

April
2010

2010 Green Award Winners!



YUM...

Potluck! p. 3

MARION COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS - ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

Master Recycler Newsletter

The 2010 Green Awards, held on March 13th, were attended by over 200 people at a fundraiser for the Friends of Straub Environmental Learning Center. Attendees witnessed a variety of individuals and organizations receive a plaque commemorating their efforts to promote recycling and/or sustainability within the Mid-Willamette Valley.

The Friends of Straub Environmental Learning Center (FSEL) raised over \$20,000 dollars from the Green Awards event, chiefly through silent and live auctions. According to Lisa Olivares, Executive Director of the Center, the funds go to support community programs such as a lecture series, adult amateur naturalist classes, after-school "Nature Kids" classes, Family Nature Nights, week-long summer camps for elementary and middle-school children, and a variety of educational workshops and activities throughout the year. Almost all, including the summer camps, are free to the public.

And the winners are:



Recycler of the Year:
Steve Depina



EarthWISE Business of the Year:
DeSantis Landscaping

EarthWISE Business of the Year:
SAIF Corporation

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"The measure of a life is not its duration, but its donation."

-- Peter Marshall



**Recycling Educator of the Year:
Linda Nishioka**



Sustainable Small Business of the Year: Pringle Creek Community



**Sustainable Large Business of the Year:
LifeSource Natural Foods**



**Recycling Business of the Year:
Mid-Willamette Valley Habitat for Humanity ReStore**



Green Retrofit Building of the year: Travel Salem



**Green Building of the year :
16th & Nebraska by Bilyeu Homes, Inc.**



**Sustainable Not for Profit of the Year:
Oregon Department of Energy**

Just Around the Corner!!



Learn about the Green Garbage Project at the next Master Recycler Potluck!

A recent graduate of Marion County's Master Recycler program and her husband are in the middle of an ambitious project to send little or no garbage to the landfill for a year.

Dallas residents Amy Korst, a writer and English teacher, and her husband Adam, a photo editor and art director, started their endeavor in early July of 2009.

Korst started the project to utilize her free time in the summers and to give herself and her husband a lesson in what barriers and challenges are presented to a modern family who tries to live waste-free.

The basic ground rule of their project is that they avoid sending waste to their local landfill - recycling, composting and other waste diversion techniques are ok, although they have had to make some exceptions in the interest of health and safety. The key to their strategy, they've discovered, is avoiding the purchase of products or packaging that are not durable or recyclable.

Their project has attracted world-wide media attention, and they are using the spotlight to educate others on the environmental and social benefits of being aware of every bit of waste that passes through their hands.

You can follow Amy's writing on the project at: www.greengarbageproject.com



When: Thursday April 15th @ 6pm

Where: Marion Co. Public Works Office

Who: All Master Recyclers and their families are invited to attend

What: Potluck! Please bring something to share with your fellow Master Recyclers. Remember your reusable dishes

Do you have something no longer useful to you, but may be useful for someone else? Bring it with you to the Master Recycler Potluck to exchange or give away!

Do you have wine stoppers (cork and plastic separated) candles, or greeting cards waiting to be recycled? Judy Skinner will be collecting them at the potluck for reuse and recycling projects. Cork stoppers will go to Turtle Ridge Wildlife Refuge to support their programs.

Do you recycle or know where to recycle something interesting? Let us know and we can add it to our soon-to-be-improved Recycle and Disposal database.

Spring Grant Funds Available



Do you have an idea that could reduce waste in Marion County but lack the funding to implement it? Good news: The Spring Marion County Waste Reduction Grant Program application period is now open!

The program uses funds set aside from out-of-county medical waste fees. These funds provide grants to effectively reduce waste in Marion County. The objectives of the program are to:

- ◆ Reduce the amount of waste generated in Marion County.
- ◆ Reduce the amount of waste disposed of at Marion County disposal facilities through appropriate diversions.
- ◆ Encourage the development of products made from recovered materials from Marion County, markets for recovered materials and the use of products containing recycled materials.

Two general categories of proposals will be considered: **waste reduction projects** that directly reduce waste going to Marion County facilities, and **promotion and education programs**.

