

March  
2011



On to the Summit ! P. 2

MARION COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS - ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

# Master Recycler Newsletter

## Oregon E-cycling Sees Big Gains



The Oregon E-Cycles Program, a network of more than 250 collection sites and recycling facilities statewide that accepts unwanted computers, monitors and televisions from the public for free, collected and recycled more than 24 million pounds of materials in 2010 – a 27 percent gain over the program’s first year in 2009.

“This is exactly what we wanted to see. These figures show this program is working and is effective in handling the vast amount of electronic waste that we all generate and need to dispose of properly,” said Kathy Kiwala, E-Cycles specialist with the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality.

In 2010, Oregonians recycled 24.15 million pounds of old TVs, computers and monitors through the program. That amount, which represents 6.3 pounds of electronic waste per Oregonian, far exceeded the program’s 2010 goal of 21.5 million pounds.

A variety of factors contributed to Oregon’s big gains, Kiwala said. A ban on disposing computers, TVs and monitors helped spur the public to find recycling sites where they could safely and conveniently dispose of these goods. In addition, consumers’ continued interest in buying flat-screen televisions likely led to the need to discard more outdated television models, adding to the potential e-waste supply.

Using emissions factors and calculation methods provided by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, DEQ has estimated that the amount of electronic waste recycled through the first two years of the Oregon E-Cycles program computes to:

Statewide energy savings equivalent to 7.5 million gallons of gasoline.

Greenhouse gas reductions of the tailpipe emissions of 10,000 passenger cars.

Kiwala noted that the estimates do not include savings from reuse of discarded electronics equipment. Through the first two years of Oregon E-Cycles, 63,000 individual electronic units (computers, monitors, televisions) have been reused. On a per-unit basis, the benefits of reuse, particularly reuse of computers, are much higher than recycling.

For more information on Oregon E-Cycles or to find a collection site near you, visit [www.oregonecycles.org](http://www.oregonecycles.org) or call toll-free 1-888-5ECYCLE (888-532-9253).

### In This Issue:

Salem/Keizer Sustainability Summit	2
Fluorescents Product Stewardship	2
Follow-up Climate Masters Survey	3
100 yr-old paper mill closes	3
Tasty Tidbits	4
Call to Serve	5
Events and Occasions	6
The Back Page	7



“To the wrongs that need resistance, To the right that needs assistance, To the future in the distance, Give yourselves.”

-- Carrie Chapman Catt

# A Don't-miss Opportunity!

Just when you thought that there would never be a NOT IN PORTLAND conference that dealt with sustainability BOOM!...there is one cropping up practically in your backyard. March 8th, at the Keizer Civic Center, a Salem-Keizer Sustainability Summit is going to take place from 7:30 am to 1:30 p.m.

The line-up? How about Jim Piro, the CEO of PGE as the keynote and Jack Graves of Burgerville fame as the

lunchtime speaker? How about an early morning welcome by not one, but two local mayors (if you can't guess who they are you need to get out more). Plus, there will be several way-cool break out sessions to choose from.

And the price? Only \$35 if you register before March 2nd, and that includes a lunch from the world-famous (ok, locally famous) Bon Appétit.

For more info go to: [keizerchamber.com](http://keizerchamber.com) and look for "Community Events"



Salem -Keizer  
**Sustainability Summit**  
*Greening our Communities*

**Save the Date**  
**Tuesday, March 8, 2011**  
Keizer Civic Center  
**7:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.**

Here are some ways for you to participate  
-Attend Summit  
-Attend Luncheon Only  
-Trade Show Exhibitor  
-Supporting Sponsor

503.393.9111 or visit [keizerchamber.com](http://keizerchamber.com) Community Events

Environmental Social Economic

## Oregon becoming en-lightened about CFL recycling?

The 2011 Oregon Legislative Assembly is currently deliberating over a product stewardship bill for mercury-containing lighting, the most common of which are fluorescent tubes and bulbs.

