# Recycle...it's easy!



- Recycle cans and bottles at your event
- Less trash and make money too

Borrow our ClearStream beverage recycling containers, set them up next to garbage cans, reduce the garbage at your event, and turn them in for the deposit monies.

Call to reserve containers for your event or school 541-506-2626

ast fall, a bunch of Lenthusiastic folks from the Gorge engaged in some "trash talking" and enrolled in the Master Recycler training course offered by the TriCounty Hazardous Waste & Recycling Program. The course offers skills on how to reduce the amount of waste in the home and in the community. The program offers training for

home composting, recycling and waste prevention, plus alternatives to household hazardous waste disposal and reducing toxics exposure.

The local Master Recycler program

started in the fall of 2009, and now has 35 volunteers trained and doing "payback" community service in their neighborhoods, schools, workplaces, and community

"The next Master Recycler class will be offered in the fall of 2011 at the Mosier Grange. For more information, visit www.tricountyrecycle.com and click on "Master Recycler"

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events.

## reduce waste + recycle more www.tricountyrecycle.com



419 E. Seventh St., The Dalles OR 97058

#### Talkin' Trash with Master Recyclers



Tri-County Hazardous Waste and Recycling Program

serving Wasco, Sherman, and Hood River Counties

# Reduce Waste + Recycle More

spring 2011

www.tricountyrecycle.com

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Talkin'Trash with Master **Recyclers** 



# **Commercial composting in the Gorge**



ombine some gung-ho entre-Opreneurs with truckloads of leaves, branches and discarded fruit... toss in a big asphalt pad at the Port of The Dalles, a front end loader and people promoting sustainable local food systems...add a growing desire to keep organic materials out of the landfill with supportive local trash companies...and you've got Dirt Hugger LLC, a brand new commercial composting operation in the Gorge.

This is "recycling nature's way" but on a much bigger scale than your backyard compost pile or under-the-sink worm bin. Dirt Hugger, headed up by Pierce Louis and Tyler Miller, is a regional composting company that supports a sustainable, local economy by collecting, processing, and utilizing valuable organic nutrients locally. This is a big enhancement to solid waste management for our area, as it not only expands recycling by keeping organic materials out of the landfill but creates a useful local soil amendment.

Starting last August, Dirt Hugger is a wholesale operation currently receiving organic materials such as yard debris from The Dalles Disposal and Hood River Garbage; logs and stumps from construction contractors; and fruits, vegetables and trimmings from local fruit processing facilities. The material is layered in long rows on a 1-acre asphalt pad, with water added, and the material "turned" with a front end loader



Is this cup compostible?

several times during the composting operation. The piles are steaming with heat, they can be up to 170 degrees inside during the composting process.

In early 2011, Dirt Hugger received special permits from the cities of Hood River and The Dalles to start a pilot project to collect vegetable and floral scraps from local supermarkets, restaurants and floral shops. This will continue to expand Dirt Hugger's operations and divert even more material from the landfill.

Another expansion of the operation will be to purchase a bagging system to package compost for retail sales...check out what's happening at their website, www.dirthugger.com



Pierce Louis of DH (at right) examining composting piles with Dick Pederson, Director of Oregon Dept. of Environmental Quality.

#### HOW CAN YOU HELP?

If you are customer of The Dalles Disposal Service, call and add yard debris collection to your garbage service pick up. This will ensure a supply of material for the Dirt Hugger operation. Bring your yard debris to The Dalles Disposal or Hood River Garbage during business operations.

Free drop-off of yard debris for residential customers at The Dalles Disposal in April and November, and free yard debris drop-off for residential customers every Wednesday at Hood River Garbage. And remember... keep trash and plastic bags OUT of your yard debris, everyone would like clean compost!

