

November  
2012



SWMAC Positions Open! p. 2

MARION COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS - ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

# Master Recycler Newsletter

## Out With the Old Media...

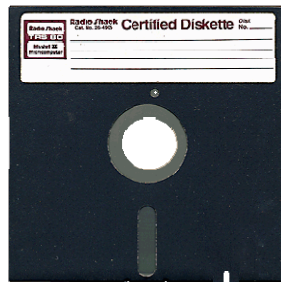


It's been easy to recycle your e-waste in Marion County for more than a decade but not so when it comes to the media that it records on.

Floppy disks, VHS tapes, CDs and more can now be recycled at the Salem-Keizer Recycling & Transfer Station, the North Marion Recycling & Transfer Station and Garten Services.

For nearly five years, Garten Services has been collecting electronics (also known as e-waste) at the transfer stations and taking it to their facility where they prepare it for recycling. Until recently, there was not a good solution for recycling the digital media associated with these products.

In the spring of 2012, Garten began collecting digital media and sending it to GreenDisk, a company based out of Issaquah, Washington. GreenDisk sorts the items into like materials, consolidates them into large loads, destroys any information on the media,



preps products for reuse when possible, and recycles the rest so that the raw materials can be used to manufacture new products.

So what happens to it? Videotapes & audiotapes are degaussed or shredded. The media goes through high-powered electro-magnets that wipe out all

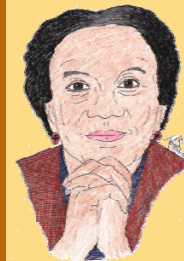
### **Now Accepted:**

- Cassette Tapes
- VHS Tapes
- Floppy Disks
- Electronic Media
- CDs
- DVDs
- Beta Tapes
- 8-Track Tapes

*(Continued on page 2)*

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"Service is the rent we pay for being. It is the very purpose of life and not something you do in your spare time."

-- Marian Wright Edelman

# Media Cont.

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information without any chance of recovery, then videotapes and audiotapes are crushed. The Mylar is removed and the plastics are consolidated for shipping. Other media is dealt with in the same manner – the plastics and metals are separated and consolidated. For media cases, such as jewel cases, those that are in pristine condition are kept to be refurbished and reenter the marketplace. In the case of CDs or DVDs, the shredded plastic is collected until they have a consolidated load of 40,000 pounds (approx. 1.2 million items), the amount it takes to fill a shipping container.



These loads of plastics are shipped either to an EPA granted facility or are traded on the regrind plastics commodity market. The primary applications for the polycarbonate, polypropylene, and polystyrene materials are media related products (such as DVD cases), automotive parts, appliance components, and as a compounding base to make other plastics.

## Council Seeking Members

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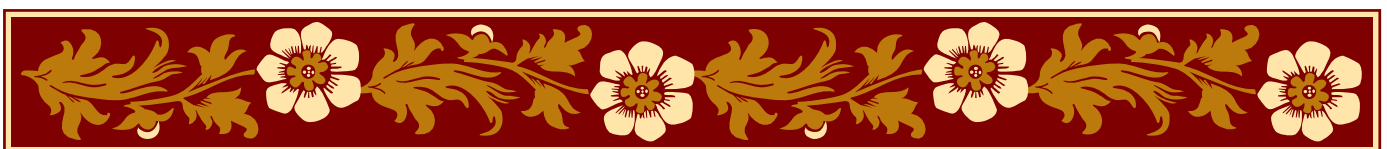
Marion County Environmental Services has a sixteen member advisory council that makes recommendations to the Department on waste reduction and disposal policy issues. The Council is made up of citizens-at-large (50%) and businesses and industry representatives (50%). Members meet once per month in a formal setting to discuss policies on how to reduce both waste flow and toxicity in our county. There are currently 4 positions available, with 2 more opening soon:



- **2 Citizens-at-large** (soon to be 4) - layperson with a general interest in solid waste management issues.
- **1 Public Health represented position** - somebody with a background in the health care or public/environmental health industry, or potentially in health education.
- **1 Community Organization represented position** - somebody that represents a community organization. In the past this person came from the League of Women Voters, for example.

If you are interested in participating, please contact Marion County Public Works - Environmental Services at (503) 588-5169.

SWMAC meetings are held monthly every 4th Tuesday of each month, unless otherwise posted.