It seems to have wider support this year than past attempts at similar legislation. SB 529 if passed, would require producers to provide funding for the collection and recycling of the bulbs in Oregon, an activity that has largely been subsidized by local governments when budgets will allow.

Marion County has been collecting and recycling fluorescents and other mercury-containing lamps for a few years now, and just recently increased the drop-off hours at its depot at the Salem/Keizer Recycling and transfer station to 7 days a week.

The national recycling rate of fluorescents has been dismal. Two studies have estimated it at somewhere between 2.0% and 6.5% - leaving a lot of mercury, nearly 5,000 lbs of it from CFLs alone in 2007, ending up in the trash.



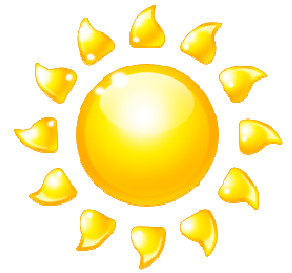
### TIDBIT:

If you put all of the fluorescent tubes that we collected in 2010 and put them from end to end, they would stretch 138,392 which is just a little longer than a marathon (26.2 miles) in length. And this doesn't count lights other than straight tubes like CFLs!

# Follow up, Please!

---

Climate Masters is a program that parallels the Master Recycler program with a focus on addressing climate change at the household level. The overall goal of the Climate Master program is not just to reduce local greenhouse gas emissions, but also to create a model that can be replicated nationally.



You can help us do that by completing this 15-minute follow-up survey that many of you took about six months ago. The post-survey is at [www.surveymonkey.com/s/L89X7SH](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/L89X7SH)

The survey will ask about your personal emissions, any actions you have taken to reduce your emissions and some demographic questions. Your information will remain confidential and you may elect for your answers to be anonymous.

Please contact Sarah Mazze, program manager for the Climate Master program at (541) 654-4052 or [sarah@trigcli.org](mailto:sarah@trigcli.org) with any questions about the survey.



# Recycled Paper Mills Closes

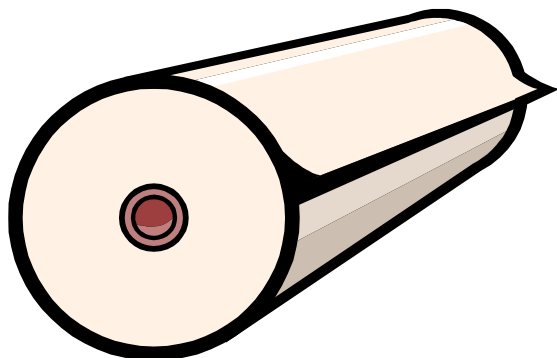
---

**Blue Heron Paper Company** recently announced that it is permanently curtailing operations at its Oregon City specialty paper mill and issuing notices to its employees related to permanent closure of the facility.

This follows on the heels of a downsizing in which it cut about 3,000 tons per month of newsprint production, laid off workers, and tried to grow a new product line of environmentally friendly commercial paper towels.

"Lately profits began to erode due to escalating waste paper prices and limited availability of that raw material" said company president Mike Siebers.

"All the paper products we manufacture use a high percentage of recycled fiber in them. Mills like Blue Heron are where the actual recycling of the collected waste paper you set out at the curb takes place.



But China and other far-East countries have developed an insatiable appetite for recycled fiber to support their own paper plants which are then subsidized by their parent countries in other ways to maintain their jobs. This allows them to drive up the price for waste paper to unsustainable high levels for periods of time, giving them an unfair advantage over companies like ours," said Siebers.

There has been paper produced at the Oregon City mill site at the falls for over 100 years.



## TASTY TIDBITS



### Sunchips Bag...Take 2 The Earth Wins Too! Film it!

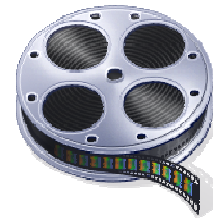
**Frito Lay** recently announced the release of a newer, quieter version of its compostable bag.