# 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 Hollywood Video, Albertsons and The Dalles Middle School The Dalles

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

#### Bottles and cans with a deposit:

Hood River LEO Club Recycling Program First Saturday of each month, 9am-Ipm 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)



#### Examples of what needs to be shredded:

**Customer lists** Sales statistics Financial records Payroll records Personnel files Legal documents Cancelled checks Account records Computer printouts Medical records Advertising misprints Correspondence and memos Tax records Invoices Price lists Inventory lists Outdated business records New product information **Proposals** Credit card receipts

Competitive information

# Got piles of documents at home or work?

# Shred It!

Use the services of Gorge Security Shred to fulfill your company's document destruction Compliance Plan. Document destruction is now the law, not just good business practice.

Gorge Security Shred, a member of NAID, (National Association for Information Destruction) is the only local, document destruction business in the gorge. Gorge Security Shred is a division of Opportunity Connections. Services and programs are provided at seven sites and within the Mid Columbia community, 70 to 75 non-disabled staff are employed to serve 110 individuals each month both vocationally and residentially. For some individuals the center is a stepping stone to other employment, to other individuals the center is a lifelong service. Call 541-490-7078 or visit www.gorgesecurityshred.com

### **BRING BAGS BACK** TO A PARTICIPATING **STORE FOR RECYCLING** NO BAGS IN THE BLUE BIN



### Don't want the **Yellow Pages?**

You can "opt out" of receiving telephone directories

www.yellowpagesoptout.com



### **GO!** Local First!

You might have noticed the GO! sticker showing up in storefronts and car bumpers around the Gorge. GO! is short for the Gorge Owned Business Network (GO!), a new membership-based network made up of locally owned businesses working to create a prosperous and sustainable local economy. GO! is a 501.c.3 and is a member of the national Business Alliance for Local Living Economies (BALLE). There are more than 80 BALLE networks around the U.S. and Canada.

From its popular Green Drinks events to its website, newsletter and Facebook page, GO! is working to educate consumers about the benefits of shopping local as well as educating businesses about the economic benefits of adopting sustainable business practices. GO! is hosting the Gorge Local Economies Summit, May 12-May 13, which is a great opportunity to learn how to leverage your resources, implement changes, and meet local business leaders pushing the envelope in terms of supply chain management, procurement, ownership structure and more. Tri-County Hazardous Waste & Recycling Program is proud to be a GO! Member, and working with GO! to help businesses in Hood River, Wasco and Sherman Counties learn how to reduce waste.

Becky Brun Director, Gorge Owned Business Network phone 541-399-6813 email becky@gorgeowned.org





www.tricountyrecycle.com

vour leftovei chemicals fo **FREE** 

Properly

dispose of

• Oil & latex paints

Yard & garden products

& chemicals

(NOT motor oil)

• Old gas & kerosene

• Pool & spa chemicals

Hobby solvents & glues

• Lithium, ni-cad and rechargeable batteries

Old ballasts, fluorescent tubes & CFL bulbs

• Thermostats & thermometers

Fire extinguishers



# 100 Free Home **Energy Audits**

### Available in Hood River and **Wasco Counties**

Columbia Gorge Earth Center (CGEC) is spearheading an energy efficiency program that helps local homeowners save money while pursuing energy savings. Will Sherman County be next? The project, funded through a \$100,000 grant from the Oregon Department of Energy's Energy Efficiency and Sustainable Technology (EEAST) program, subsidizes 100 free energy audits and solar energy analysis thru June 2011, for homeowners interested in investing in efficiency improvements. CGEC is partnering with Hood River-based Green Home Construction, a local contractor and weatherization specialist, on the program called Weatherize Oregon Now (WON). Sherman County residents are encouraged to fill out the application form on the WON website in the event that future funding includes Sherman County.

The EEAST program is funded thru the Oregon State Lottery, which aims to create jobs, reduce energy use, and reduce carbon emissions. CGEC's project is the first and only EEAST pilot project in rural Oregon. Apply for a free home energy audit: http://weatherizeoregonnow.org





