

## September News

### Event Recycling and Master Recyclers

Big or small, community gatherings can generate a good deal of waste and consume large quantities of natural resources. Event organizers may know a lot about organizing a marathon, but not what materials can be



*Kristen Wildensee (Class 35) with the Montavilla Farmers' Market waste sort. Photo by Meredith Sorensen.*

recycled, how to create clear signage, and how to order containers for recycling. Master Recyclers are increasingly playing a role in helping small events achieve greener, more responsible plans for recovery at their events. Large-scale regional events will usually need a professional team to pull off the necessary coordination, but a small community event is a great project for a Master Recycler.

For this reason, before the new class starts in two weeks, the Master Recycler Manual will have a brand new chapter devoted to this topic. You will be able to read the latest version of the Manual in the members' section of the website by next week.

In the meantime, you may be interested in a few case studies of projects where Master Recyclers have planned, implemented and evaluated recovery at events.

In the last year Master Recyclers have offered their expertise in waste recover to help over 15 community organizations green their events, helping recover thousands of pounds of waste and offering public education to almost 11,000 participants.



[Montavilla Farmer's Market](#) Having already accomplished great recycling and compost rates at the market, **Kristin Wildensee (Class 35)**, with assistance from **Dominique Roberts (Class 41)**, decided to work up the waste reduction hierarchy. With the help of the Portland Recycles! Small Grants Program, Kristin purchased durable dishware for this pilot project. During the month of August, all food vendors served their food on the dishware and the public returned the dishware to the market.

[St. Vincent's Company Picnic](#) **Christine Bloom (Class 39)** and **Helena Lee (Class 41)** worked on composting and recycling at their company picnic. Their efforts were even recognized by a story in *The Oregonian*.

Master Recyclers can play an important role in event recovery, but not all roles may be appropriate for payback. The mission of the Master Recycler Program is to provide education. The best use of Master Recyclers at an event is to offer expertise in waste reduction. Helping strategize, organize, implement and evaluate a recovery plan, and set recovery goals at an event is a perfect use of payback hours.

Master Recyclers can also assist in designing outreach materials and messages to participants about why they should recycle and what materials are accepted. While it is not expected that Master Recyclers would recruit volunteers, training and supervising volunteers who have been recruited by the community organization is another great way to help.

#### **Conservation Factoid of the Month**

Do I really need a new shirt? Residents in our region discard **366,000 pounds of material every day** to the Goodwill of the Columbia-Willamette. That amounts to 61 trailer loads! There must be a cool shirt in there somewhere.

Some work that is necessary for successful event recycling does not fit the educational requirement for Master Recycler payback. Volunteers are often needed to stand at recycling/composting stations to monitor containers. This type of activity will not count toward Master Recycler Certification if that is the only activity you are offering. Hauling, sorting or auditing waste would also not be appropriate primary roles for Master Recyclers.

## Master Recycler Plastics Roundups for 2009-2010

As promised, it is time to revisit the possibility of conducting Master Recycler Plastics Roundups. These events were made possible because the innovative recycling company in Brooks, Agri-Plas, partnered with Master Recyclers in 2005. The events offered Portland-area residents free collection of hard to recycle plastic.

When recycling markets dropped last year for the niche plastics that the company collect at Roundups, future events were put on hold until this fall. After an in-depth conversation with Agri-plas' Vice President, Allen Jongsma, it has been determined that, unfortunately, Roundups will not be possible again in 2009-2010. Here are a few more facts Allen had to share:



*At a 2005 Plastics Roundup: Pat Pullen-Jones (Class 27), Bob Welch (Class 26), Bruce Barton (Class 29), Amy Steve (Class 24), Cheryl Petersen (Class 25), Donna Journeay (Class 27).*

- Press and billboards have been spotted all over the state toting how the lottery is helping a local company (Agri-plas) turn plastic to oil. Agri-plas has been collecting plastic and recovering it for petroleum which they sell to petroleum companies.
- Agri-plas was unique in making regular pick ups of non-sorted, miscellaneous plastics at Master Recycler Roundups, neighborhood cleanups and businesses. The markets shift has changed their mode of plastic collection in the area. They now will only come to specific businesses that can give them large loads of one type of plastic at a time.
- Agri-Plas does not see this approach changing in the next year.
- New Seasons is an exception as they pay Agri-plas to pick up their plastics.

