

May  
2014



What's up with Batteries? p.3

MARION COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS - ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES



# Master Recycler Newsletter

## Waste Reduction Hits the Airwaves!

Marion County Environmental Services invites you to tune in to their new half hour community radio show, Waste Matters: On the Air, every other Thursday at 1:00 p.m. on KMUZ 88.5 FM.

The show is live in-studio (most weeks) and designed to educate listeners on issues surrounding solid waste management so they can make decisions in their own lives relating to waste generation and disposal.

Host Beth Myers-Shenai, a waste reduction coordinator for Marion County, interviews waste reduction experts and innovators to make the show engaging and conversational and puts special emphasis on "reduce" in the 3 Rs since it provides the greatest environmental benefits.

The program provides valuable information to community members to help with

questions as simple as "can I recycle this?" to larger questions like "what does waste have to do with climate change?", and will hopefully clarify the impacts of choices and habits regarding waste.

Past show topics included the Mid-Valley Green Awards, Why Does Waste Matter?, Creative Reuse, Oregon DEQ's 2050 Vision for Materials Management, Earth Day and the EarthWISE program. Shows in May will include backyard composting and food recovery.

KMUZ can be heard on 88.5 FM in the Turner/South Salem area and everywhere else streaming online at [www.kmuz.org](http://www.kmuz.org) or using the TuneIn radio app for smart phones.

Show archives can be found at [mcrecycles.net](http://mcrecycles.net).



Beth chats with DIY Studio founders Jessica Ramey and Carlee Wright on Waste Matters: On the Air (left, middle & right respectively).

### Tune In!

**Show:** Waste Matters: On the Air

**Station:** KMUZ Community Radio 88.5 FM or streaming online at [kmuz.org](http://kmuz.org) and with the TuneIn radio app.

**Day:** Every other Thursday (May 8th and 22<sup>nd</sup> this month)

**Time:** 1:00 – 1:30 p.m.



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"I am only one; but still I am one. I cannot do everything, but still I can do something. I will not refuse to do the something I can do."

~ Helen Keller

# 2014 Mid-Valley Green Awards and Trashion Show Winners!



**Recycler of the Year - Individual  
Ben McGowen**



**Sustainable Large Business  
Salem-Keizer Transit**



**Recycler of the Year - Business  
Oregon Department of Corrections**



**Sustainable Service  
Minto Island Growers**



*First place Trashion winner Maria Isabel Saldana in a dress made with wire coat hangers and wallpaper samples.*



**Green Apple Award  
Laurie Aguirre**



**EarthWISE Business  
Cascade Baking Co.**



*People's choice winner Marina Belloc in her repurposed black satin dress studded with aluminum butterflies cut from pop cans.*



**Sustainable Small Business  
Santiam Valley Ranch**



**Lifetime Achievement Award  
Jon Yoder**

# The Scoop on Batteries



You may have read the recent stories in the Statesman Journal about our battery collection program being utilized by one collection site in Marion County to dispose of batteries from their locations outside of our area.

The immediate result of this discovery has been to temporarily suspend County collection of batteries from the Batteries Plus Bulbs store on Lancaster Dr. NE in Salem until it can be determined the best way to manage the program in the future.

All other locations listed under “battery recycling” on our [website](#) are still accepting batteries, and they can still be included in the small curbside recycling basket if they are in a clear zip-sealed bag.

Because batteries contain heavy metals it is important to recycle them, but for alkaline batteries it is a labor-intensive process, the costs of which are not offset enough by the value of recovered materials to make it profitable. For that reason Marion County uses solid waste revenues, which includes money from tipping fees, electricity revenues, and scrap metal sales, to pay to have them processed. Rechargeable batteries are much easier to recycle and cost the program little to nothing for processing.

Stay tuned for updates!

## Keep those caps!

The Straub Environmental Center is in partnership with Aveda Salon by supporting their recycling program of plastic bottle caps.

Aveda Salon has their own recycling plant in New York that only recycles plastic bottle caps to make their product containers. Several Aveda Salons and stores throughout the country accept bottle cap drop off and Straub is working on convincing our local Aveda Salons to participate in the program.

