



Reduce Waste + Recycle More

fall 2011

www.tricountyrecycle.com

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FREE Drug Take Back Event

TriCounty joins with community partners to support FREE Drug-Take Back Event.

Jimmy was three weeks into the second half of his senior year, looking at a bright future of someday owning his own restaurant and amazing customers with the culinary skills that already wowed his friends and family. He had already been accepted to a brilliant culinary school.

The dreams were cut short one cold January day by a deadly combination of medications – one prescribed by Jimmy’s physician to treat anxiety, and the other a prescription pain medication which Jimmy was using to get high. His parents were unaware of the abuse of the pain killer. His friends were not.

Across the nation, we are hearing stories like Jimmy’s with heart-wrenching frequency – young lives ended in an instant by of the abuse of prescription medication. Most often, it is not their name on the prescription.

Prescription drug abuse is the most rapidly increasing form of substance abuse today. Over 6.2 million people age 12 and older report abusing prescription drugs, according to a 2008 study by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. Oregon ranks among the top ten states for abuse of prescription drugs, at all ages.

Every day, more than 4,000 children and teens begin experimenting with prescription drugs. Seventy percent of people ages 12 and older who abuse prescription drugs get them from family or friends. “Some people can become inadvertent drug pushers by leaving their prescription opioids, stimulants and depressants in places where their kids can get

our community will have a FREE Community Drug Take Back event, from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM at the Health & Wellness Fair at Water’s Edge. TriCounty Hazardous Waste & Recycling has joined forces with Mid-Columbia Medical Center, Planetree Health Resource Center, YouthThink, Eastern Region Oregon DEQ, The Dalles Police Department and the Wasco County Sheriff Department to support this event.

- The event will accept:
- Household prescription medicines
 - Over the counter medicines
 - Vitamins and nutritional supplements
 - Pet medicines
- Medicines must be in their original containers for identification purposes.

“TriCounty is excited to have such a strong alliance of agencies in our area joining together to address the challenge of the disposal of medications,” says David Skakel, Program Coordinator for TriCounty HWR. “The improper disposal of medication presents both a public health and environmental health issue that is of great concern for our entire community.”

Community Drug Take Back
AT THE HEALTH & WELLNESS FAIR AT WATER'S EDGE
Saturday, October 1
10 am – 2 pm

Did You Know...

- 70% of people 12 and older who abuse prescription drugs get them from family or friends?
- A study of 139 streams in 30 states, found drugs in 80% of water samples?

Come to Water's Edge, 551 Lone Pine Blvd, The Dalles, on Oct. 1 and turn in your expired or unwanted:

- Household prescription medicines
- Over the counter medicines
- Vitamins and nutritional supplements
- Pet medicines
- Medicines must be in their original containers for identification purposes.

NOT ACCEPTED:

- Needles or sharps
- Thermometers
- Medical waste
- Medical equipment

For more information about the Community Drug Take Back, contact the Planetree Health Resource Center 541-296-8444 or www.mcmc.net/library

For more information about disposal of "NOT ACCEPTED" materials, contact Planetree (donations: Waste & Recycling at 541-336-2626 or www.tricountyrecycle.com)

KEEP UNWANTED DRUGS AWAY FROM KIDS, AND OUT OF STREAMS AND WATERWAYS.

MCMC
MID-COLUMBIA MEDICAL CENTER

Sponsored by: Mid-Columbia Medical Center, Planetree Health Resource Center, YouthThink, Eastern Region Oregon DEQ, The Dalles Police Department, Wasco County Sheriff Department, Tri-County Hazardous Waste & Recycling

them,” says Joseph Califano, Jr., Chairman and President of The National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University.

It is a crisis of epidemic proportions, and it is time for our community to act. On Saturday, October 1,

For more information about the Drug Take Back, contact the Planetree Health Resource Center at 541-296-8444, or www.mcmc.net/library.

Where can I recycle?

Combined (mixed) recyclables can be taken to:

• **The Dalles Disposal Service**
1317 W 1st St, The Dalles
541-298-5149 • Mon-Sat 9am-5pm

• **Hood River Garbage Service**
3440 Guignard Drive, Hood River
541-386-2272 • Mon-Sat 9am-5pm

• **Mel's Sanitary Service Inc.**
Transfer Station
57590 Yew Drive, Tygh Valley
541-483-2500 • Mon-Fri 8am-2pm

"24-7" Self-Service Recycling Depots Maupin Mt. Hood Town Hall

Sherman County recycling depots:

Grass Valley (Mon & Tues 1-3 pm)

Moro (2nd Fri & Sat 9 am-4:30 pm)

Wasco (3rd Fri & Sat 9am-4:30pm)

Rufus (4th Fri & Sat 9am-4:30 pm)

Separated (sorted by type) recyclables can be taken to:

A&P Recycling

280 Webber Street, The Dalles
Mon-Fri 10-6, Sat 8-2.
Closed Sunday & holidays

Dufur Lions Recycling Depot

Dufur City Park
Saturday mornings

Newspapers can be taken to:

Lions Club trailers at Safeway
and Rosauers parking lots
Hood River

Mid-Columbia Special Olympics bins
by the old Hollywood Video,
SaveAlot Store,
and The Dalles Middle School
The Dalles.