For the Spring 2010 offering a possible \$100,000 in grants is available. All grants that satisfy any of the program objectives listed above will be considered. Individuals, companies, governments and non-profit organizations with creative ideas for waste reduction are eligible to apply. Visit www.mcrecycles.net for more details.



TASTY TIDBITS



MC on TV!



Marion County was recently featured on a new TV show called *The Green Economy* that is currently showing on Biz Television, a network running in a handful of pilot markets around the nation, and may soon be coming to a network near you.

The episode features Marion County's efforts to foster waste reduction by working in cooperation with many local businesses that divert material from the waste stream while providing jobs and supporting the local economy.

All eight segments of the episode can be seen at:

www.youtube.com/thegreeneconomy



Conference in Town

The Association of Oregon Recyclers is holding their annual conference at the EarthWISE certified Salem Conference Center this year on June 17, 18 & 19.

A full lineup of speakers and workshops is planned with topics including climate change, using social media, product stewardship, green building, sustainable events and green washing.

There will also be an exhibit hall and exhibitor applications are still being accepted.

Visit www.aorr.org for details



Brilliant Rubbish



Mid Valley Mentors is holding a fundraiser that is just up a Master Recycler's alley.

"Brilliant Rubbish" is a recycled art contest and auction taking place Friday April 23, 2010 6:00 - 8:00 pm at the Mission Mill Museum in the Spinning Room.

This catered event also features local wine and microbrew tastings.

Tickets are \$25 single, \$40 couple.

Visit midvalleymentors.org to register or for more information.



Life of a Plastic Bag

Independent Television Service, with the support from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, asked 11 filmmakers to take the current state of affairs in the U.S., and extrapolate them into stories of the nation in the not-so-distant future.

The result is FUTURESTATES, a series of groundbreaking digital short films.



The first episode, *Plastic Bag*, features a discarded plastic bag struggling with its immortality as it ventures through the environmentally barren remains of America searching for its maker.

Visit futurestates.tv to view all episodes. *-adapted from futurestates.tv*

Trees for All!

OSU Extension and Caretakers of the Environment International are embarking on an ambitious project to plant one tree for every person in Oregon.

The youth driven project, One4One, aims to spread awareness of the benefits of planting native plants, removing invasive plants and increasing biodiversity.



If you would like to help by planting trees, starting a project of your own or donating to the cause visit'

www.CeiOregon.org.

Still a Ways to Go...

From the April 8th 2010 Resource Recycling Electronic Newsletter:



"Shareholders of ubiquitous coffee dispensary Starbucks have voted down a ...request to increase recycling. Only 11 percent of shareholders supported the measure, partly on the grounds (ahem) that the company already has a recycling program in place.

Starbucks says its coffee cups contain 10-percent recycled fiber, the company has already (partly) begun to use compostable products ...and that 70 percent of its stores recycle at least one type of waste. Currently, the chain is estimated to contribute as many as three billion coffee cups to landfill every year; but, Starbucks has announced a goal to supply 100 percent of its coffee in reusable or recyclable cups by 2015."

Call to Serve



Marion County's Master Recyclers are amazing! We now have over 550 people that have gone through the program since it first began in 1992! Here are some opportunities for payback hours this month and next.

Saturday April 17

Earth Day at the Lancaster Mall -

11 am - 3 pm

Join with Garten Services and other vendors to provide recycling information to the general public in the comfy confines of Lancaster Mall. 3 volunteers needed from 11 to 3. Work all or part of a shift. Contact Alan Pennington 503-365-3188 or apennington@co.marion.or.us.

Thursday April 22

Earth Day at Chemeketa Community College

8:45 am—2:45 pm

Staff an educational booth and talk to students and faculty at Chemeketa. The event will feature an eco-fashion show, barbeque and educational booths from other environmental groups. 2 Shifts available from 8:45 am - 11:45 am & 11:45 am - 2:45 pm

To sign up, contact Alan Pennington at apennington@co.marion.or.us or 503-365-3188 so that you can coordinate getting the materials from him.