In the meantime Straub is collecting the plastic bottle caps and will ensure they get shipped off to Aveda’s recycling plant in New York.



### CAN YOUR CAP BE RECYCLED?

The Aveda Cap Recycling program accepts caps that are rigid plastic, sometimes noted with a 5 in the chasing arrows recycling symbol. This includes caps that twist on with a threaded neck such as caps on shampoo, water, soda, milk, other beverage bottles and pharmaceutical lids, flip top caps on tubes and food product bottles (such as ketchup and mayonnaise), laundry detergents and some jar lids such as peanut butter.

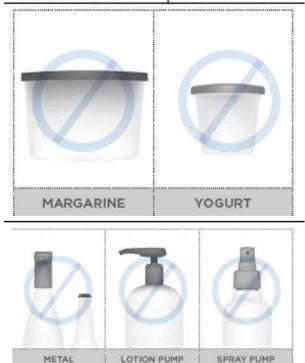
### KEEP THE RECYCLING STREAM CLEAN.

Some caps that aren’t accepted are non-rigid lids such as yogurt lids (margarine, cottage cheese), and screw-on lids that are not rigid. Please do not include any metal lids or plastic pumps or sprayers. Unfortunately, too much of the wrong type of materials can contaminate the recycling process. We appreciate your efforts in keeping it clean!

### GOOD CAPS



### BAD CAPS



# Graduate Gallery



## Notable Moments

Two Master Recyclers, Judy Skinner and Bonnie Sullivan, recently received award recognition by the Marion County Board of Commissioners for their outstanding volunteer involvement. Congratulations and thank-you to them both!

Here are excerpts from their nominations:



“Judy has been a tremendous asset to the Master Recycler program. With all of her experience, she is a great mentor to volunteers that are new to our program. She is very savvy at meeting the public at their comfort level; she is not overbearing or pushy but rather helps people to see how they can make a positive impact and get involved. She leads by example and is an inspiration not only to the other volunteers and public but also to those of us in Environmental Services. Judy is unique in that she is really an expert in the industry and so we've been able to have her work on projects that most volunteers would be unable to handle, like updating the recycling guide or organizing recycling at large events such as the County Fair.” - from Judy's nomination form



“Bonnie has been a outspoken, vocal advocate for ensuring that our advisory members are trained in public meetings rules and group process, ethics, and that group bylaws are being followed. She led the development of a new member manual for the SWMAC that has been used as a template by other groups. She acts as a parliamentarian at meetings, trying to ensure that the process is being followed appropriately.” - from Bonnie's nomination form

## Help Spread the Word About the Next Master Recycler Class!

Many of our Master Recyclers find out about the class because they hear about it from someone like you that has already gone through the class. Please help us to spread the word about the next class. Here are the details:



The seven evening training sessions will begin on Thursday, September 4, 2014 and will continue on Thursday evenings through October 16th. Most classes will be held from 6:15pm until 9:00pm at the Marion County Public Works office, located at 5155 Silverton Rd. NE, Salem. The training also includes three Saturday fieldtrips to local recycling and composting facilities, which begin at 8:30 am and finish by 2:30 pm. Volunteers will be

expected to complete 30 hours of volunteer payback following the course. For more details and to view a tentative schedule and the application, visit [mcrecycles.net](http://mcrecycles.net)

### Recycling 101



This online certificate class is noncredit, self paced and low cost, ranging from \$50 - \$75. This statewide effort has resulted in a comprehensive in-depth look at waste and recycling in Oregon. It is designed to give citizens a broad understanding of what is recyclable and why; give businesses and local governments a training option for sustainability goals, and career seekers an introduction to a growing industry. The class is self-paced, available 24/7 and in both English and Spanish. Find out more about the class and watch a brief introductory video: <https://pace.oregonstate.edu/catalog/recycling-101>

## TASTY TIDBITS

### Compostopia

As New York city searches for a way to reduce the over 14 millions tons of trash it produces annually, composting stands out as an obvious candidate for shrinking that number by up to as much as 29 percent.

Enter the vision for composting islands, one planning firm's answer to both the issue of organics processing and underutilized waterfront space.

