



Re-Co-Ver Review

Master Composter/Recycler Newsletter

From the MCR Desk

December 2011

"We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give."

-Winston Churchill.

One thing I love about my job, besides getting to meet and work with so many great people, is that the Master Composter/Recycler Program makes things better.

A little girl's excited smile as she explores the forest and finds a mushroom during our nutrient cycle activity at the Student Watershed Festival (photo right); the people who come to the office to buy a compost machine because they met an MCR volunteer who inspired them to start feeding the earth instead of the landfill; the woman who sees our interpretive sign about how much energy is saved by recycling a six-pack of cans and tells me she now has the information she needs to get her husband to get with the program and start recycling—these things indicate that what we do makes a difference.

This year Master Composter/Recyclers shared information with over 8000 individuals at 37 different community events. We taught 16 workshops that showed 300 people how to compost or vermicompost. The ripple effect of all this peer education is hard to quantify, but it is real. Working together, we've spread waves of positive impact that improved our community and world.

Our volunteer recognition event later this month will celebrate all this good work and your contributions. I hope you will join us at Fort Vancouver's Hamilton Hall on the evening of December 15 to celebrate us making things better together.

My best,

Jo Anne Dolan

Master Composter/Recycler Coordinator

Sustainability Programs Director, Columbia Springs

Inside this issue:

<i>From the MCR Desk</i>	1
<i>Volunteer Meeting</i>	2
<i>Volunteer Opportunities</i>	3
<i>Christmas Tree Recycling</i>	4

Links in this newsletter are live: follow them to reach websites or email addresses referenced.



Volunteer Meeting - Thursday, December 15, 6:30 - 8 p. m.

December Volunteer Meeting

“Volunteers Make it Better Together”

Thursday, Dec. 15, 6:30 - 8 p.m.

Hamilton Hall (the old Red Cross building)

605 Barnes Street, Vancouver WA 98661

Master Composter/Recyclers have helped thousands of people in Clark County to learn more about recycling, backyard composting, vermicomposting, proper disposal of household hazardous waste, and more. The impacts of your good deeds include a healthier and more sustainable Clark County.

Please join us for a festive evening celebrating our 2011 accomplishments at our volunteer recognition gathering. The evening's festivities will include hors d'oeuvres; live music by Levi Warren; awards for the class of 2011 members who have completed their volunteer payback hours; as well as great company and holiday cheer. Our theme this year is: **“Volunteers Make it Better Together”**

Please come celebrate all you have done to make things better! RSVP by December 12.



Recycling and Sustainability News



Season of Sharing - Where to Recycle Block Foam

This is a time of year when folks often receive items that are packed in block foam (polystyrene foam). This holiday season please share the good tidings that block foam is recyclable in Clark County, and is accepted for recycling at Empower Up at 500 E. Fourth Plain Blvd. in Vancouver. To drop off block foam, drive behind the building from the northeast side of the complex—Empower Up is open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday –Saturday.

Start a Green Holiday Tradition

The winter holidays are a special time filled with celebration and traditions, why not make them more special by incorporating your very own green traditions?

Here are two ideas for repurposing holiday cards :

1. Use them to make cut-outs for home crafted packaging and cards for next year. Or trim them with pinking shears and tie them together with a ribbon for a banner or vertical display. Or make new cards with them.
2. Donate your used holiday cards to a group that helps children repurpose and sell them. Mail your cards to the St. Jude's Ranch for Children Recycled Card Program at 100 St. Jude's Street Boulder City, NV 89005.

Volunteer Opportunities

This coming year The Master Composter/Recycler program will celebrate its twentieth anniversary. There are several ways you can help us gear up for our class of 2012. Join a work party assembling volunteer training manuals and getting ready for the spring event season at our third Thursday in January volunteer meeting. Or sign up to help us host one of our training evenings - a fun way to pay it forward while greeting our newest members!

Below is a flyer advertising the upcoming training for the class of 2012 Master Composter/Recyclers. Please share this opportunity to join the 2012 cadre with your friends and community. Print this flyer and post it at your community center, church, grocery store or neighborhood coffee shop. Help us to promote sustainability by recruiting more Master Composter/Recyclers!



BE THE CHANGE!
SHARE, EDUCATE, INSPIRE

Join others in the community with a passion for sustainability, become a

Master Composter/Recycler

Register for the **FREE** Master Composter/Recycler Volunteer Training. Learn about composting, recycling, wormbins, & other ways to healthier, green living.

Thursdays 6-8:30 p.m. Feb. 2-April 5, 2012
This community service program makes a difference in Clark County!

Information and applications at
www.columbiasprings.org/mcr
or call 360.882.0936 x 224

 Columbia Springs
explore experience learn

 CLARK COUNTY, WASHINGTON



The Master Composter/Recycler Program
at Columbia Springs
is sponsored
by Clark County Environmental Services



Recycle your Christmas tree

Remember, please remove tinsel, lights, ornaments, wire, stands and other materials that are not a part of the tree.

Self haul:

- **Central Transfer and Recycling Center** 11034 NE 117th Ave., Vancouver - \$1 (*first three trees*)
- **H&H Wood Recyclers** 8401 NE 117th Ave., Vancouver - \$1
- **City Bark** 2419 NE Andresen Road, Vancouver - \$1
- **McFarlane's Bark** 8806 NE 117th Ave., Vancouver- \$2
- **West Van Materials Recovery Center** 6601 NW Old Lower River Road, Vancouver - \$1 (*first three trees*)
- **Triangle Resources** 612 SE Union, Camas - \$2
- **Washougal Transfer Station** 4020 South Grant Street, Washougal - \$1 (*first three trees*)

Curbside pickup:

- **The Boy Scouts** will be picking up Christmas Trees on January 8, 2011 for a suggested donation of \$7. Please leave your donation in an envelope taped to your front door and your tree by the curb no later than 8 a.m. on January 8.
- **Curbside yard debris** subscribers may recycle their tree in their yard debris cart on their regular yard debris collection day. Be sure to cut the tree down to fit in the cart with the lid closed.
- **Your garbage service provider** will pick up flocked or artificial trees, up to 6 feet tall, for the cost of a garbage extra. The extra fee varies from \$3.50 to \$7.08, depending on where you live in the county.

For more information, call
Clark County
Environmental
Services, (360)
397-2121
ext. 4352.

