



## **Marion County**

OREGON

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### **Marion County Hosting Free Styrofoam Recycling Event**

The United Methodists of Salem-Keizer, Compost Oregon, Willamette University, and Marion County Public Works Environmental Services will hold a styrofoam recycling collection event at no cost on Saturday, April 12, 2008. The styrofoam may be dropped off at Willamette University's Sparks parking lot, located next to the soccer field at the corner of 12<sup>th</sup> Street and Bellevue Street in Salem. The one-day event is from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. (or until the collection trailers are full).

This one-day-only, rain-or-shine event will be for clean and dry block packing foams, meat trays, and styrofoam egg cartons. Foam blocks with tape and construction foams will not be accepted. Packing peanuts will also not be accepted, but most mailing stores will accept them for free. The foam will be taken to a Portland business that has the ability to recycle styrofoam, which is not recyclable through curbside programs in Marion County. The company removes the styrene gas and mixes the foam plastic with other types of plastic, which is then sold to a company that makes high-end picture frames.

This free recycling event is a collaborative effort made possible by a handful of different organizations. Volunteers from the United Methodists of Salem-Keizer will be on hand to collect the Styrofoam blocks. Compost Oregon, the company that processes all of the yard debris collected in Marion County, has donated their trucks to transport the styrofoam to Portland and they will also recycle the material. Willamette University has donated the use of their parking lot. "Our office receives calls every day from people and businesses that want to recycle styrofoam. This one day event will give people the option to recycle it," said Bailey Payne, recycling coordinator for the Public Works Environmental Services Division.

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