More [here](#) from the Huffington Post. <http://huff.to/1fQbO1O>



### Find a (Sole) Mate

Shoebox Recycling is using clothing to connect people.

If you sign up for their SoleMate program you can mail a box of used, wearable shoes (Shoebox will send you the shipping labels), place a special note in each for the new wearer and trace the path your shoes take to reach their destination.

The messages contain a web address that can help people get connected.

Learn more at

[www.shoeboxrecycling.com](http://www.shoeboxrecycling.com)



### It's Only Fair

Just last year nearly 2 billion cell phones were sold



worldwide. The demand for new gadgets has fueled war, human suffering, and environmental degradation around the globe.

Fairphone, a Dutch social enterprise, wanted to do something about it: they set out to produce a smartphone that told the story of how things are made, and start a conversation about responsible electronics. They also wanted their phone to be serviceable through its lifetime. Enter the Fairphone, the first phone that ships with its own set of repair guides through a preinstalled iFixit app.

[www.fairphone.com](http://www.fairphone.com)

### Feeling UpSmart



St. Vincent de Paul in Eugene has always been forward-thinking and creative in the way they reuse item donated to them, so it may come as no surprise that they've taken it one step further and hired their own fashion designer!

The person in this new position creates upcycled fashions from otherwise unusable donations.

Ties turned into phone pouches, belts turned into bracelets and jewelry from vinyl records are just a few items sold under their new "UpSmart" brand.

Visit [www.svdp.us](http://www.svdp.us) and search for "UpSmart" for more info

### iRecycle, Do You?

In an effort to make sure more if its products get recycled at the end of their lifespan (or reused before it), Apple computer stores are now accepting any of their own products back for free and responsible recycling.



If the item is still usable then you may get some money for it in the form of a gift certificate

So if you've decided you're ready to upgrade to a Fairphone (see above Tidbit) before your iPhone has gone kaput, you may get a little something in return (although that's the kind of thinking that got us into this in the first place, right?).

Let's hope their next goal is repairability!

[www.apple.com/environment](http://www.apple.com/environment)

### We Have Winners!

Congratulations to Earth Machine winners Sharon Wagner of Keizer and Kathy Bunnell of Mt. Angel!



Sharon



Kathy

# Master Recycler Call to Serve



## Compost Demo Gardens

Both of our compost demonstration gardens need a volunteer who can commit to coming once a month for an hour or two to keep the composters and worm bins active and productive, to weed and to generally keep the areas tidy and attractive.

## Deepwood

The demonstration area at Deepwood Estates has been getting a facelift these last few weeks thanks to Master Recyclers Donna, Paul and Larry! A Master Recycler is still needed who could maintain the results of their hard work by coming once a month July-December to add material, turn compost, etc.

## Oregon Garden

We have a volunteer composting expert who would like to help us get some good, active composting going at our Oregon Garden site, but she needs another volunteer or two to help her, and then someone who can keep returning monthly to maintain the area July-December.

## Freelance Payback

You are always welcome to design your own payback experience (or call us for ideas!) for any work you do to educate on waste reduction or helping to set up a program in your workplace, school, place of worship, neighborhood, etc.

# Events & Occasions



**Saturday, May 31 | 6:30am - 5:00pm**  
**Straub Environmental Center Spring Nature Hikes**  
**Dog Mountain**

John Savage will lead an all-day hike to view wildflowers located in the Columbia Gorge on the Washington side. This is a difficult hike. Bring food and water. For more information and to register, please call 503-399-8615 after 7 p.m. The hike is free and open to the public.

**Sunday, June 15 | 8:00am - 11:30am**  
**Straub Environmental Center Spring Nature Hikes**  
**Kingston Prairie**

This 52-acre Nature Conservancy Preserve southeast of Stayton is the best example of native prairie remaining in the Central Willamette Valley. Both wet and dry habitats harbor native grasses and a host of wildflowers. To register and get carpooling instructions, call John Savage at 503-399-8615 after 7p.m. The hike is free and open to the public.



Don't forget to  
like us on Facebook!

## The Back Page



**Sick of having a box full of tangled cords?**

TP rolls to the rescue!



Marion County Public Work—Environmental Services

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### Waste Reduction Coordinators:

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