



Important dates:

- March 20 Vernal Equinox
- March 26 - 30 Spring Break
- April 6 Passover begins
- April 8 Easter
- April 21 Earth Day celebrated at Oregon Garden
- April 22 Earth Day
- May 5 Composter Truck-load Sale
- May 10 Business Expo event at State Fair Grounds
- May 13 Mother's Day
- May 28 Memorial Day
- June 12/13 Salem-Keizer Schools out
- June 17 Father's Day

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2012 Mid-Valley Green Award winners announced

By Beth Casper



Attendees at the Green Awards held at the Salem Conference Center

March 3—The Friends of Straub Environmental Learning Center, Marion County Public Works Environmental Services and Garten Services, Inc. presented the winners of the third annual Mid-Valley Green Awards.

The 2012 Mid-Valley Green Award winners were chosen from a pool of businesses, individuals and organizations nominated for outstanding sustainability efforts. All of the nominees are making great strides in practices that ensure cleaner air, water, habitat and livability. But the winners represent all-around best efforts, and their work proves that the Mid-Willamette Valley is fertile ground for green efforts. The following is a list of the winners from each category:

Recycler of the Year: Business

Hillyer's Mid-City Ford

Hillyer's Ford switched to bulk for dozens of its products—even for many hard-to-find items such as aerosol containers—which eliminated excess packaging and individual containers. Hillyer's efforts meant that it could stop its garbage service and instead haul mostly recyclables to the transfer station once every two weeks.



Leo Hillyer accepts Green Award for Business Recycler of the Year

Recycler of the Year: Individual

Gregory Bowman

Gregory Bowman single-handedly strengthened Marion County's battery-recycling program by distributing new collection bins and signs, and educating employees at existing store collection sites, and then finding new collection sites. Bowman also has been working on educational displays about waste reduction at Chemeketa Community College and creating short television shows that focus on the county's recycling programs, which air on Capital Community Television.



Gregory Bowman

Green Apple Award

Sally White

Teacher Sally White has led efforts to make Waldo Middle School an official green school, establish a school garden and develop a new science class in gardening. She is also a Master Recycler and has contributed hundreds of volunteer hours of educating the community about composting and vermiculture. Her efforts at home are equally impressive as she generates energy with solar panels and a solar hot water heater, collects rainwater for gardening, and composts all her food and yard waste in compost or worm bins.

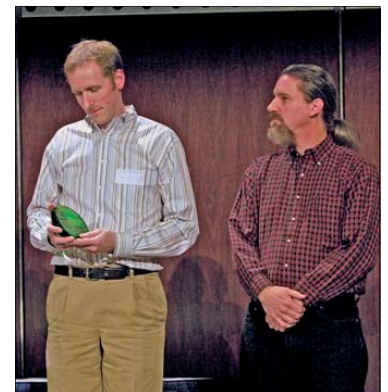


Sally shares a hug with presenter Bailey Payne

Sustainable Organization of the Year: Small Business

Allied Video

Allied Video's move to a 45-year-old warehouse on Front Street in 2010 allowed owners to install solar panels, insulate all of the old walls, add energy-tight windows, use a zoned HVAC system to eliminate energy waste, and add low-flow toilets and sinks. Their office practices followed suit: Employees recycle everything; use reusable and washable dishware; and use electronic rather than paper-based communications.



Scott Hossner and Jeff Hartung of Allied Video Productions

Sustainable Organization of the Year: Large Business

City of Salem

About 72 percent of the city's offices are EarthWISE certified, including the main library, all city fire stations in Marion County, the Willow Lake Wastewater Treatment facility and city hall, while the rest of the buildings are expected to be certified this year. Lighting upgrades in city libraries, city hall and council chambers, and the shops complex will save an estimated 50 percent in energy usage costs, according to the Energy Trust of Oregon; and the use of solar-powered compacting trash cans in remote or high-use areas has resulted in 1,042 fewer vehicle miles traveled by city staff.



Linda Norris and Mike Gotterba, City of Salem



Beth Myers-Shenai presents award to Gary Nishioka of Willamette ENT

EarthWISE Certified Business of the Year

Willamette Ear, Nose, Throat and Facial Plastic Surgery

Willamette Ear, Nose, Throat and Facial Plastic Surgery, which became the first EarthWISE certified business in May 2007, recently expanded its eco-friendly efforts with the addition of solar panels and a porous asphalt parking lot for rainwater to flow into the ground instead of storm drains. But Willamette ENT's real impact has been on the advancement of an entirely new recycling program: medical plastics. With the support of Garten Services, Willamette ENT has been able to divert an entire stream of plastics into the recycling market.

