

In Brief

A Very Good Year

It's been two months since I completed my Master Recycler training and two weeks since I started my new job coordinating the Master Recycler program. The year's off to a great start.

Over the past six months the MR program has been in a period of transition as funding and personnel changes have provided some challenges. Luckily that's all behind us and we can move on to the 3 Rs—Refresh, Reconnect and Revitalize. We'll be updating the Master Recycler brochures, presentations and slide shows; creating new payback opportunities; and providing opportunities for continuing education and gatherings where MRs can meet to share their knowledge and experiences.

Look to the newsletter for new features, including profiles of Master Recyclers and projects, a question of the month, and more waste reduction news. If you have a slow internet connection and are concerned about download times, let me know and we'll send a text-only message and a link to the web site.

The MR database lists 483 course graduates, including 157 who have completed their payback hours. It would be great to hear from all of you. Take a minute and hit your reply button, send a note or give me a call. Even if it's just to say you're still out there. Let me know how we can help you in your outreach or send a question for the newsletter, suggestions for future trainings, projects or news.

According to DEQ, Metro's solid waste recovery rate actually slipped a bit from 2001 to 2002. While the rate of recovery has slightly improved, our rate of disposal has grown even more. I believe the Master Recyclers can make a positive contribution to turning these numbers around.

Thanks for your ongoing commitment to the

MR program. I hope to meet many of you as we move into 2004. It's going to be a great year.

- Steve Cohen

Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities

OREGON GREEN SCHOOLS SUMMIT

Spend the day with representatives from schools across the State at the 8th annual Oregon Green Schools Summit! Assist with registration, hands-on sessions and workshops, the exhibit hall, lunchtime recycling and a variety of other tasks as these schools share their waste reduction success stories.

Lunch will be provided. Following your volunteer assignment, you are welcome to stay for the entertainment, closing activities and a tour of the Nike campus!

LOCATION: Tiger Woods Conference Center, Nike World Headquarters - One Bowerman Drive, Beaverton, Oregon

SHIFTS AVAILABLE: Friday, February 27th, 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

CONTACT: Jan Rankin, City of Gresham - 503-618-2613, Jan.Rankin@ci.gresham.or.us

COMPOSTING DEMONSTRATION AT LEACH BOTANICAL GARDENS

Becky Tate (MR Class 25) requests two volunteers to help lead a composting demonstration at Leach Botanical Garden as a part of the Johnson Creek Watershed Wide Event. The event incorporates 12 different workshops and restoration sites throughout the Watershed.

LOCATION: Leach Botanical Garden, 6704 SE 122nd Ave., Portland

SHIFTS AVAILABLE: Saturday, February 28th from 9:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.



MASTER
RECYCLER
PROGRAM

ADMINISTERED BY:

CITY OF PORTLAND

OFFICE OF SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT

721 NW 9TH AVENUE, SUITE
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PORTLAND, OR 97209

503-823-7530

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www.masterrecycler.org

Bridging the gap
between awareness
and action by
motivating people
to reduce waste in
their homes and
workplaces.

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 Office of Sustainable Development
 721 NW 9th Avenue, Suite 350
 Portland, OR 97209

Dan Saltzman, Commissioner
 Susan Anderson, Director

The Master Recycler Program is supported by Metro, the City of Portland, Clackamas and Washington Counties, Recycling Advocates, and the Department of Environmental Quality.

CONTACT: Becky Tate, Johnson Creek Watershed Council, (503) 239-3932, becky@jcw.org

EVENT INFORMATION: www.jcw.org/wee.htm

CNF EMPLOYEE FAIR

Staff a Master Recycler table at an education fair for 1,300 employees of CNF, a global transportation company.

LOCATION: 1717 NW 21st, Portland

SHIFTS AVAILABLE: March 4, 9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

CONTACT: Steve Cohen at masterrecycler@ci.portland.or.us, 503.823.7530.

Welcome
 Washington County

Washington County has joined Clackamas County Solid Waste, Metro, the City of Portland, DEQ and Recycling Advocates as a supporter of the Master Recycler program. The County's participation will further strengthen our region-wide outreach. We'll be working on more payback opportunities in Washington County and holding our Fall 2004 class on the "west side."

Spring Master
 Recycler Class

The spring MR class will be held at the Clackamas County's Sunnybrook Service Center on Tuesdays during April and May. Information and an application form will be available on the web site.

Thanks

A big thank-you to Carolyn Collopy for coordinating the MR program and leading Class 25 in addition to her other duties at the OSD office. Carolyn did an excellent job and I'm sure she will especially miss logging in volunteer hours and keeping up the databases.

Job Opportunity

Northwest Service Academy has a few Americorps positions open. The contract period begins immediately and continues through December 31st. One of the positions is working with schools throughout Clackamas County delivering the waste reduction message. Visit the Northwest Service Academy web site (www.northwestserviceacademy.org) for more information.

Fix-It Fair

Thanks to Fix-It Fair volunteers Deborah Hofmann, Denise Diermeier, Katie Evans,

Becky Tate, Heidi Dragoo, Nancy Dragoo and Amy Ray. Over 700 people can out for the two events, even though the first one was in the middle of a snowstorm.



ReTHINK 2004

ReThink 2004 is an educational series designed to identify specific actions the building industry can take to mitigate impacts on the environment. The opening lecture features Dr. Richard Gammon, a University of Washington expert on climate change and Rhys Roth, Co-Executive Director of Olympia-based Climate Solutions. They will outline the regional significance to global warming and discuss future natural resource impacts on the Northwest.

Tickets are normally \$10, but Master Recyclers will be admitted free when they show their badge at the door. Thursday, February 5, 2004, 7 p.m. - 9 p.m., in Room 355 of Portland State University's Smith Memorial Center (1825 SW Broadway). For more information on ReThink 2004 classes, visit: www.green-rated.org/g Rated/windows/newsworthy.html