunday, June 26th Shifts: 10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. and 1:30 – 4:30 p.m.

Staff the Be Resourceful table at this event.

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

Sunday Parkways – Metro Next Adventure

Peninsula City Park, N Albina Ave, N Kerby Ave & N Rosa Parks Way, Portland

Sunday, June 26th

10 a.m. - 2 p.m. (includes set up)

1 - 5 p.m. (includes tear down)

Join Metro staff in the brand new “Bin it to Win it” recycling bean bag game and also Greener Cleaners. You will be working alongside two - four experts engaging the public in these fun activities. They need your recycling expertise.

Contact: Maria Davila at 503-813-7578, Maria.Davila@oregonmetro.gov

Conservation News

Master Recycler Gathering

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

Wednesday, June 15th 7 p.m.

Join fellow Master Recyclers every 3rd Wednesday of the month in 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 Surgar, sweetgreenevents@gmail.com

or Kevin McCarter, kkavn@yahoo.com



SCRAP's Rebel Craft Rumble

Clinton Street Theater, 2522 SE Clinton St, Portland
Wednesday, June 15th 6:30 p.m.

Local crafters who believe they've got enough game to earn the title of Portland's Craft Master will square off and put their talents to the test in front of a live audience at SCRAP's annual Rebel Craft Rumble.

For more information, visit [SCRAP online](#).

Job Opportunities

Portland Parks & Recreation City Nature East Zone manager

Job description and application instructions available at www.portlandonline.com/bhr/jobs.
Closes June 6th.

Environment Oregon Preservation Advocate

job description available at www.environmentoregon.org/jobs. Closes May 30th.

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 Steve Cohen, Chatten Hayes (Class 44), Wing Grabowski, J Lauren Norris, and Alicia Polacok.