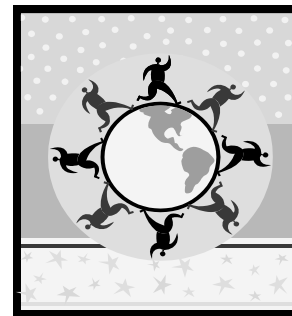


# OSU Master Recycler Program In Brief January, 2003



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

## Volunteer Opportunity News

Thank you to everyone helping at the Fix-it Fairs. All of the volunteer opportunities are full. If you signed-up to volunteer you will be contacted closer to the events with additional information.

Formal volunteer opportunities are slow right now but will start picking up this spring. It is the perfect time to:

- Dig in to those individual projects,
- Plan a Home Ecoparty,
- Help at the MR program office creating new displays,
- research a waste reduction topic of interest to you,
- Get in touch with local groups in need of volunteers like SCRAP (see below) or the Rebuilding Center (counts for payback), or
- Call around to groups (scouts, church groups, clubs) to offer your speaking talents.

If your effort helps educate people about waste prevention and recycling then it counts for payback hours.

### 1. Volunteers needed at SCRAP.

Back to SCRAP artists, entertainers, activity leaders and general helpers needed

SCRAP--The School and Community Reuse Action Project--is a 501(c)(3) non-profit that collects reusable items from local businesses and distributes them to educators, artists, families and kids.

Their mission is to:

- Keep valuable materials out of the landfill.
- Offer these materials at a low cost.
- Inspire the creative reuse of materials.

To volunteer contact [volunteer@scrapaction.org](mailto:volunteer@scrapaction.org) or Molly at 503-294-0769.

**The next Master Recycler class will begin Tuesday March 11, 2003 and will meet at Sunnybrook Services Center near Clackamas Town Center.**

**Please spread the word!**

### Did You Know...?

A few people know that I am feeling the need to be at home with my sons more and am planning on leaving the MR Coordinator position in June. I am reducing my hours from twenty to ten a week as of January 7, 2003. I will be in the office every Tuesday.

Jordis Yost, currently Master Gardener Program Assistant, will begin assisting the MR program ten hours a week starting in January. Jordis brings a wealth of talents to the program, including organizational skills and wonderful artistic abilities.

Together we will coordinate the spring class and maintain the program. Please be patient with us as we work out the details of this new arrangement. I will continue to regularly check my e-mail from home. Jordis can be reached at 503-725-2032.

The Master Recycler Program continues to be a strong program in the Metro region. Classes are planned for spring and fall of 2003 and funding is secure. I will pass on any job opening information as it comes available, for all of you potential coordinators out there.

-Megan Cogswell

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### **Clarification of Recycling Advocates Article**

Some folks may have seen an article in the Recycling Advocates newsletter about the Master Recycler Program. The following clarifies the article. Call Megan with any questions.

Investment by Multnomah County as a partner with state and federal governments in the funding of the OSU Extension Service-Multnomah County programs was cut for FY03. Extension is currently in discussions with the county to address what kind of partnership the county desires and to look for ways in which local public funding might exist that can sustain OSU Extension education programs in the county.

The OSU Extension Master Recycler program is a self-sustaining program through the investment by METRO, the City of Portland, and Clackamas County Solid Waste Programs. It is, however, dependent upon sustained operations of OSU Extension in Multnomah County, which serves as the program's administrative home.

Support from Recycling Advocates to Multnomah County officials for finding a way to sustain OSU Extension in Multnomah County is very much appreciated. Additionally, it will aid to help sustain the continued operation of the OSU Extension Master Recycler program through the Multnomah County Extension Office.

### **WRAIN List and Website**

The Waste Reduction Information Action Network

(WRAIN) hosts an excellent website for people interested in waste reduction for businesses. The network also hosts a free waste reduction list serve. Check it out at:  
<http://www.wrain.org/>

### **BRAG Grant Program**

The Business Recycling Awards Group (BRAG) is offering grants for businesses interested in improving waste reduction. Applications are due by midnight on March 28, 2003.

Some ideas on how to use the money might be to train employees on duplexing; track cost savings of paper use; create a "green" newsletter; start or maintain a green team; set up a program to reduce packaging; create an awards program for employees; buy a duplex printer attachment, a new copy machine, reusable dishware or mugs, a dishwasher, recycled-content supplies or reusable supplier bins.

For application information visit:  
<http://www.bragaward.org/nextstep.html>

### **Moving? Physically or Virtually**

Please remember to update your contact information if you moved or changed e-mail addresses. If you know of any MRs who moved out of the area please let me know.

### **Great Job Newest Certified Master Recyclers**

**Brent Wilson**  
**Christine Wilson**