Only 18 month after introducing the first backyard-compostable bag, the company pulled most of them because of complaints of noise. (Except in Canada where they felt the residents would trade a little noise for sustainability. The free earplugs they offered helped too.)

But before they even announced pulling the super crackly containers, they were already at work on the next ear-friendlier version.

The new bags sport a more rubber-like adhesive between the outer and inner bag layers that also serves to muffle some sound

**Vivian Milliken** was the lucky winner of our composter give-away at the 2011 Mid-Valley Home Show at the Oregon State Fair. Ms. Milliken lives in Silverton.



**The Professional Recyclers** of Pennsylvania (PROP) is accepting submissions for its fourth annual Recycling Film Festival to be held in Erie on July

25. Schools, colleges, local governments and other institutions or individuals are encouraged to submit a short video on any recycling or waste reduction topic.

Attendees will vote on their favorite film, the producer of which will go home with a cash prize.

Last year's winner was the University of Oregon for its animation "Don't Kill Polar Bears — Recycle." All entries for the festival must be in by July 11. For details on how to enter, visit [proprecycles.org](http://proprecycles.org)

### Cutting Food Waste

Six Tips for Grocery Shopping:

1. Plan meals. Create a menu in advance and make a shopping list.
2. Stick to your list! Avoid impulse buys, especially with perishable foods.
3. Be realistic. If you work late, don't shop like you have time to make meals from scratch.
4. Plan for a leftover night or two. Can you say smorgasbord?!
5. Shop for perishable items last. You're less likely to make impulse buys because you'll be ready to finish and leave.
6. Don't hit the store hungry – you'll buy way too much!

From Jonathan Bloom, author of *American Wasteland: How America Throws Away Nearly Half of Its Food (and What We Can Do About It)*



### Phonebook Action!



A local Portland, OR man is getting organized when it comes to the issue of opting-in to phone books in Oregon—an issue currently under legislative review. Keep up with the topic and let your voice be heard!

[albertideation.com/sb525](http://albertideation.com/sb525)

### A Date to Remember

Join the **Association of Recyclers** at the Seaside Convention Center in Seaside, OR, June 16-18 for its annual conference and trade show, Sustainable Oregon.

Planning for the event is already well underway, with exciting sessions and workshops exploring recycling education, policy, and planning.

Stay tuned to [aorr.org](http://aorr.org) for more details.



# Call to Serve

---



## **Thursday April 7 or Tuesday April 12 Earth Walk & Recycling Station Tour Salem-Keizer Recycling & Transfer Station**

A Master Recycler is needed to lead a tour of the Salem-Keizer Recycling & Transfer Station and the Earth Walk. There will be approximately 20 first grade students and their parents. They would like to do the tour on either date at 10:30am or 1:30pm. If you would like to lead this tour, please contact Karen Sinn ([lotitoke@yahoo.com](mailto:lotitoke@yahoo.com) or 503-910-2598). Once you have confirmed the tour date, please let Bailey ([bpayne@co.marion.or.us](mailto:bpayne@co.marion.or.us)) know so that he can notify the transfer station and give you tips on how to lead the tour.

## **Saturday April 16 Earth Day 2011 Celebration Oregon Garden, Silverton**

Six volunteers needed for each shift:

10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Come join in on all the fun at THE environmental event of the year at one of Marion County's most beautiful attractions. Volunteers will staff our display &/or help make paper, crayons, book marks, or teach composting with kids. Contact Alan Pennington 503-365-3188 or [apennington@co.marion.or.us](mailto:apennington@co.marion.or.us).

## **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. 2 volunteers needed from 11 to 3. Contact Alan Pennington 503-365-3188 or [apennington@co.marion.or.us](mailto:apennington@co.marion.or.us).

## **Saturday, May 7 Locations in Salem, Silverton, Stayton, Keizer and Woodburn 8:30 am - 3:00 pm**

Full details available in the April issue, but please feel free to let Alan know now if you are interested! 503-365-3188 or [apennington@co.marion.or.us](mailto:apennington@co.marion.or.us).

