



# Re-Co-Ver Review

Master Composter/Recycler Newsletter

## From the MCR Desk - Outreach Season is Here!

June 2009

*“ Well is there waste? Well I don't know. One thing dies to make another thing grow. The circle we see most everyday, the thing that we call it is ... decay.”*

*~The Banana Slug String Band*

Do you ever consider how dirt made your lunch? I know, composters talk about never calling soil dirt, or treating it like dirt. But to grab a kids attention – it's ok to say “*Guess what, dirt made your lunch!*”

It is pretty amazing when you think of it. Take some rocks, a bunch of organic material and add weathering and decomposition and *shazam!* - soil. Add to the recipe sunlight and water and like magic you can make carrots, apple trees, tomatoes or even a cow!



Recycling and composting are all about cycles, and I like to remind myself and the children and adults in our workshops how we are part of nature's cycles. One of the coolest ones is the soil and life cycle which grows our bodies, gardens and food.

A family wormshop is a great way to reach children with this basic life science lesson. Vermicomposting is first hand experience in decomposition and soil building. During April and May, Master Composter/Recyclers reached sixty-three people with this concept at worm composting workshops. Thanks a bunch to the volunteers who helped with the spring worm classes– Jim Carpenter, Robert Conser, Jean Harrington, Mary Hinojosa, Shirley Hoffman, Brigg Franklin, Sharyl Mackay, Jean Roniger and Andrea Thompson.

Next time you stroll through the Farmer's Market, and see all that lovely bounty, you can thank the “dirt” as well as the farmer. “*Thank you dirt, thanks a bunch, cause dirt made my lunch!*”

My best,

*Jo Anne Dolan*

Sustainability Programs Director

Master Composter/Recycler Coordinator

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*Photos:* (left) Shirley Hoffman shows how to bed a worm bin at a Family Wormshop.

(below) The St. John family of Ridgefield shows off their newly bedded wormbin at a Family Wormshop at CASEE.



## Recycling and Sustainability News



### The Recycled Arts Festival, Sat. - Sun. June 27-

28 celebrates the fun and creativity of re-use, recycling and up-cycling by bringing local craftspeople and artisans, music and food together in a two day festival. Now in its' fourth year at Vancouver's Esther Short Park, the event will be open from 9 - 4 each day and promises to be even better this summer, with music, a Junk to Funk Fashion Show, Eartha the Ecological Clown, and 65 vendors of wonderful recycled art to view and purchase. See [www.recycledartsfestival.org/](http://www.recycledartsfestival.org/) for a schedule of entertainment. This is a great opportunity for MCR volunteer payback hours. There are still some timeslots available. Call or email soon to volunteer to staff this event.

### Naturally Beautiful Backyards Garden Party/Lecture *Right Plant Right Place*, Sat. June 13, 3 - 4:30 p.m.

A free lecture on "Right Plant – Right Place" focusing on how be an Earth-friendly gardener at the residence of Erskine and Sandy Wood at their historic gardens along the Columbia River in Vancouver. This lecture and garden tour will focus on the important task of choosing the right plants for your garden or landscape and finding the best place for them. Master Gardener Joan Veach will present a slide show, which will be followed by a tour of the Smithsonian-award winning gardens of the Wood family to observe examples of this gardening concept. Refreshments will be provided. **Pre-registration is required.** To register for this workshop please contact [nbb@columbiasprings.org](mailto:nbb@columbiasprings.org) call 360.882.0936 x 225

### WSU Master Gardener Tour of Clark County CSA Farms, Thurs, June 18, 2009, 8:30 - 4 p.m.

This "Master Gardeners on the road " tour will give Clark County residents an up close look at four farms and gardens that offer community supported agriculture memberships. WSU educators and the farmers will provide commentary throughout the tour. A \$35 registration fee includes a catered luncheon prepared from local ingredients by Anna Petruolo of "A Dinner Together." Registration for the tour can be made online at:

<https://ocrs.wsu.edu/Signup/?eventid=534>

Please call Carolyn Gordon with any registration questions at:360-397-6060 x7718.

### Got Juice? MCR Volunteer looking for juice boxes.

When not chasing after toxic waste spills for the WA Dep't of Ecology, or hosting Vancouver Green Drinks networking events, Class of 2006 graduate Laura Sauermilch might be found creating funky cook shoulder-bags or purses out of Capri Sun juice boxes. See photo right. If you have juice boxes please save them for Laura and bring to a volunteer meeting or email her at [mooseandmush@yahoo.com](mailto:mooseandmush@yahoo.com)



## Volunteer Meeting

### June Volunteer Meeting

Thursday, June 18 6:30- 8:00 p.m.