As we close this Master Recycler Program project, it is important to remember its impact. Master Recyclers collected over 120 tons of plastic to be recycled!

When the Roundups started it was difficult to recycle any plastics outside of curbside and grocery bags. Much has changed since then. It is important to let folks in the region know that they don't have to throw all that plastic away. Far West Fibers recycles almost all of the same

plastics once collected at the Roundups (the only exception is film that can not be stretched easily). Far West Fibers even takes paper, metal and glass. They are open every day of the week, never have lines, and require less sorting than an event.

Please also let people in the community know that recycling is still the right thing to do! Recycling plastic helps save energy, reduce green house gas and conserve our natural resources.

## Total Reclaim Tour by Robin Rogers (Class 38)

Nineteen Master Recyclers toured the e-waste recycling facility. Everyone who attended was impressed. We were amazed to see what is inside a television set and how quickly these marvelous items can be reduced to the more basic components. Total Reclaim can dismantle about 10 TV's per hour. It is even more fascinating to realize that about a ton of raw material goes into making one television.

The company takes in e-waste and sells pelletized plastic to national markets. They also recycle components from the light bulbs that contain mercury (CFLs) and Styrofoam. It is interesting to note that a container of Styrofoam weighs about a ton and a ton of reprocessed Styrofoam is about the size of a cord of wood. The whole presentation was very well done.

*Thank you, Robin, for organizing the tour. What a great opportunity!*

## First two members of Class 41 certified this month

**Robert Bowles (Class 41)** tabled at farmers markets, Sunday Parkways, Alberta St Fair, and Good in the Neighborhood, as well as presenting at various neighborhood and community group meetings to let people know about a great new waste prevention resource in town: [Northeast Portland Tool Library](#).

**Helena Lee (Class 41)** offered her Spanish skills at Explorando El Columbia Slough. She also helped start a green team at her branch of Providence



*Picture by Russel Hollenbeck (Class 35).*

Hospital and recovery plan for the company picnic. But Helena has spent much of her payback hours in her own front room, inviting neighbors and friends to talks in her home about all things waste reduction related.

## Class 39 Also Earned Two More Certificates

Many Master Recyclers will recognize **Audrey Desler (Class 39)** who set up information tables at the PSU and Eastbank Portland Farmers' Markets and mobilized 17 other Master Recyclers to staff them. Thanks to her organizing, Master Recyclers had over one thousand conversations about recycling, waste prevention and greener cleaners.

**Livia Blaszak (Class 39)** has been a huge help in spreading the recycling word in Hillsboro. She tabled at the County Fair, Intel's Earth Day and Public Works day at Washington Square. She canvassed Hillsboro apartments and made Portland appearances talking to Wal-Mart customers about tote bags, participated in a Fix-It Fair and presented to a downtown Kiwanis Club.

## Recycling in Spanish Workshop and New Resources

The summer Master Recycler workshop designed to help Spanish speaking Master Recyclers was a great success. We had a nice Saturday morning *charla* (chat), learning vocabulary, frequently asked questions, networking, and exchanging ideas about waste reduction outreach in the Spanish-speaking community. A huge thank you to our three fantastic teachers, **Maria Elena Guerra (Class 27)**, **Astrid Ollerenshaw (Class 41)**, and **Karen Guillen-Chapman** from the City of Gresham.