Thursday April 22

Earth Day School Event

Grant Elementary/Middle School 2:45 pm - 5:15 pm

What: The school is planning a family oriented Earth Day event. Make recycled bookmarks with kids or recycled crayons (materials & instructions will be supplied). Two people are needed for this event. To sign up, contact Angie Gee at GEE_ANGIE@salkeiz.k12.or.us or 503-399-3151.

April 22 or May 27

Tour leader needed

Salem-Keizer Recycling and Transfer Station 3:30 pm

One Master Recycler is needed to provide a tour of the Earthwalk and Recycling Center to a group of up to eight Cub Scouts. Please contact Shana Forson at gs4son2@juno.com to make arrangements for the time, then check with Beth Myers-Shenai for help with making the site arrangements and getting tour ideas. Don't forget to report your hours to Bailey Payne at 503-588-5169 x5920 or bpayne@co.marion.or.us.



Saturday April 24

Silverton Household Hazardous Waste Collection Event

Silverton Fire Station, 819 Rail Way NE. 8:30 am—3:30 pm



MR Volunteers needed to help with traffic control and distributing information at Silverton's first HHW event in three years. Two shifts; one person needed per shift- 8:30 to noon; noon to 3:30. Contact Alan Pennington at 503-365-3188 or apennington@co.marion.or.us.

Saturday May 1

Composter Truckload Sale—

Priority!

Multiple Locations 9 am—4 pm

We need your help at this highly anticipated annual event! Volunteers will answer questions and help customers load the composters in their vehicles. Three shifts are available at each location (noted in ad at right):

8:30 am – 11:00 am / 11:00 – 1:30 / 1:30 – 4:00

Woodburn, Silverton and Stayton are the priority locations to fill. Please contact Alan Pennington at 503-365-3188 or apennington@co.marion.or.us to sign up.

Saturday May 1

Master Gardener's Annual Garden Sale

OSU Extension Office at the County Health Department 3180 Center St. NE

9 am - 5 pm

2 Volunteers needed to provide home composter demonstrations and provide information to interested patrons of the garden sale. Contact Rich Clarkson at 503 769-7993 or clarksoncr@wvi.com to volunteer.

ONE-DAY-ONLY COMPOSTER SALE!
SATURDAY, MAY 1ST
9:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.

South Salem
ROTH'S VISTA MARKET

Stayton
WILCO FARM STORE

East Salem
FRED MEYER
 (Lancaster & Market)

Silverton
WILCO FARM STORE

Keizer
COPPER CREEK MERCANTILE

Woodburn
COASTAL FARM STORES

KITCHEN COMPOST COLLECTION PAILS
 AVAILABLE FOR \$5.00 AT SALEM LOCATIONS ONLY!

While you are out stop by the **Fresh Start Market** at 3020 Center St. NE for their Spring Plant Sale. Friday 4/30 7am - 7:30pm, Saturday 5/1 7am to 6pm, Sunday 7am to 5pm. Call (505) 585-4956 for more details.

Marion County
PUBLIC WORKS ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
www.mcrcycles.net
 503.588.5169 *Se habla español*

100424-99c



Events & Occasions....



Thursday April 16, 2010, 7:00 p.m.

Making Home Performance with ENERGY STAR Part of Your Energy Plan with Alex Glenn

Paulus Lecture Hall, College of Law, Willamette University, 245 Winter St. SE, Salem

Learn the benefits of hiring Home Performance contractors, Building Performance Institute certified to provide whole-house assessments of your home and develop a cost-effective energy-improvement plan.

Saturday April 17th 10 a.m. until 4 p.m.

Earth Day Fair “A Hundred Acts of Green”

Oregon Garden

Join in this annual family– friendly celebration of the earth at the beautiful Oregon Garden. Workshops, activities and music for all! FREE admission and shuttle service from Silverton’s Robert Frost School, First Baptist Church and Safeway. On-site parking is \$5. Donations of canned food for Marion Polk Foodshare will also be accepted.



Saturday, April 17, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Restoration Work Day

Straub Environmental Learning Center, 1320 A Street NE, Salem

Help the Center remove invasive species from our native restoration area. Join us anytime during the above-stated times. Rain or shine, so dress appropriately for the weather. Work gloves and beverages will be provided; no RSVP required. For more information, contact 503-391-4145 or lisa@fselc.org.