## **Wed - Fri June 1, 2nd & 3rd Papermaking Workshop Camp Cascades, Lyons**

Master Recycler needed to teach 4th graders how to make paper at Outdoor School at Camp Cascade in Lyons. To sign up or for more information, contact Beth Freeborn at Auburn Elementary - [freeborn\\_elizabeth@salkeiz.or.us](mailto:freeborn_elizabeth@salkeiz.or.us).



# Events & Occasions



Thursday, March 10, 2011, 4:00-5:30 pm

Nature Kids (2nd/3rd grades)

Thursday, March 17, 2011, 4:00-5:30 pm

Nature Kids (4th/5th grades)

**Straub Environmental Learning Center**

In this class, 2nd and 3rd graders can become bird experts as they examine preserved bird parts and nests. Students will discover the mechanics of flight, and find out about bird anatomy and how to identify birds. The class is free but registration is required. Email Alexandra at [fselc@fselc.org](mailto:fselc@fselc.org) or call 503-391-4145.

Tuesday, March 15, 7:30 - 9:30 am

**Getting to Zero Waste With Construction Best Management Practices**

**McMenamins Kennedy School, Portland**

This 2-hour, interactive presentation is approved for 1.5 GBCI CE Hours. It's designed to equip you with the know-how to turn your construction waste into project value through systemized Construction Waste Recycling. This event is sponsored by the Daily Journal of Commerce, in partnership with Cascadia Green Building Council. Visit [djcoregon.com/events/ceu-lead](http://djcoregon.com/events/ceu-lead) for registration info.

## FLUORESCENT BULB RECYCLING!

7 days a week,  
8am - 5pm at the  
Salem-Keizer Recycling  
and Transfer Station  
recycle depot.

*(Excluding major  
holidays) Limit 10  
bulbs per visit.*



**Public Works Environmental Services**  
503.588.5169 *Se habla español*  
[mcrecycles.net](http://mcrecycles.net)

 Marion County

**First Tuesday of every month, (next one April 5),  
9:30am**

**Consumption and the Environment**

**Webinar Series**

**From the comfort of your own computer**

This series will cover a variety of topics relating to consumption and its interaction with the environment. It is designed to provide you with the information and resources you need to reduce GHG emissions and create more sustainable patterns of consumption in your community. Nationally renowned speakers will cover impacts, solutions, and tools. **Highly recommended by your MC Waste Reduction Staff!**

**Winter and Spring 2011**

**Center for Earth Leadership Agent of Change 6-Class Series**

**Location TBA**

This six-session class (with multiple start dates) covers the theory, practice, and tools of a "change agent" working within a chosen circle of influence such as a church, school, workplace or neighborhood. It is intended for motivated individuals who wish to help create a sustainable future and who are ready to prepare and implement a project to reduce human impact on the earth. Contact Emily Klavins at 503-227-2315 or [info@earthleaders.org](mailto:info@earthleaders.org) for information.

## The Back Page

Remind me again  
why I agreed to  
take on Marion  
County's styrofoam  
recycling program?



**Sarah Keirns, Marion County Waste Reduction Coordinator**



Marion County Public Work—Environmental Services

5155 Silverton Rd. NE

Salem, OR 97305

### Waste Reduction Coordinators:

#### **Sarah Keirns**

503-566-4159

[skeirns@co.marion.or.us](mailto:skeirns@co.marion.or.us)

#### **Beth Myers-Shenai**

503-588-5169 x5920

[smyersshenai@co.marion.or.us](mailto:smyersshenai@co.marion.or.us)

#### **Bailey Payne**

503-588-5169 x5991

[bpayne@co.marion.or.us](mailto:bpayne@co.marion.or.us)

#### **Alan Pennington**

503-365-3188

[apennington@co.marion.or.us](mailto:apennington@co.marion.or.us)