



EarthWISE a hit!
See inside

Master Recycler Newsletter

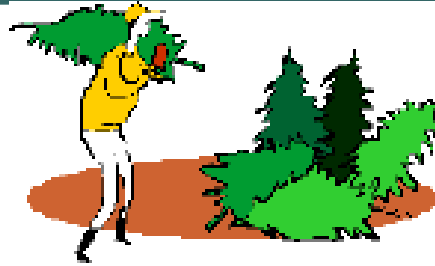
It's Treecycle Time

Now that the presents have all been handed out from under the tree and New Year's resolutions are looming around the corner, it's time to start thinking about recycling your Christmas tree. Treecycling can be a simple and great way to start off your new year with an eco-friendly act of kindness.

Between 30 and 35 million real Christmas trees are sold in the U.S. each year. Luckily, about 93 percent of those trees are currently being recycled through more than 4,000 available recycling programs.

Treecycling is a simple way to bring a renewable and natural source back to the environment - and not the landfill - where decomposition rates are slowed due to lack of oxygen.

Real Christmas trees can be recycled in a variety of ways. They are commonly turned into mulch and used in landscaping and gardening or chipped and used for playground ma-



terial, hiking trails, paths and walkways. They are also used for beachfront erosion prevention, lake and river shoreline stabilization and fish and wildlife habitat.

The National Christmas Tree Association highlights projects that are thriving examples of Christmas tree recycling and reuse. From wildlife habitat creation to sand dune restoration, Christmas trees are being recycled into great use in communities nationwide

Preparing Your Tree for Recycling

Okay, so recycling your Christmas tree might not be as easy as putting it in that bin with your aluminum cans and plastic bottles, but it is easier than you might think.

Before recycling your tree, make sure to:

- Remove all stands, lights, tinsel and ornaments (including that great treecycle ornament, which can be put away for next year).

- Do not place your Christmas tree inside a plastic bag. It should be left in its natural state for recycling.

There are often community groups, such as the Boy Scouts of America, who will come pick up your tree for a small donation and take it to the recycling facility for you.

Friendly Reminders

- If any of those Christmas tree ornaments or decorations aren't going to make it onto the tree next year, please remember to recycle or donate them.

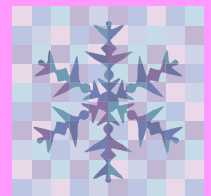
- Upgrading to LED lights next year? Remember to recycle your incandescent lights (continued on Page 3)

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Quote of the Month

The debt that each generation owes to the past, it must pay to the future.



-- Abigail Scott Dunaway

Marion County's EarthWISE Participation Booming



More businesses than ever are choosing to participate in Marion County's Earth WISE Business assistance program which was de-

veloped to encourage businesses to become environmentally sustainable.

Alan Pennington, the County Waste Reduction Coordinator who conducts waste audits and provides EarthWISE certification to those who qualify, says that he's certified nine new business since he started his position, and has seven more audits scheduled for the first half of January . If all of the current ap-

plicants get certified, that will represent a 60% increase since August 2008.

Every business that participates not only improves their bottom line by decreasing energy and waste removal costs, but "the County and its residents benefit from diversion of materials that would have ended up in the waste stream and the conservation of natural resources," Pennington says.

CONGRATULATIONS! to these EarthWISE businesses:

Advantage Precast Inc. – Keizer
www.advantageprecast.com

Agri-Plas, Inc. – Brooks
www.agriplasinc.com/

AJ's Auto Repair – Salem
www.ajsautorepair.com

Bentley's Grill – Salem
www.bentleysgrill.com

Carlson Veit Architects – Salem
www.carlsonveit.com

CB|2 Architects – Salem
www.cb2architects.com

Champoeg State Heritage Area –
St. Paul
www.oregonstateparks.org

Chiropractic Physicians, P.C. –
Salem 503-378-0068

**Coldwell Banker Commercial
Mountain West Real Estate** –
Salem www.cbcre.com

Compex Two Computers –
Silverton www.compex2.com

dalke construction, Inc. -Salem
www.dalkeconstruction.com

DeSantis Landscapes Inc. –
Salem

www.desantislandscapes.com

D & O Garbage Service, Inc. - Sa-
lem. www.mrtrashrecycles.com

Dr. Holly Chamberlain D.D.S. –
Salem
www.hollychamberlaintdentist.com

Garten Services, Inc. –
Salem and Keizer www.garten.org

Green Acres Landscape, Inc. -
Salem
www.greenacreslandscapeinc.com

Kristin LaMont, Attorney at Law –
Salem—www.lamont-law.com

Lancaster Mall Operations - Salem
www.LancasterMall.com

**Marion County Public Works –
Environmental Services**
www.co.marion.or.us/PW/ES

Marion Recycling Center – Salem
www.mrtrashrecycles.com

NORPAC Foods – Stayton facility –
www.norpac.com

**Oregon Center of Cosmetic and
Family Dentistry** - Salem
www.ItTakesAnArtist.com

Oregon Department of Energy –

Salem - www.oregon.gov/ENERGY

Performance Health Technology -
Salem - www.phtech.com

Phoenix Grand Hotel – Salem
www.phoenixgrandhotel.com

Sabroso Company – Woodburn
www.sabroso.com

SAIF Corporation - Salem
www.saif.com

Saint Edward Catholic Church -
Salem www.sainteds.com

Salem Conference Center - Salem
www.salemconferencecenter.org

Truitt Bros., Inc. - Salem
www.truittbros.com

United Way - Salem
www.unitedwaymwv.com

**Willamette Ear, Nose, Throat and
Facial Plastic Surgery, LLP** – Salem
www.entsalem.com

Willamette Valley Fruit Company –
Salem - www.wvfc.com

Woodburn School District Offices –
www.woodburn.k12.or.us



Treecycle (continued)



(continued from Page 1) at holidLEDs.com or donate them to a worthy cause.