Green Building of the Year: Retrofit

Painter's Hall at Pringle Creek Community

Painter's Hall—the 80-year-old retrofitted building which houses the café, community center, and office and gathering space at Pringle Creek Community—is not only Salem's first LEED Platinum commercial building but also the first net-zero energy commercial building in all of Oregon. Practices within Painter's Hall are just as green: People who rent the facility must follow zero-waste guidelines, including the use of durable dishware that is washed and reused.



Green Building of the Year: New construction:

Water Place

During construction building of Water Place, a LEED Platinum building, 80 percent of the waste was recycled. In its operation, Water Place saves 24 percent more energy and uses 34 percent less water than a conventionally built building of the same size. Abundant natural light illuminates 95 percent of the occupied interior, and more than 75 percent of the office spaces have window views.



2012 Green Champion Award

Representative Vicki Berger

Despite powerful opposition, Rep. Vicki Berger has worked tirelessly over the course of several legislative sessions to champion updates to Oregon’s famous bottle bill. Her efforts helped add water bottles to the 5-cent deposit system in 2007 and then in 2011 to establish redemption centers for containers and expand the program to include sports drinks and any glass, metal or plastic drink container. The Green Champion Award was specifically created to honor her for determined and committed efforts to enact the 2011 expanded Bottle Bill that helps reduce waste while allowing more recycling opportunities in Oregon.



Ask Mister Sustainability

Question: My company is a leader in sustainable business practices. We are practically zero-waste, have cut our carbon footprint dramatically, and have expanded our sustainable practices into the social and economic part of the process. What’s next?

Wow, that’s not a question I get everyday—good for you! Without more information I’ll make some assumptions; your business views waste as inefficiency, incorporates reused and recycled goods in your supply chain, measures and reduces energy use, and your staff takes an active role in your green initiatives. Does that sound about right?

If that’s the case—or only most of the case—then I suggest that communication is the next big thing on the agenda. Since you’re efforts have been directed toward the nuts and bolts of sustainable operations, it’s very important that you convey that story and your commitment to your staff, your suppliers, and your customers.

A consistent internal flow of information about company values and efforts helps maintain and enhance a culture of sustainability among employees. When sustainable practices become ingrained, the sun shines and bluebirds sing.

If your partners and suppliers know what you expect then you have the possibility to not only influence their practices, but you may be able to reduce waste. For example, if you insist on deliveries in reusable crates instead of boxes then you won’t be spending time unpacking and paying for a cardboard container.

Your all-important customer base also needs to know your story. Numerous studies tell us that consumers want to buy from green businesses. Since you are the real deal you have a great story to tell, and there are a zillion ways to do that—social media, newsletters, ads, displays, etc.—just remember to speak from the heart. They’ll believe if you do.

Factoid Department

560,779. That’s how many reusable grocery bags were returned to Marion County Roth’s Fresh Markets in 2011.

How much did all those nickels add up to?
\$28,038.95.

Oregon’s take-back paint recycling program (PaintCare) collected 469,665 gallons during the first year of collection.

That’s enough paint to cover the Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco 63 times.

Marion County’s contribution to the Golden Gate would be about four coats of paint.

DAS recertifies 20 Salem buildings

Green efforts lead to big energy, money savings



Secretary of State Kate Brown and Marion County's Alan Pennington (on right) present a recertification plaque to Director of Department of Administrative Services, Michael Jordan.

March 12—Secretary of State Kate Brown presided over an EarthWISE recertification ceremony held in the State Capitol. Sec. Brown highlighted some of the sustainability efforts that the Oregon Department of Administrative Services has embraced that have reduced energy use and costs. Some of her highlights included:

- Energy savings— up to 30% of the energy used in the year 2000.
- Fleet savings— DAS maintains a focus on the Environmental Management System in State Fleet, which has become a national model for the private sector.

- Green Teams— there are now Green Teams in all of the EarthWISE buildings.
- Web conferencing— the State Procurement Office has avoided millions of dollars by setting up web conferences for training and vendors meetings, as well as tons of carbon emissions.

DAS originally certified 20 of their Salem offices in 2010. Other State of Oregon buildings that are EarthWISE certified include: Department of Energy, State Capitol, Oregon Exposition Center (State Fair), Champoeg State Park, the Oregon Lottery, and the DAS Salem Motor Pool, which had re-certified earlier in 2011.