St. Peter's Pack 398 bin at
St. Mary's Academy, The Dalles

TriCounty grants help local
groups capitalize on coins
from bottles, cans

Hood River LEO Club Recycling Program
First Saturday of each month, 9am-1pm
Rosauers parking lot, Hood River

Home At Last Humane Society
200 River Road, The Dalles
(watch for their "Cans for Canines"
trailers at area parks and events)

TriCounty Grants help local groups capitalize on coins for bottles, cans

A nickel may not seem like much when you are holding an empty can in your hand, but those coins really add up when you begin saving them. That's what local nonprofit groups are finding, with help from TriCounty Hazardous Waste & Recycling Program (TriCounty).

This summer, TriCounty provided grants, roughly \$5,000 each, to the US Forest Service at Lost Lake on Mt. Hood and to Home at Last Humane Society to support recycling redemption efforts.

More than 30,000 people visit Lost Lake each year to enjoy the beauty of this serene lake. Lost Lake is home to more than 120 camp sites, as well as Lost Lake Resort, which offers a lodge, store, and several rustic cabins.

"While we are excited that many people enjoy [Lost Lake], the waste generated at this facility is substantial and a challenge to address," says Scott Snair, Community Stewardship Coordinator for the Forest Service at Lost Lake Campground. The remote nature of the lake is a significant hurdle to a recycling program. Snair developed a plan to address beverage container recycling, utilizing 8 bear-proof steel containers distributed throughout

Boy Scouts will sort the contents and return the deposit cans and bottles to area distributors. The Boy Scouts have been collecting cans and bottles to fund their activities for years. The added volume of containers coming out of Lost Lake will be a benefit to programs offered to the boys.

Snair approached TriCounty early this summer to request a grant to help fund the recycling container project at Lost Lake. The grant from TriCounty enabled Lost Lake Campground to receive an internal Forest Service Sustainability Grant to fund the remaining cost of the project. "With the Lost Lake Campground as a pilot program this



Gracie Skakel paddleboarding on Lost Lake

year, we would love to expand its successes to other campgrounds within our district in subsequent years," says Snair.

"We are very excited about the partnerships that brought this recycling project at Lost Lake together," says David Skakel, TriCounty Program Coordinator. "The success of this program not only results in an even more pristine forest and lake, but it is also going to financially benefit Lost Lake Campground by decreasing the amount of garbage that has to be hauled out."

Another program capitalizing on the money found in bottles and cans is Home at Last Humane Society. In 2010, Home at Last received a grant from TriCounty to purchase 2 mobile Bottle and Can Redemption trailers to strengthen their "Cans for Canines" fundraising program. Over the course of the year, the addition of the trailers enabled their Bottle/Can collection program to bring in an additional \$10,000. The funds have been crucial to the Humane Society's ability to continue services, in the face of decreased funding from other sources. The success of the redemption trailers prompted Home at Last to apply for another grant this summer, which enabled them to purchase 2 more trailers. Home at Last has hired a part-time employee to manage the "Cans for Canines" program. Redemption trailers are now parked permanently at The English Pub in downtown Hood River, LePage Park (located at the confluence of the John Day and Columbia Rivers), and The Dalles Marina.



the campground and day-use areas, and a central depot trailer with the capacity to hold 10,000 cans and bottles. Roy Hillmick, operator of Lost Lake Campground, will maintain the containers and transport the trailer to Hood River, where local

Unique partnership unveils Gorge's first dedicated business materials exchange

This summer, Hood River-based joeboard.com launched the region's first and only materials exchange exclusively for business waste. TriCounty Hazardous Waste & Recycling and Gorge Owned Business Network partnered with joeboard.com to support the endeavor. Rather than throwing away their "extras" or materials that are no longer needed, businesses in Sherman, Wasco and Hood River counties

procurement costs, while also encouraging the formation of cottage industries.

"We believe that reusing, recycling and minimizing waste is becoming increasingly important for our busy and growing community," says Janelle Koester, founder and owner of joeboard.com.

David Skakel, Program Coordinator for TriCounty HWR, saw joeboard.com as a natural fit for hosting the business materials



can easily and affordably promote their trash as treasure to other area businesses online.

Local businesses can post items online at joeboard.com free, or for an annual fee, businesses can acquire a \$12 annual "joe-pass", which allows them to post photos along with their items. As an enticement, that fee is currently waived for members of Gorge-Owned Business Network. Rather than paying waste disposal fees to put unwanted items in the garbage or even recycling, they can post them for re-use online. For those businesses taking advantage of the items offered on the exchange, it can help them save money on

exchange, as it had the ideal framework in place to implement the program quickly and easily.

A recent perusal of the site showed items such as tincture bottles with droppers, computer cable, cold packs for shipping, and cooking oil. Categories on the site include: Biomass, Computers/Electronics, Construction, Glass, Liquids, Metal, Oil/wax/lubricant, Packaging, Paint/coating, Plastic/rubber, Textiles/leather, and Miscellaneous.

For more information, please email joe@joeboard.com.



