

## MASTER RECYCLER OPEN HOUSE

**WHEN: Metro Regional Center, 600 N.E. Grand, Portland**

**WHERE: Thursday, February 16**

**WHEN: 7 – 9 P.M.**

**WHO: All Master Recyclers**

**WHAT: Light refreshments and a discussion with Oregon DEQ's ever-popular David Allaway who will speak on:**

Waste Prevention, Recycling and Composting:

Making the connection to energy conservation and global warming

We've all heard that recycling saves energy, and that landfills contribute to global warming, but how big are these impacts? How can recycling save energy given all the trucks used to collect recyclables and transport them to sometimes distant markets? What are the greenhouse gas benefits of recycling and composting? Is recyclability always the best criteria for selecting products and packaging? David will address three interrelated topics:

- Energy savings from waste prevention and recycling, including the relative importance of collection, transport, and end-markets.
- Greenhouse gas impacts of materials use and waste, and the surprisingly many different ways that recycling, composting, and disposal impact climate.
- DEQ's recently completed packaging waste prevention project, including a comprehensive life cycle inventory analysis of 26 different packaging options for shipping goods in e-commerce/catalog order fulfillment.

David's presentation affirms the waste management hierarchy (reduce, reuse, recycle) and the environmental benefits of prevention and recycling, but with several thought-provoking twists on conventional wisdom. Come prepared for a science-based but easy-to-follow presentation, and bring your hard questions about the environmental impacts of materials and waste.

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

### Fix-It Fair

Sign up for the third Fix-It Fair of the season on Saturday, January 28 at George Middle School (10000 N. Burr Avenue) in St. Johns from 8:30 a.m.-2 p.m. Volunteer for the entire day or a shift (8-11 or 11-2:30) at the Master Recycler booth that will focus on curbside recycling. Or, assist with Metro's compost outreach or toxics at their "Greener Cleaner" display. Contact Lauren at 503.823.7530 or e-mail [masterrecycler@ci.portland.or.us](mailto:masterrecycler@ci.portland.or.us) to volunteer.

### Plastics Round up

About 30 Master Recyclers are still a bit waterlogged from their January 7th plastic roundup experience. A few repetitive motion injuries linger, but true-to-form, a hardy band of dedicated volunteers pulled together and recycled 10 tons of non-curbside plastics and three semi-trailers of styrofoam. In the hustle and bustle of the pouring rain, a definitive car count was abandoned, but it was easily over 1,000 between the two sites. The day was a huge success and everyone involved should be proud of their efforts.

Volunteers held a wrap-up meeting and decided to have two more events in 2006. The next one is scheduled for May 6. While we can't promise a winter storm, you will meet many grateful community members. If you'd like to get involved, contact Lauren at (503)823-7530 or [www.masterrecycler.org](http://www.masterrecycler.org).

## MR COURSE SESSIONS

The winter course at Metro had its first class on January 10 and has a full complement of 30 students. Registration for the spring class in Clackamas should be posted on the web by the end of January.

## NEW MASTER RECYCLERS

Congratulations to Master Recyclers Lynne Detrick (Class 28), Denise Berkshire (Class 25), and Nancy Dragoo (Class 24) for hitting the 30 hour mark. Thanks for your dedication and good work.

## RECOMMENDED READING

### Eco-Tips for Sustainable Living

Eco-Tips are now available on Northwest Earth Institute's Web site [www.nwei.org](http://www.nwei.org) (under "Additional Programs"). The first eleven tips are the beginning of an on-line series created by Jeanne Roy. Embedded in fact sheets providing background information, the practical tips can be easily downloaded by anyone in the US. They currently include Buying Organic, Reducing Your Car's Impact on the Planet, Moving Toward Zero Waste, Eating Less Meat, Choosing Washable Diapers, Using Eco-Friendly Cleaners, Paying Attention to Plastics, Maintaining a Chemically Free Yard, Precycling Packaging, Reducing Junk Mail, and Taking Green Steps at the Office.

Since these eco-tips are generic enough to cover the US, Jeanne will continue to update local fact sheets specific to the Portland metropolitan area.

