

October 2012



### **Greetings!**

I've had the wonderful opportunity to vist Carolyn McClure's 5th grade classroom every Thursday for the last month. Her students are interested and eager to learn about stewardship and recycling. Last week, I had a couple of students come to me and show me their lunches, and the changes they've helped their parent make in packing less waste-full lunches. It's exciting to see that energy. And, its something we all have the opportunity to impact on the people around us.

At the end of this month, the ReUse Alliance is hosting the ReUse ConEx in Portland. I would highlighly encourage you to go for at least one day if you can. The schedule has some great workshops and discussions on recycling, reuse, food reuse (sharing of left-over food), and some exciting hands-on classes, in addition to a packed Expo. David and I are each going to go one day. Let one of us know if you want to carpool.

A tip for this month: Think about what you can do to create less waste this Halloween. Give out waste-less treats. Save all of your candy wrappers and send them to TerraCycle. Compost those pumpkins when they are done.

If you've got suggestions, feedback, or would like to submit an article for our newsletter or Tri-County blog (hint hint -- we always like more good content!). let me know.

Enjoy a beautifal October!

Heather Alexander Solid Waste Specialist Tri-County Hazardous Waste & Recycling Program 541-506-2636

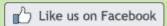
Gorge Green Home Tour this weekend!

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## **EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

Columbia Land Trust is seeking qualified candidates to fill the following stewardship program positions:

- 1) Stewardship Lead,
- 2) Volunteer Coordinator

### Stewardship Lead

The Stewardship Lead works with the Stewardship Program Manager and other staff to maintain conservation values on conserved lands, to

# **Green Home Tour Kick-off Event: Discussion with Mark Lakeman**

CGEC is lucky to have Mark Lakeman, founder of City Repair Project and principal at Communitecture, joining us for an inspirational and conversational presentation about community building and design.

When: October 5, 2012, 6:00 - 8:00 pm

Where: Springhouse Cellar

Cost: \$10 suggested donation, free with Green Home Tour ticket

### 11th Annual Gorge Green Home Tour

The Tour has 14 stops on the tour this year, spanning from Parkdale to Underwood, ranging in budget from \$15,000 to \$10 million, and showcasing a wide variety of sustainable strategies including using salvaged materials, cutting edge passive house design, and innovative photovoltaic systems.

- When: October 6, 9:00 am 4:00 pm
- Where: Start at the Hood River Middle School between 9:00 am and 12:00 pm
- Includes stops in Hood River, Upper Valley, Underwood, and Northwestern Lake
- Cost: \$10/person, \$5/biker, \$25/carpool of 3 or moreTickets on sale online, at the Kick-off Event, or at Hood River Middle School the morning of the tour. All proceeds benefit Columbia Gorge Earth Center, a 501c3 in Hood River working to promote the link between ecology, economy, and community in the Columbia River Gorge.

Please check out their website at <a href="https://www.cgec.org">www.cgec.org</a> for more information.

### ReUse Conex Comes to Portland October 18-20



# OCTOBER 18-20, 2012 Doubletree Hotel

Portland, Oregon, USA

Explore ReuseConex's public Reuse Expo with over 75 exhibitors offering salvaged, reusable and upcycled products, and attend a ReFashion Show, ReArt Exhibit and reuse treasure hunt. Also participate in our two-day conference, open to anyone interested in engaging more in reuse.



Visit **reuseconex.org** to learn more and register today!

Don't miss ReuseConex in Portland Oct 18-20, 2012. ReuseConex is the only conference that brings together people from a wide variety of reuse sectors to share ideas and learn about reuse. Attend the conference

develop and implement stewardship plans (including habitat restoration), and to provide programmatic and organizational support. The Stewardship Lead supports land protection work through evaluating new conservation projects for conservation values and stewardship responsibility.

Specific emphasis for this position is the Hood River (Powerdale Corridor) and Wasco County conservation lands. It is anticipated that this position will be based in and will help re-establish an office in the Hood River, OR/White Salmon, WA area.

#### **Volunteer Coordinator**

The Volunteer Coordinator will support the growth and sustainability of the Columbia Land Trust volunteer program engaging volunteer efforts throughout the organization but with a primary emphasis on the Land Trust Stewardship Program. The Volunteer Coordinator will lead the recruitment. retention, training, orientation, management and recognition of volunteers. This position will also support public access management on conserved lands and provide general Stewardship program support.

You can learn more about Columbia Land Trust and view the full job description by visiting our website at <a href="https://www.columbialandtrust.org">www.columbialandtrust.org</a>.

Positions are Open Until October 31, 2012. To apply, send your cover letter (indicating salary history and requirements) along with a resume to jobs@columbialandtrust.org for consideration. Columbia Land Trust is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Thursday and Friday, then spend Saturday reveling in reuse possibilities at the free public ReuseExpo. You can also sign up for just a single day of the conference.