Properly dispose of your leftover chemicals for FREE

- Oil & latex paints • Yard & garden products
- Household cleaners & chemicals • Automotive fluids (NOT motor oil)
- Old gas & kerosene • Pool & spa chemicals
- Hobby solvents & glues
- Propane bottles & tanks
- Lithium, ni-cad, alkaline and rechargeable batteries (NOT lead acid)
- Old ballasts, fluorescent tubes & CFL bulbs
- Thermostats & thermometers • Fire extinguishers

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

GET RID OF UNWANTED DANGEROUS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

MONTHLY Households and Small Businesses Hazardous Waste Collections

Take advantage of these upcoming events to dispose of hazardous wastes from your home, business or farm for FREE. Please be aware that materials will not be accepted before event opening or after event closing.

Business and agricultural producers, pre-registration is required to get an appointment for these events. Please call our contractor, PSC Environmental Services at 1-800-547-2436. This ensures that proper supplies are ready for your load.

Questions? Call the Tri-County program at 541-506-2636 or visit our web site

Hood River Garbage Service 3440 Guignard Drive

October 21	Friday	9am-2pm
November 18	Friday	9am-2pm
December 16	Friday	9am-2pm
January 20	Friday	9am-2pm
February 17	Friday	9am-2pm
March 16	Friday	9am-2pm

The Dalles Disposal 1317 W First St.

October 22	Saturday	9am-2pm
November 19	Saturday	9am-2pm
December 17	Saturday	9am-2pm
January 21	Saturday	9am-2pm
February 18	Saturday	9am-2pm
March 17	Saturday	9am-2pm

Rural Household & Small Business Collections

October 8	Saturday	10am-2pm
Tygh Valley, Mel's Sanitary Service Inc. 57590 Yew Drive		
October 29	Saturday	10am-2pm
Mosier, Mosier School, 1204 First Avenue		

Agricultural Producers & Small Businesses ONLY

November 9	Wednesday	10am-2pm
Hood River Garbage Service, 3440 Guignard Dr		
November 10	Thursday	10am-2pm
The Dalles Disposal, 1317 W First Street		
February 23	Thursday	10am-2pm
Hood River Garbage Service, 3440 Guignard Dr		
February 24	Friday	10am-2pm
The Dalles Disposal, 1317 W First Street		

www.tricountyrecycle.com



Dirt Hugger
541.946.3478
www.dirthugger.com
Using locally collected organic materials to create nutrient rich compost.

Love your soil.
Give it Dirt Hugger.

It has been a productive summer for TriCounty!

What can you do to keep unwanted drugs away from kids and out of our streams and water ways?

- 1) Most important, secure the medicines that you do want to keep at home.
- 2) Bring your expired or unwanted medications to Water's Edge on October 1, from 10-2 for the FREE Drug-Take-Back event.

TriCounty staff have seen a number of exciting developments this spring and summer.

New staff: We were sad to see long-time staff member and Program Coordinator Cindy Brown move on to new career adventures this spring. Cindy took a position leading the Youth 4-H Program in Sherman County. She continues to be a strong advocate and partner for recycling, reuse, hazardous waste reduction, and thoughtful consumption.

David Skakel moved into Cindy's position as TriCounty Program Coordinator. Heather Alexander was hired in mid-June to support TriCounty as Solid Waste Specialist. Heather was selected from a varied pool of applicants for her background in public relations and marketing. She is making connections with businesses, organizations and individuals in our communities through her outreach and education efforts. "I am thrilled to be part of the TriCounty team," says Heather. "I love coming in to work every morning, knowing that we are working with our community to make choices and conserve resources to keep the Gorge a beautiful and healthy place to live for generations to come."

Master Recyclers, here we come! TriCounty staff saw great response to our fourth Master Recycler class. By mid-August, 13 residents from Wasco and Hood River counties had registered for the 8 week class, which started September 13. Once the class is

completed, these individuals will "pay back" the cost of the FREE class, by doing outreach and education at local schools, businesses, and the community at-large about recycling, composting, reuse, thoughtful consumption, and more.



Heather Alexander

If you are interested in becoming a Master Recycler in 2012, please give us a call at 541-506-2632 or register online at tricountyrecycle.com.

Hazardous Waste Collection events continue to show steady participation. When the TriCounty Program was formed several years ago, program founders envisioned we would eventually see a peak, and then gradual decline of materials coming in to the free Hazardous Waste collection events. That peak has not happened yet. In fact, events continue to see steady participation, including many new-comers to our events. That excites us here at TriCounty, because that means we are continuing to keep the bad stuff from ending up in the landfill or in our rivers.

reduce waste + recycle more
www.tricountyrecycle.com

Tri-County 
Hazardous Waste & Recycling Program

419 E. Seventh St., The Dalles OR 97058



Printed on 55% recycled paper, Forest Stewardship Council and Sustainable Forestry Initiative Certified
Resources saved by the use of this paper product, based on 25000 copies

Water Savings: 2410 gallons
Wood Savings: 1625 pounds
Reduces CO2 Gasses by: 605 pounds
Reduces waste by: 303 pounds
Energy Savings: 4,675,000 BTUs