### Gone Tomorrow: The Hidden Life of Garbage

Heather Rogers' *Gone Tomorrow: The Hidden Life of Garbage* is a great read. Here's a link to a recent article that Heather wrote on the consequences of having just a few large companies dominate waste handling in the US.

<http://www.thenation.com/doc/20051219/rogers>

## JOBS

### City of Beaverton-Solid Waste and Recycling

The City of Beaverton is currently accepting applications for two temporary positions in the Solid Waste and Recycling program. These positions would support current multi-family outreach activities and the City's business recycling. Both of these programs have demonstrated strong success over the past three years. The multifamily program has educated residents about recycling at most of the city's 220 complexes and commercial outreach has successfully distributed over 5,000 desk side recycling boxes while visiting over 1,000 Beaverton businesses.

The positions offer a negotiable schedule and hours per week. The ideal candidates would demonstrate strong customer service and communication skills, an interest in recycling, and interest in working as a member of a dynamic team. Compensation is \$10.00/hr.

Please direct a copy of your current resume to:

Scott Keller Program Manager, Solid Waste and Recycling Program

4755 SW Griffith Drive

Beaverton OR 97005

Or, send via email to: [ssykes@ci.beaverton.or.us](mailto:ssykes@ci.beaverton.or.us)

Positions to remain open until filled.

## EVENTS

### The City of Portland Office of Sustainable Development is sponsoring: "The 21st Century Home"

February 16 - April 22, 2006

Explore what it takes to create a healthy and sustainable house: design, construction, materials and equipment for new and remodel projects.

Four classes and three tours of completed projects. \$50 for the series or \$10/individual class or tour.

Detail and registration: [www.green-rated.org/prog\\_rethink.asp](http://www.green-rated.org/prog_rethink.asp)

### SCRAP Workshops

Saturday, January 28, 2006, 1-3pm: Felted Accessories from Sweaters

Have you ever accidentally run your favorite wool sweater through the wash on the hot cycle? Found a sweater with a pattern you love at the second hand store but it wasn't your size? This workshop will help you see the phoenix rise from the ashes. Learn the techniques to felt wool (75% or more) sweaters in the wash machine. Emphasis will be on hat making with a couple of basic patterns but information will also be given on purses and scarves. Sweaters will be provided, but if you have one that you've accidentally shrunk, bring it along! \$10-20 sliding scale. Space is limited to 6 participants. Call to pre-register. 503.294.0769.

### Saturday February 18th, 1-3pm: Basic Book Arts

the fundamental skills of book arts, including: folding, tearing, cutting, sewing, and terminology. Create a number of small booklets that you can take home with you, including the three-hole pamphlet, the five-hole pamphlet, and Japanese four-hole binding. \$10-20 sliding scale. Space is limited to 8 participants. Ages 12 and up (under 12 with adult supervision). Call to pre-register. 503.294.0769.

### "Waste Not" Art Competition to Benefit SCRAP

Want bragging rights with your dumpster diving friends? Tazo welcomes submissions for its juried "Waste Not" Recycled Art Competition, Exhibition and Auction to benefit SCRAP and Disjecta. Entries must consist of at least 75% reused, recycled or found items. A number of works will be selected by a jury to appear at a lively exhibition, to be held on Saturday, March 4th. Proceeds from the evening's live and silent auction of artwork will be split between the individual artists and the evening's Portland-based beneficiaries: SCRAP and Disjecta. Additionally, three cash prizes will be awarded to the top entries. For those not inclined to create, the exhibition will include entertainment by Wade McCollum ("Batboy," "One: The Musical") and Brothers of the Baladi, as well as beverages and food by Mother's Bistro and Mama Mia's Trattoria. For official rules, guidelines and more information, please visit [www.wastenotart.com](http://www.wastenotart.com) or contact Amy Bourne at (503) 736-9005 x2248. Deadline for entry in the art event is February 13, 2006. Applications packets will be available very soon at SCRAP, TWIST, Rejuvenation and other establishments around town.

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