Location: CASEE, 11104 NE 149th, Brush Prairie

**Meet at Gazebo at west end of center at garden entrance. This is on west side of CASEE complex.**

Join us for an exploration of the NatureScaping Gardens and the MCR Composting Demonstration Site at CASEE in Brush Prairie. If you have not visited the lovely NatureScaping gardens in Clark County, our June meeting will be a great opportunity to do so. We'll flit through the butterfly gardens, take a gander at a wildlife habitat garden and visit the newly refurbished MCR composting demo site.

Class of 2009 graduate Monte Multanen has been the on-the-ground leader of the composting demonstration site move and renovation. Last fall and this past winter, with the help of Monte, Columbia Springs staff, and students at CASEE, the composting facility moved to its' new and improved home next to the NatureScaping gardens. With the hard work and enthusiasm of Monte and Brigg Franklin, another 2009 MCR graduate, the demo site is now more visible to the public and is up and running - actively making compost.

## Volunteers In Action

(Right) Deb Nichols and her compost pup.

(Below left to right) Brigg Franklin and Donna Egan at the Vancouver's Farmer's Market. Sharyl Mackay and Linda Rectanus at the Camas Mother's Day Plant and Garden Fair.



## Upcoming Volunteer Events and Opportunities

### Clark County Fair from Aug. 6-16.

This August, Master Composter/Recyclers will be at the Clark County Fair. We will share a space with other Clark County conservation organizations. This is our **biggest** outreach event of the year and **we need your help** to spread composting and recycling information throughout the community. Everyone, if you can, please select a shift that you can staff. You will receive a free fair pass when you volunteer.

**Reminder:** Please submit your timesheet monthly for our record-keeping. Why track your hours? Our funding depends on it, in order to meet our obligations to our funders we must complete a certain amount of volunteer service per year. Your payback hours are a critical part of this formula. Please use the timesheet at the end of the newsletter to report your hours. Thank you!



### Vancouver Farmer's Market - Saturdays June 13, July 11 & Aug. 8

This is a great opportunity for lots of good conversations with the community. Plus you get to shop for fresh veggies. Many people at workshops and who come to buy compost machines tell us they hear about us for the first time at the Farmer's Market!

### Recycled Arts Festival - Sat. - Sun. June 27 and 28, at Esther Short Park

Music, recycled arts and crafts and more. We still need volunteers to help with this community celebration in June. It is really a fun event. Sign up now!



### Block Foam Special Waste Collection Events - Ongoing, Saturdays

Volunteers are needed to help staff these events. Saturdays 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Please see flyer at end of newsletter for dates and locations. To volunteer call Elsie Deatherage, City of Vancouver 360.619.4122 or email [elsie.deatherage@ci.vancouver.wa.us](mailto:elsie.deatherage@ci.vancouver.wa.us)

Sat. June 6. Hockinson, Fire Station, 17718 NE 159th St. **HHW/Electronics/Block Foam.**

Sat. June 6. Clark College Yellow Lot 1. **Block Foam Recycling**

Sat. June 13. Camas, Public Works, 1620 SE 8th Avenue. **HHW/Block Foam .**

Sat. June 27. **Dollars Corner** , Fire Station, 21609 NE 72nd Avenue. **Household Hazardous Waste/Block Foam .**



The Master Composter/Recycler Program is a program of Columbia Springs. It is offered in partnership with Clark County Solid Waste Program and is a cooperative effort of, Battle Ground, Camas, Clark County, La Center, Ridgefield, Vancouver, Washougal, and Yacolt.

Comments, questions, suggestions, brainstorm, anything at all...[mcr@columbiasprings.org](mailto:mcr@columbiasprings.org) (360) 882-0936 x 224 Or stop on by the Heron House at Columbia Springs, 12602 SE Evergreen HWY, Vancouver, WA 98683

# MASTER COMPOSTER/RECYCLER VOLUNTEER HOURS LOG SHEET

New Volunteers – 30 hours payback in the first year

Veteran Volunteers – 15 hours per year

**VOLUNTEER NAME** \_\_\_\_\_

**JAN FEB MARCH APRIL MAY JUNE JULY AUG SEPT OCT NOV DEC YEAR     2009**

(circle months covered)

DATE	VOLUNTEER PAYBACK HOURS EVENT	MILEAGE (for your records)	TOTAL CONTACTS	TOTAL VOL. HOURS
<b>CONTINUING EDUCATION</b> <b>(Field Trips, Workshops, Conferences, Advanced Training Etc.)</b> <b>5 Hours Per Year Required</b>				

**MC/R MEETINGS – 3rd Thursday of each month (no August meeting).**

**Attendance qualifies as 2 volunteer payback hours.**

**Return monthly to:**

Master Composter/Recycler Program  
 Columbia Springs  
 12602 SE Evergreen Highway  
 Vancouver, WA 98683  
 Phone: 360.882-4567 [mcr@columbiasprings.org](mailto:mcr@columbiasprings.org)

