

Fourth Master Recycler Class Starts Wednesday, March 2, 2011

Do you have a friend or acquaintance that might be interested in becoming a Master Recycler like you? Help recruit likely candidates that might want to help reduce waste and motivate others to change their habits. Your opinion and influence is important!

Our 4th Master Recycler Class starts Wednesday, March 2nd from

6-8:30pm and continues Wednesdays the month of March and ends April 20th. This class will take place at the Mosier Grange. Altogether, it includes 8 Wednesday sessions and 2 Saturday field trips. The field trips are scheduled for March 19th and April 2nd. To help anyone register, have them register on-line:

www.tricountyrecycle.com

Master Recycler Class Dates

Wednesdays:	March 2
	March 9
	March 16
Saturday:	March 19
Wednesdays:	March 23
	March 30
Saturday:	April 2
Wednesdays:	April 6
	April 13
	April 20

How Are YOU Doing in RECORDING Your VOLUNTEER HOURS?



Many of you have heard that our VolunteerSquared website, (where you record your Master Recycler payback hours) is under construction. **We still want you to use it!** Cindy and I are working to make the site more user-friendly and a little more specific with volunteer ideas. If you have been on the site recently, you have visited either www.tricountyrecycle.com and gone over on the green header to "Master Recycler" and used the drop-down menu for "Master Recycler Login" **OR** you could have visited the website www.myvolunteerpage.com. Be sure to notice the different categories for recording your hours and get as specific as you can. **Many of you are concerned that there isn't the right category for your volunteer activity.** We just added "working with friends, family and/or

neighbors." so if that helps, use it. You **don't** have to go back and re-categorize your hours; making some detailed notes in a notebook with dates, is adequate. THANK YOU FOR EVERYTHING YOU HAVE DONE!!

Sustainable Systems at Work Discussion Group

"Wouldn't it be incredible if more businesses and organizations in the gorge were trained with sustainability in mind?"

Are you interested in sustainability efforts that might improve the overall operations of a business? Do you know someone that might be? The Gorge Owned Business Network is facilitating a 5-session discussion group in early 2011.

Who should participate?

- Small Business Owners
- Facility Managers
- Employees, especially Green Team Members

Environmentally educated and engaged employees pay dividends. Employees want more sustainability practices. The more an employee has a system to share ideas and best practices, the more likely the initiative is to succeed, almost 3 to 1. Wouldn't it be incredible if more businesses and organizations in the gorge were trained with sustainability in mind?

To read the entire article and see the research, visit the

[Columbia Gorge Earth Center's website](http://www.cgec.org) and link to the Gorge Owned Business Networks. (www.cgec.org) or visit (GorgeOwned.org)

The Columbia Gorge Earth Center's website is also a great place to keep track of other environmentally-friendly activities like the monthly **Green Drinks** gathering for discussion and conversation around environment-related topics.

OUR MASTER RECYCLER GROUP IS ON THE WEB!! CHECK IT OUT!
<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Tri-County-Master-Recyclers/107724469293841>



Sarah Fierbaugh, our Master Recycler Facebook page creator

Sarah Fierbaugh, Master Recycler Fall 2010, is the creator of our Master Recycler Facebook page. This site (see above link) is there for ALL of us, even if you aren't a member of Facebook. If you are a Facebook Page member, you can add comments, announcements and your tips and tricks related to recycling.

A BIG thank you to Sarah but thank you also to everyone who has already posted to the site. Hey, I reactivated my Facebook page (with **LOTS** of help from Facebook page Expert, Sarah) just so I could be more involved with the site. Join me in making a 2011 NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION to be more involved with our Master Recyclers Facebook page.

Do you have ideas for our next Master Recycler Newsletter? We need your input and your creativity. Please contact Karen Murray.

Earth Day is Friday, April 22, 2011. Watch for opportunities to be involved!

SHORT AND SWEET

- Q. Are there Earth Day activities in Hood River on Saturday, April 23rd that can involve Master Recyclers ?
- A. Yes, you can sign up to help on our Login page. See 2nd article, on page 2. You can also be involved with other groups that will be involved with any Earth Day celebration. Keep track of your time! Preparation time counts, too!

- Q. What are some examples of payback that count?
- A. Count any encounter, after you started your Master Recycler Class, that relates to ANY of the topics that the class was about. Am I spreading the word on recycling, waste reduction and/or thoughtful consumption? If yes, it counts! (ie. sharing red wigglers, carting aseptic cartons for recycling, answering questions, helping someone set-up their recycling, etc.....!

How to get in touch with us:

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