In the process of preparing this workshop, the teachers developed some exciting new resources. The Master Recycler website has some new links that include:

- [English-Spanish recycling vocabulary list](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions in Spanish](#)
- [Flyer on plastics recycling](#)
- [Power point on residential recycling in Spanish created by Astrid](#)

## Volunteer Opportunities

### Reusable Bag Survey

Training: BPS North, Ecotrust, 3rd floor conference room,  
721 NW 9th Ave, Portland  
Wednesday, September 9th 6 – 7:30 p.m.

Conduct survey: Various days, times and locations, September 12th – 18th

Help the Bureau of Planning and Sustainability to conduct a reusable bag survey outside grocery stores in Portland. The brief survey will be brief and will gauge shoppers use or nonuse of reusable bags to observe barriers to bringing or remembering to bring bags.

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

### **Oregon City Farmers Market**

Clackamas County Public Service Center, 2051 Kaen Rd, Oregon City  
Saturday, August 29th 8:30 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Choose one of the new Clackamas County kits created by Master Recyclers: Recycling Yes/No, Greener Cleaners, or Composting.

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

### **Montavilla Farmers Market Durable Dish Project**

SE 76th & SE Stark Streets, Portland  
Sunday, August 30th, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Montavilla Farmers Market will be replacing disposable serviceware at one or more of our ready-to-eat vendors with durable, reusable plates. Help make this project a success by providing education & outreach to the public at the participating vendors' booths or by conducting onsite customer experience surveys.

Contact: Kristin Wildensee, (503)330-8232, kkww@comcast.net

### **Hillsboro Farmers Market**

Main Street and 2nd Ave, Hillsboro  
First Saturday of every month  
Shifts: 7:30 a.m. – 11 a.m. and  
10:30 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Join Heidi Lambek (Class 39) tabling on recycling and Greener Cleaner (and worms later in the season). Times include set up and breakdown.

**Don't forget to log  
your volunteer hours**  
Visit [www.masterrecycler.org](http://www.masterrecycler.org)  
and click on the Members tab.

Contact: Heidi Lambek, (503)475-5850, oregontreehugger@gmail.com

## **Art in the Pearl Event Recycling Volunteer Training**

Various locations, The Pearl District, Portland  
Saturday, September 5th to Sunday, September 7th  
Shifts: 9:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.

This event has big plans for reducing and recovering waste, with signage and paid staff to organize and haul recycling, and volunteers to staff recycling stations. Come help by instructing volunteers at the beginning of both workshifts the three days of the Festival. For more information on the festival, visit [www.artinthepearl.com](http://www.artinthepearl.com).

Contact: Ginger Steele, (503)809-9353, gingersteele@insomniapottery.com

## **Portland Fall Home and Garden Show**

Expo Center, 2060 N Marine Drive, Portland  
Thursday, September 10th and Friday, September 11th 11 a.m. – 8 p.m.  
Saturday, September 12th and Sunday September 13th, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Help staff the Metro booth at this event.

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

## **Oregon City Farmers Market**

Clackamas County Public Service Center, 2051 Kaen Rd, Oregon City  
Saturday, September 12th 8:30 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Choose one of the new Clackamas County kits created by Master Recyclers: Recycling Yes/No, Greener Cleaners, or Composting.

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

## **Da Vinci School Ribbon Cutting Event**

2508 NE Everett, Portland  
Saturday, September 12th 3 – 7 p.m.

Da Vinci School is excited to officially open their building and planning a combination ribbon-cutting and “back to school” party. They plan to have hundreds of participants, professional musicians, local restaurant vendors.

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

## **Oreco Farmers Market**

NE Oreco Station Parkway and NE 61st, Oreco

Second Sunday of every month

Shifts: 9:30 a.m. – noon and 11:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

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

## **Gresham Farmers' Market**

NW 3rd St., between Miller & Main, Gresham

Saturday, September 19th 8 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. (shifts available)

Join the City of Gresham to table on proper recycling preparation and waste reduction.