Saturday, April 17, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Earth Day Weed Pull

Morning Star Community Church

The City of Salem and Marion County and Hands-On Mid-Willamette Valley present this event. Participants will help remove Scotch broom on Kuebler Blvd. Wear sturdy shoes and clothes for working outside. Gloves, tools, bottled water and snacks provided. For more information on this event or to pre-register contact cwhitlow@unitedwaymwv.org, or call 503-363-1651. Walk-ins are also welcome on the day of the project.

Mondays, April 19 and 26, 6:30 p.m.

Sustainability Workshops

Straub Env. Learning Ctr, 1320 A Street NE, Salem

Straub and Willamette University present a series of workshops on household sustainability. This year’s topics include: “Urban Harvest: Gathering the Bounty Around the Block (April 19); and “Green Cuisine: Healthy Food, Healthy Kids” (April 26). Free and open to the public (workshop on April 26 will be held at Willamette University), but please RSVP due to limited space. Contact Lisa at 503-391-4145 or lisa@fselc.org.

Tuesday, April 20, 2010, 7:00 p.m.

Audubon Society, Salem Chapter Meeting

"Atlas of Oregon Wilderness" -Salem Public Library

Bill Sullivan, Oregon's bestselling outdoor author, will present a slide show tour of the state's most beautiful Wilderness Areas -- including areas designated by Congress in 2009. Expect tips for summer backpacking, winter tours, and day hikes amidst Oregon's most spectacular scenery. For more information, call 503-588-7340.



Wednesday, April 21, 2010, 7:00 p.m.

Transition Handbook Workshop led by JoAnne Kohler

Paulus Lecture Hall, College of Law, Willamette University, 245 Winter St. SE, Salem, Oregon

Please join us for a six-week discussion course based on [The Transition Handbook](#), by the founder of the Transition Movement, Rob Hopkins. The course has been designed to stimulate personal examination of our own cultural stories, and how we might collectively rewrite these stories to create a world that's better than the one we have now. For more information, contact joannevz@yahoo.com.

Thursday, April 22, 7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Straub Lecture Series: Dr. Burke Hales *Oregon's Coastal Carbon Cycle: The Good, the Bad, and the Acidic*

Loucks Auditorium, Salem Public Library, 585 Liberty Street SE, Salem

changes in the ocean chemistry are changing the concentrations of crucial carbonate ions, making seawater more corrosive to these marine organisms. Free and open to the public; no RSVP required. Contact Lisa at 503-391-4145 or lisa@fselc.org for more information.

Thursday & Friday, April 23 & 24, 9 a.m.—3 p.m.

Project 2010: Youth Leadership for Health People, Communities and Planet.

World Forestry Center, Portland, Oregon

Youth in 7-12th grades can attend this sustainability summit and learn leadership skills to help them engage and make a difference in their communities. Call 503-916-6074 or email jonathan.mayer@oregonstate.edu to register.

Sunday, April 25, 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Eden Reforestation Walk

Salem Riverfront Park, 101 front St. NE Salem, OR

W. Salem High School's Students for Change is helping to organize a walk at Riverfront Park. The walk will benefit the Eden Reforestation Project, a volunteer organization that focuses on replanting trees in the diminishing forests of Ethiopia, Sudan, Madagascar, and Haiti. The walk will begin at Riverfront Park by the carousel, and will span the downtown area to Bush Park and back.

Tuesday and Wednesday, April 27 and 28, 7:00 p.m.

Amateur Naturalist Class: Wildflower Identification

Straub Environmental Learning Center, 1320 A Street NE, Salem

Learn basic botany and how to identify Oregon's many beautiful wildflowers. \$5 per person for both sessions; RSVP required due to limited space. Call or email Lisa at 503-391-4145 or lisa@fselc.org.





The Latest of the Greatest!



Congratulations to the graduates of the 21st Master Recycler class! With the conclusion of this class, there are now approximately 550 people that have taken it and exactly one dog (service dog, "Suki" sitting here at the head of the class).



Marion County Public Work—Environmental Services

5155 Silverton Rd. NE

Salem, OR 97305