DAS recertified buildings:

- Agriculture
- Archives
- Commerce & Justice
- Justice
- Employment
- Executive
- General Services
- General Services Annex
- Human Services
- Justice
- Labor & Industries
- Maintenance Shop
- North Mall Office
- Print Plant
- Property Distribution Center
- Public Services
- Public Utility
- Real Estate
- Revenue
- State Data Center
- State Library



Green Team members at the Property Distribution Center show off their EarthWISE recertification.

EarthWISE Member Directory

* Denotes new EarthWISE business

Construction

Advantage Precast, Inc.
Barnwood Naturals, LLC
Carlson Veit Architects, P.C.
CB | 2 Architects
Cherry City Heating
Cherry City Remodeling
dalke construction
Jet Industries
Modern Building Systems, Inc.
Studio 3 Architecture, Inc.

Education

Chemeketa Community College
Woodburn School District

Financial

Bank of the Cascades - Hawthorne Branch
Financial Products and Services, Inc.

Food

Bentley's Grill
BrucePac - Silverton & Woodburn Plants
Cascade Baking
Jonathan's
Kerr Concentrates, Inc.
Kettle Foods
LifeSource Natural Foods
NORPAC Foods - Stayton, Brooks, & Salem Plants
Spring Valley Dairy
TreeTop
Truitt Brothers, Inc.
Willamette Valley Fruit Company

Government

Champoeg State Heritage Area
Marion County Dog Shelter
Marion County Public Works—Silverton Road Campus
Oregon Department of Energy
Oregon Dept. of Administrative Services - 20 Buildings
Oregon Exposition Center
Oregon Lottery
Oregon State Capitol
Oregon - Salem Motor Pool
Salem Civic Center *
Salem Fire Department
Salem Housing Authority
Salem - Information Technology
Salem - Public Works Willow Lake WPCF
Salem - Urban Development's Airport Division
Salem - Urban Development's Director's Office
Salem - Urban Development's Parking Services
Salem Public Library

Landscaping

DeSantis Landscapes, Inc.
The Garden Angels
Green Acres Landscape, Inc.

Medical

Holly Chamberlain D.D.S., L.L.C.
Chiropractic Physicians, P.C.
Miller Orthodontics
Willamette E.N.T. & Facial Plastic Surgery, LLP

Not For Profit

Assistance League of Salem - Daue House
Assistance League of Salem - Encore Furniture
Family Building Blocks*
Garten Services, Inc.
Habitat for Humanity of the Mid-Willamette Valley
Marion-Polk Food Share
SAIF Corporation
Temple Beth Sholom
United Way of the Mid-Willamette Valley
Willamette Lutheran Retirement Community

Professional/Services

AAA Cleaning Service - Metro, Inc.
ABC Window Cleaners & Building Maintenance
AJ's Auto Repair, Inc.
Allied Video Productions *
Cascade Employer's Association
Compex Two Computers
JoyRide Cycling
Kristin LaMont, Attorney at Law P.C.
Lancaster Mall Operations
Law Office of Eden Rose Brown
T-Mobile
VanNatta Public Relations/Spire Management

Real Estate & Commercial Properties

First American Title Insurance Company
Pringle Creek Community
Sperry Van Ness Commercial Advisors
The Epping Group/Creekside Corporate Center

Recycling/Solid Waste

Agri-Plas, Inc.
Covanta Energy, Marion Facility
D & O Garbage Service Inc.
Marion Recycling Center
Pacific Sanitation

Retail/Wholesale

Capital Sewing & Vacuum Center
Habitat for Humanity ReStore
Hillyer's Mid-City Ford
Power Equipment Systems

Tourism

Grand Hotel in Salem
Salem Conference Center
Travel Oregon
Travel Salem

**The something old, something
new department**



While Oregonians might be used to thinking that the recumbent bicycle—one of the most energy efficient transportation devices ever built—is something new, the one shown above was produced in France in the 1930s. After a recumbent broke a world hour for the longest distance covered in an hour in 1933, the design was banned from competition in the UCI (Union Cycliste Internationale) conference. This rare model, the Sironval Sportplex, dates from 1939 and was one of only 200 that were sold.

Source: www.sierraclub.org/sierra/201111/bikes



**To learn more about the EarthWISE business
assistance program, visit our website at
mcEarthWISE.net
or call: 503 365 3188
or email: EarthWISE@co.marion.or.us .**