Contact: Shaunna Sutcliffe, (503)618-2694, Shaunna.sutcliffe@greshamoregon.gov



*Armando Espinosa (Class 31) at Gresham Farmer's Market.*

## **Oregon E-Cycles**

### **Tableat Green**

### **Renaissance Fair**

Holladay Park NE 11th

Ave & Holladay St,

Portland

Saturday, September 19th 11 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. – 7 p.m.

Sunday, September 20th 11 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. and 1:30 p.m. – 4 p.m.

Help spread the word about Oregon E-Cycles, Oregon's statewide electronics recycling program. DEQ will provide a display and materials for the event.

For more information, visit [www.oregonecycles.org](http://www.oregonecycles.org) and [www.green-renaissance.com/fair](http://www.green-renaissance.com/fair).

Contact: Kelly Panciera, (503)229-5830, panciera.kelly@deq.state.or.us

## Senior Center Presentation

Hollywood Senior Center 1820 NE 40th, Portland  
September 14th, 21st or 28th anytime after 2pm.

This senior center invites a Master Recycler to present on residential recycling in Portland, with a question and answer.

Contact: Amber Kern-Johnson, (503)288-8303,  
amber.kern-johnson@hollywoodseniorcenter.org  
Kit contact: Alicia Polacok, (503)823-7107, apolacok@ci.portland.or.us



*Miriam Reeber (Class 40) with the Clackamas Greener Cleaner kit.*

## Clackamas County School District Open House

Mount Pleasant Elementary School, 1232 Linn Ave, Oregon City  
Tuesday, September 22nd  
5:30-7:30 P.M.

Check out a kit from Clackamas County and table at this family back to school event. Kids K-12 and their families will attend from all over the county.

Contact: Eileen Stapp, (503)742-4454, eileens@co.clackamas.or.us

## City of Portland Water Bureau Sustainability and Safety Fair

1900 Interstate Avenue, Portland  
Thursday, September 24th 1 – 4 p.m.

Staff a recycling booth at this City fair for field crews of the Water Bureau. Check out a kit on residential recycling and answer questions.

Contact: Kim Dinan, (503)823-4724, kim.dinan@ci.portland.or.us  
Kit contact: Alicia Polacok, (503)823-7107, apolacok@ci.portland.or.us

## Conservation News

### E-News on Sustainability

The City of Portland's Bureau of Planning and Sustainability has launched its first e-newsletter. Get the latest news about planning and

sustainability in Portland delivered to your email. Find out the status on the Climate Action Plan, Portland Recycles! Small Grants Program, Clean Energy Works home pilot project, Solarize Portland in SE, and more. To subscribe to the newsletter go to [www.portlandonline.com/bps](http://www.portlandonline.com/bps) and click "Subscribe" at the top right.

## Junk to Funk Recycled Fashion Show Contest CALL FOR ARTISTS

Submissions due October 14th, 2009

Elysium Events in collaboration with SCRAP present the 4th annual Junk to Funk Recycled Fashion Show is encouraging you to dive into the nearest dumpster and come out with a flashy, functional, funky getup to show off on the runway! Junk to Funk are looking for new works of wearable art and couture fashion created from "trash" for the 2009 show.



The 2009 show will be held November 14th at the Crystal Ballroom in Portland, Oregon. For Junk to Funk rules, instructions, and application please visit [www.junktofunk.org](http://www.junktofunk.org).

## Job Opportunities

### **Oregon Sustainability Center Fundraising Director**

For a full job description and application instructions, please visit [www.oeonline.org/about-us/jobs](http://www.oeonline.org/about-us/jobs).

### **Community Cycling Center Administrator**

For a full job description and application instructions, please visit [www.CommunityCyclingCenter.org](http://www.CommunityCyclingCenter.org).

### **Center for Earth Leadership Admin Assistant**

For a full job description and application instructions, please visit [www.earthleaders.org](http://www.earthleaders.org).

### **MORE JOB OPPORTUNITIES**

can be found in Job Seekers at the  
Master Recycler Forum.  
[www.MasterRecycler.org](http://www.MasterRecycler.org)