# Calling all Creatives!

## North Willamette Valley Habitat for Humanity

### 2012 Fall Reuse Contest – Mt. Angel and Canby ReStores



In an effort to promote reuse and recycling, North Willamette Valley Habitat for Humanity ReStores are hosting a reusable product contest during the months November and December.

The contest, designed to inspire customers to invent new uses for ordinary products, plays on several of the values ReStores champion, such as recycling, reusing, reducing waste, and rebuilding. This contest is open everyone. Entrants are encouraged to come up with inventive uses for ReStore inventory. All entries must include at least one product purchased at the Mt. Angel or Canby ReStores.

#### How to Enter

1. Email 4 pictures of your project including before and after.
2. Attach a description that explains the project and the materials used.
3. Provide your full name, address, telephone number, and email address.

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place      \$100    Gift Certificate  
2<sup>nd</sup> Place      \$50      Gift Certificate  
3<sup>rd</sup> Place      \$25      Gift Certificate



Contest begins on November 9, 2012 and ends on December 22, 2012 – send submissions to [restore@nwvhfh.org](mailto:restore@nwvhfh.org)

#### Canby ReStore

411 S Redwood St.  
Canby, OR 97013  
503.263.6691

#### Mt. Angel ReStore

225 Franklin St.  
Mt. Angel, OR 97362  
503.845.4161

#### NWV ReStore Website

[nwvrestore.org](http://nwvrestore.org)

#### About North Willamette Valley Habitat for Humanity

North Willamette Valley Habitat for Humanity is the second of 33 affiliates established in Oregon. In the last 25 years, 37 homes have been constructed by volunteers and purchased by local Habitat families: one in Scotts Mills, six in Woodburn, seven in Mt. Angel, 14 in Silverton, three in Gervais, and six in Canby. In addition, NWV Habitat has built 56 homes overseas for a total of over 90 families served! This affiliate also serves Aurora, Hubbard, and Molalla. The first ReStore was opened on January 17, 2009 in Mt. Angel.





# Graduate Gallery



Thanks to Master Recycler Margaret Strong for volunteering to help people make dog toys out of reused items at the Howlaplooza dog licensing event on Oct. 6th. This is what one of the organizers had to say about her:

“I'm really glad Margaret was able to come. She did a wonderful job interacting with the crowd and even donated her homemade toys to us for use at other events! She's knowledgeable and friendly and I had a great time visiting with her between guests.”

## Dog Gone Green

Eco-friendly dog toys that you can make at home!  
Reuses items that you have at home to make creative and fun dog toys that your pets can play with for hours.



## Congratulations Master Recycler Class 26!



## TASTY TIDBITS

### Beware...



**For your** chuckle of the day do a YouTube search for “Tackle Litter”, the South Dublin City Council’s very funny and cute public service announcement to combat the problem of littering in their area.

The video shows a litter can keeping an eye out for litterers then taking things into its own hands.

Tackle litter before it tackles you, Ireland! And don’t worry. No old ladies were harmed in the making of this video.

### Cardboard Crazy

**A couple** of innovative thinkers have set their sights on cardboard as an alternative building material.

The *Carton King Restaurant* in Taiwan was the brainchild of a former paper salesman. [www.huffingtonpost.com](http://www.huffingtonpost.com)



This cardboard bike, which costs \$9-12 (and countless hours!) to make comes courtesy of inventor Izhar Gafni of Israel. [www.treehugger.com](http://www.treehugger.com)



### Battle in Seattle

**A federal appeals** court has overturned a Seattle law allowing for the restriction of yellow page phone book distribution.



The 9th Circuit Court of Appeals ruled that directories qualify for full free speech protection under the First Amendment, according to the decision. The law had required publishers of the directories to obtain a permit and pay a fee to cover the cost of operating and promoting an opt-out registry for residents and the directories.