• Avoid burning your Christmas tree as it creates unnecessary air pollution and can represent a fire hazard.

• Artificial trees cannot be recycled. They are made from mainly non-renewable plastics, often containing PVC, a petroleum-derived plas-

tic. If you do have an artificial tree that you no longer use, consider donating it to a worthy

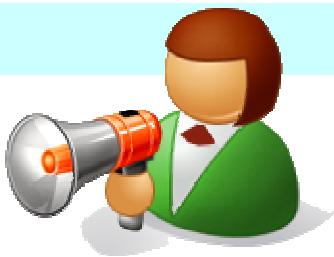
• "Living" Christmas trees should not be recycled with traditional Christmas trees. Arrangements should be made to replant them in a timely fashion in order to keep them alive. Many places, such as your local parks department, school or community organization, will accept the living trees for replanting.

- By Lori Brown, Courtesy of Earth911.com

Marion County Treecycling

- *Check local service and scouting groups to see if they are holding tree pick-up fundraisers in your community.*
- *Cut up your tree and place it in the green yard waste bin.*
- *Take it to either the Salem-Keizer or North Marion Recycling and Transfer Station for a \$3 fee. until 1/28*

cause or prolonging its life through good care and storage.



Announcements



Volunteer Presenter Needed

A volunteer presenter is needed for a 1-hour workshop on creating homemade non-toxic cleaning products planned for the Earth Day Fair at the Oregon Garden on April 18, 2009. Call Beth Myers-Shenai at 503-588-5169 x5920 if you would like to share your talents and earn some payback hours. Ideas and recipes can be provided.

Water Bottles Now Returnable Under New Bottle Bill

Starting January 1, 2009 a 5-cent deposit is being charged for the purchase of water bottles. The new bill also requires retailers over 5,000 ft² to take all brands

of any type of returnable container they sell. See www.deq.state.or.us/lq/sw/ bottlebill for details.

Opt Out to Reduce Waste!

Free sign-up is available at two websites to help stop unwanted junk mail and phone books.

www.DMAchoice.org

www.yellowpagesgoesgreen.com/

Food and Sustainability

Menu for the Future - A food and sustainability discussion course created by Northwest Earth Institute. Salem sessions begin mid-January, so call to register now! Session one is Tuesdays, 6:30PM to 8PM starting January 13th; and session two is Saturdays, 9:30AM to 11AM starting January 17th.

To register, or get more information, call Melissa at (503) 566-

4159. Enrollment is limited; please register by January 9th. Participation is free with a refundable book deposit. These sessions are sponsored by: AmeriCorps, Garten Services, LifeSource Natural Foods, Tea Party Bookshop, and the Marion-Polk Food Share.

March Master Recycler Class Fills Quickly

The March Master Recycler class is now full, but potential applicants are encouraged to call Alan at 503-365-3188 and have their name placed on a waiting list. If you are not able to get into the upcoming class, another opportunity will be available in September.

Job Alert!

The City of Portland has 2 Portland Recycles! positions open.

www.ci.portland.or.us/jobs/



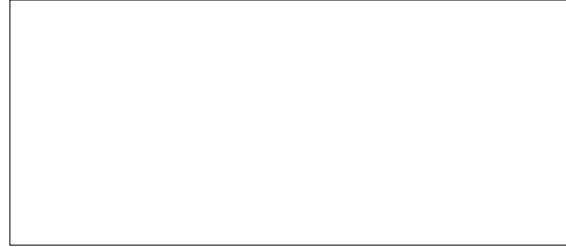
Marion County
OREGON

**MARION COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS-
ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES**

5155 Silverton Road NE
Salem, OR 97305

Phone: 503-588-5169
Fax: 503-588-3565

You can make a difference!



We're on the web!
www.co.marion.or.us/pw/es



Upcoming Events



Free Storm Debris Drop-off Event Sat. & Sun. January 10 & 11

Marion County will be offering a free community service to Marion County residents wishing to drop off their trees and limbs damaged in the recent storms.

The Brown's Island Composting Facility and Demolition Landfill will be accepting storm-related yard debris on 1/10 & 1/11. No plastic or other garbage, please.

The Facility is located at 2895 Fargate Street S., Salem, at the end of Homestead Rd. **Facility may have to close if road is flooded.** Call Beth at (503) 588-5169 x5920 for more info.

Salem Progressive Film Series

Grand Theater
191 High St. NE, Salem
7:00 p.m.
\$3.00 adults, \$2.00 students

Thursday, January 8th

"The World According to Monsanto"

Thursday, February 12

"I.O.U.S.A. "

For more information about these films, visit: <http://salemprogressivefilms.net>



Friends of Straub Environmental Learning Center

1320 A Street NE, Salem

Thurs., January 15th, 7:00 pm–8:00 pm

FSELCA Amateur Naturalist Series: Urban Tree Care

Straub Environmental Learning Center, 1320 A Street, Salem

Thurs., January 29th, 7:00 pm–8:00 pm

FSELCA Lecture Series: Denise DeLuca
"Biomimicry: Innovation Inspired by Nature"

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



Friends of Straub
ENVIRONMENTAL LEARNING CENTER