ReuseConex is hosted by the Reuse Alliance, a national nonprofit organization working to increase public awareness of the social, environmental, and economic benefits of reuse. With a theme of "Growing Reuse Communities," the conference covers a wide spectrum of reuse topics including building community support, green collar jobs, zero waste strategies, the economics of reuse, creative reuse, food issues, building materials reuse, and more. Keynote speakers will be announced soon, and you don't want to miss David Allaway's session on "life cycle assessment and upstream reuse."

The ReuseExpo on Saturday, Oct 20 lets the public join conference attendees to learn about and purchase a variety of reused, upcycled, and recycled products. A ReArt exhibit and sale, open to attendees during the conference, joins the public Expo on Saturday.

Other exciting events include a ReFashion show that includes Portland's Junk to Funk and SCRAP's Rebel Craft Rumble, a "fast-paced, entertaining, highly creative event that takes reuse to places never before imagined." SCRAP reminds us all that reuse can be fun.

Reuse Alliance members receive a discount on the registration fee, and everyone can still take advantage of early registration discounts. If you are not already a Reuse Alliance member, you can sign up when you register. Register now at <a href="https://www.reuseconex.org/register">www.reuseconex.org/register</a>.

### **N**ews

# Master Recycler Jodi TePoel helps local school make money from "garbage"

Anyone who knows Jodi TePoel knows that she is a passionate, get-in-there and work, warrior for the environment. A busy mom of three, she volunteers at the Habitat ReStore in The Dalles, takes college classes as time allows, volunteers at A&P Recycling, and much more.

Jodi has been an avid collector for the TerraCycle program for several years. TerraCycle is a company which collects items we would typically throw away as trash, such as pens, toothpaste tubes, glue sticks, juice packs, etc. and recycles



and/or upcycles them into new products. Once you register for a Terracycle "Brigade" (collector of certain products), Terracycle will write a check to the non-profit of your choice for every item you send to them. Typically, items are valued at \$.01 to \$.02 per piece. Last year, Jodi d launched a pilot TerraCycle 'fund raiser' at Colonel Wright Elementary. She showed students and staff that they could get paid for their trash.

Last month, Jodi sent a letter to parents and teachers at Colonel Wright with an expanded opportunity to raise more funds through various TerraCycle Birgades. "It is really a very simple process," says TePoel. "I have a list of items we send in to Terracycle.com and they pay us for it, as well as paying for the shipping costs. All it costs us is a small amount of time of which I have volunteered myself to do."

**About Columbia Land Trust:** Since 1990, Columbia Land Trust has protected, in perpetuity, approximately 20,000 acres of lands along the lower 250 miles of the Columbia River. A majority of the protection has been accomplished with land ownership, with significant holdings as conservation easements or other conservation agreements, as well as transfer of land to public agencies. This region includes 13 Oregon and Washington counties, extending from the Pacific Ocean on the west to beyond the eastern edge of the Columbia Gorge Scenic Area, near the John Day River. The Land Trust has approximately 1,750 members in Oregon and Washington and has embarked on an ambitious plan to expand public awareness and participation in the conservation of the great lands of the Columbia River region. Columbia Land Trust's headquarters are located in Vancouver, WA.



### Tip of the Month

Looking to make smart purchases for your home?

Staples carries the Marcal brand of paper products, which are "made from paper, not from trees". The company says their products are typically comprised of 30%-70% post-consumer product. The remaining is made up from post-industrial, or manufacturing, waste.

TePoel has placed blue bins in the halls of the school for students to deposit their items. Jodi is even taking care of the sorting herself! This year, TePeol is collecting:

- 1. Juice pouches: any brand (NO straws please)
- 2. Chip bags: any size any brand
- 3. Glue: bottles, caps and/or glue sticks
- 4. Tortillas and Tostadas Bags: tortilla plastic bags, tostada cello bags, tortilla plastic packaging.
- 5. Cereal Bags: Malt-O-Meal, Three Sisters, Bear River Valley, Isabel's Way, Sally's brand cereal bags and the liners from boxed cereal.
- 6. Lunchable kits: all parts but make sure they are clean!
- 7. Personal Care and Beauty Brigade: lipstick cases, mascara tubes, eye shadow cases, shampoo bottles, conditioner bottles, bronzer cases, foundation packaging, body wash containers, soap tubes, soap dispensers, lotion dispensers, shaving foam tubes (no cans), powder cases, lotion bottles, chap stick tubes, lotion tubes, face soap dispensers, face soap tubes, face lotion bottles, face lotion jars, eyeliner cases, eyeliner pencils, eye shadow tubes, concealer tubes, concealer sticks, lip liner pencils, hand lotion tubes, hair gel tubes, hair paste jars. toothpaste tubes, toothpaste caps, tooth brushes, floss containers.
- 8. Cleaner Packaging: pumps, triggers, pouches, and flexible cleaner product packaging
- Cheese Packaging: string cheeses packages, individual singles wrappers, singles packages, shredded cheeses packages, grated cheese, all flexible cheese wrappers
- 10. Candy Wrapper: individual candy wrappers, large candy bags, and multi-pack candy bags
- 11. Energy Bar Brigade accepted waste: foil lined energy bar wrappers, foil lined granola bar wrappers, foil lined meal replacement bar wrappers, foil lined protein bar wrappers, foil lined diet bar wrappers. Clif SHOT wrappers, Clif Twisted Fruit Wrappers, Clif Roks Wrappers, Clif Bloks Wrappers, Clif Gels Wrappers.
- 12. Dairy Tub Brigade accepted waste: all cream cheese tubs and lids, all sour cream tubs and lids, all cheese tubs and lids, all yogurt tubs and lids, all butter tubs and lids, all margarine tubs and lids, any other dairy product tub, foil tops, plastic tub tops, any other type of packaging on all dairy tubs.
- 13. Writing Instrument Brigade accepted waste: pens, pen caps, mechanical pencils, markers, marker caps, highlighters, highlighter caps, permanent markers, permanent markers caps.

That's quite a list of material that is being salvaged, which was previously going to the landfill. Last year, TePeol says they were able to make a whopping \$226.39 just from their trash! This year's funds are being earmarked to help pay for the SECRETS science program every Colonel Wright 5th grader gets to participate in.

Go to <a href="www.terracycle.com">www.terracycle.com</a> to get more information on their program, and how you might tap in to save materials from the landfill AND help out your favorite non-profit at the same time! Jodi is always a great source of information, as well.

### Volunteer Opportunities



## Plan, host or help with an event for America Recycles Day 2012

America Recycles Day is
November 15, 2012. Do
you have an idea for an
event that you would like to
plan, host, or help with?
Let's have a Gorge
Recycles Day! Call Heather
or email her with your ideas
as soon as possible.



# I can recycle that?

There are so many items we don't think of as recyclable, so we just throw them away. Check out our Facebook page and this sidebar for information on



Lisa Knapp, Master Recycler 2011, helps "senior" students at Wy'East Elementary calculate the amounts of actual garbage, recycling, compostable material, and usable material at a Waste audit in May 2012.

### Waste Audit Corp

Many of us often wonder how we can practically help create a culture change in our communities. How can we help people make choices that will result in less material going straight into the landfill? How can we help people make decisions in their homes, businesses and community that will result in a looping of materials for reuse and repurposing?

For many people, it takes simple but concrete physical examples. For some people, the best way to see who they can improve is to do a "waste audit." What's a waste audit? Basically, dump all of the garbage from one day on a tarp, and sort it into piles for reuse, composting, recycling, and garbage. Typically, they will see that their garbage pile could be MUCH smaller.

We need some Master Recyclers who are willing to donate their time to help with Waste Audits, as those requests come in to our office. We will provide the gloves, the tarps, and the assistance.

Please email Heather if you would like to be on the Waste Audit call-up list.

"odd" recyclables.



## Broken Window Airconditioners?

Yes! Paul Lepinski at A&P Recycling in The Dalles takes a number of metal appliances.

A & P is located at 280 Webber Street in The Dalles.

### Fun and educational!

## Green Drinks

Tuesday, Oct. 9, 2012

Location: Historic Balch
Hotel, Dufur, Oregon
Time: 6 - 8 p.m.
Cost: Free and open to the
public, donations gladly
accepted

It's the perfect time of year for a field trip to Dufur, Oregon! The Historic Balch Hotel, located in sunny Dufur, Oregon, is a popular spot for weddings, family gatherings and corporate events. Join us, and Samantha and Jeff - the owners of the hotel - for a fun evening of local food and wine + a photo booth + and networking with local businesses in the event industry. Members of Gorge Unveiled will be available to help you with questions and planning for holiday events, weddings and more.

Special room rates available. To reserve a room, call 541-467-2277. Wet Planet Rafting and Kayaking van will once again shuttle people to and from the event. To reserve Are you ready and willing to serve?

Thank you for all you do to help educate your family, friends, co-workers, and community about sustainable and healthy living.

Sincerely,

Heather Alexander Solid Waste Specialist TriCounty Hazardous Waste & Recycling Program



TriCounty Hazardous Waste & Recycling is part of North Central Public Health District.

a spot in the van, email becky (at) gorgeowned.org.