The publishers challenged the law and a U.S. District Court upheld it, ruling that the directories represented commercial speech, which is allowed less protection under the First Amendment. But the Pasadena, Calif.-based Circuit Court of Appeals determined that Seattle does not have the right to enact or enforce opt-out programs. ~From [waste360.com](http://waste360.com)

### Wear on!

**An important** part of reducing waste is making the things we already have last longer. Here are some tips from earth911 on getting the most out of your clothing:

- ➔ Soak jeans in a 50/50 vinegar/water solution before washing them the first time to keep them from fading. Also turn them inside-out each wash.
- ➔ Add 1/3 cup vinegar to the rinse cycle to preserve all bright colors.
- ➔ Tackle stains immediately with club soda or warm, soapy water.
- ➔ Extend shoe life by giving them a quick wipe with a damp cloth after each use.
- ➔ Store properly! Hang appropriate clothes on sturdy hangers and fold things that will get stretched by hanging. ~earth911.com



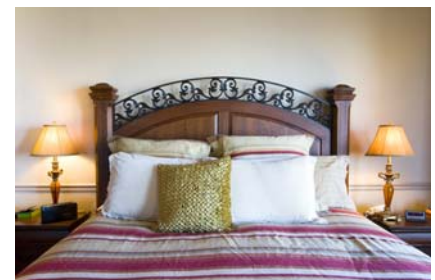
### Earth Machine Winner



**Ron and Jean Comstock** of Salem won an Earth Machine composter in a drawing that took place at the recent Salem Home and Remodeling Show. Master recycler volunteers staffed a booth that featured composting opportunities in Marion County and provided ideas about how to reduce waste and recycle more.

### Rest Easy

**Hotel giant** Hilton Worldwide has announced that it has begun a new program to recycle 85 percent of its mattresses and box springs as it installs new bedding. Working with DH Hospitality, parts of old mattresses might be recycled into tools, automobiles, construction materials, wood products, oil filters and other materials. ~From *Resource Recycling*





# Master Recycler Call to Serve



**Friday—Sunday January 18, 19, & 20th.**

**Mid-Willamette Valley Home Show**

**Oregon State Fairgrounds**

Volunteers needed to staff table at the Mid-Willamette Valley Home Show as we focus on publicizing ways to reduce hazardous waste on the job and at home.

Contact Alan Pennington at [apennington@co.marion.or.us](mailto:apennington@co.marion.or.us) or 503-365-3188 to sign up.

The following shifts are available:

**Friday**

1pm-5pm

5pm-8pm

**Saturday**

10am-1:30pm

1:30pm- 5pm

5pm-8pm

**Sunday**

10am-1:30pm

1:30pm- 5pm

## Events & Occasions



**Tuesday, December 4th, 2012 at 7:45PM**

**Wednesday, December 5th, 2012 at 7:45PM**

**Movie benefit for Friends of Straub Environmental Learning Center!**

***Green Fire: Aldo Leopold and a Land Ethic for Our Time***

**Salem Cinema**

Purchase tickets in advance for \$10 at the Salem Cinema box office during regular business hours or purchase them for \$12 the day of the event.

**Tuesday, December 11th, 2012**

**4:00 networking | 4:45 remarks**

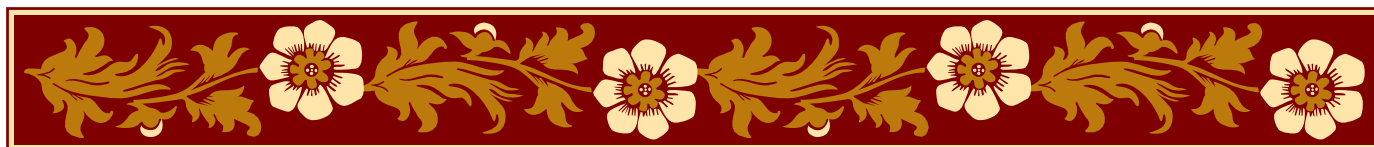
**Clean Energy Works Oregon Mid-Willamette Valley Launch Celebration**

**Oregon State Capital Galleria**

Please join policy makers, community and business leaders at the Oregon State Capitol Galleria to celebrate the launch of Clean Energy Works Oregon for residents of Marion, Polk and Yamhill counties. There will be light appetizers and a short presentation on how you can help your community benefit from Clean Energy Works.

Clean Energy Works has already helped more than 2,000 Oregonians make their homes more comfortable and energy efficient, while creating local family-supporting jobs.

Please RSVP to [julianne.thacher@cleanenergyworksoregon.org](mailto:julianne.thacher@cleanenergyworksoregon.org) by 12/7.



## The Back Page

Creative reuse for the holidays anyone? Here are a couple of ideas for great homemade gifts to get you started!

Hanging pot rack from an old ladder



Jewelry hanger from cabinet knobs



Marion County Public Work—Environmental Services

5155 Silverton Rd. NE

Salem, OR 97305

### Waste Reduction Coordinators:

**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)

**Griselda Puga**

503-566-4159

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