



Marion County
OREGON

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Keizer Business First to be Recertified by County as EarthWise

Advantage Precast, Inc., which manufactures and sells concrete products, is the first EarthWISE business to qualify for recertification. Located in Keizer, Advantage Precast was originally certified in 2007 but has continued to meet Marion County's EarthWISE standards for sustainable practices.

"We are really proud that Advantage Precast has increased their sustainability efforts over the last two years," said Alan Pennington, waste reduction coordinator for Marion County Public Works. "By remaining EarthWISE certified, they demonstrate their commitment to protect Marion County's environment," Pennington added.

In 2007, Advantage Precast formed an employee green team that began to tackle waste reduction, recycling, and energy conservation projects. Although Advantage Precast Inc. already had a successful recycling program in place, the green team set out to expand the program into other areas, such as waste reduction and water and energy conservation.

"We've made some innovations that have resulted in significant cost savings and reduced energy use," said Rick Day, general manager. "We've begun mixing concrete on site instead of having it trucked in. We also developed a process that eliminates having to cut concrete preforms by pouring them custom made, thus avoiding creating a lot of waste."

EarthWISE is a free environmental assistance program offered to all businesses and non-profits in Marion County. For more information about the EarthWISE program call 503-365-3188 or visit the web at: www.co.marion.or.us/PW/ES/earthwise.

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