

# SAVE IT!



Resource Conservation Newsletter: News Worth Reading and Re-Reading



Feb. 2003



### CONTENTS:

- Bio-Swale Updates
- Oregon Green School Updates
- News From METRO
- SCHOOL AID Program
- Ecological Masters Program
- Computer Energy Use
- General Information

### SWALE UPDATES



Hello Everyone, Nic and Kevin would like to take this opportunity to

thank all teachers and recycling coordinators throughout the Portland district that invited us to give presentations and participate in a variety of school projects and activities. We have learned a great deal over the past couple months from working with teachers as well as students. Recently we have been devoting some of our time to a few projects which deserve recognition. Madison High School has embarked on a storm water project in their southern parking lot planning the installation of a bio-swale, serving to mitigate a

significant amount of storm water run-off from the parking facility. With the help of Julie Howland and Mr. Mittman's sixth period biology class, this project is off to an impressive start. The majority of recognition deservedly belongs to the freshman and sophomore students who have worked extremely hard on every aspect of this mission. From run-off calculations to swale designs, students perfected their results and eventually presented their findings to PPS district administrators. Their next step is to fine-tune the final plan and eventually begin construction. Way to go Madison!



A second storm water project which also deserves recognition is taking place at Gregory Heights Middle School. As illustrated in the picture, a bio-swale will be constructed in the middle median dividing the parking lot in half. The placement of the swale will serve to collect storm water run-off from both the north and south lots. Currently two seniors from Madison High School are in the process of designing a facility which will be most acceptable to meet district regulations as well as city storm water regulations. When finished, this project will provide a pleasing wetland habitat for both students and teachers to enjoy.

## OREGON GREEN SCHOOLS UPDATE



The number of Portland Public Schools involved with the Oregon Green Schools Program is growing, but there is still plenty of room for other schools in the district. Now is a great time to get your elementary, middle, or high school involved with the program.

There are many benefits to your school becoming Green certified:

- 1) Your school will receive statewide recognition as a school that takes efforts to reduce waste and conserve resources.
- 2) Your school will receive a framed Green School certificate that will be awarded to your school at an assembly by either Nic or Kevin.
- 3) All schools involved with the program are invited to the annual OGSA Summit where schools from around the state have the opportunity to share individual project ideas.

Once a school becomes Green certified, they can advance even further within the program. When a school reaches the second level, Merit, they receive a plaque. The top level within the program is Premier, at which point

the school receives an OGSA flag that can hang proudly from the flagpole.

Congratulations to Buckman Elementary School, the most recent Portland Public School to achieve Green status. We would also like to recognize Alameda Elementary and Beaumont Middle School for holding excellent assemblies at which they received their framed Green School certificates.

These three schools join the long list of schools that have either achieved Green School status or advanced within the program in the past school year:

Green Schools

Abernethy ES  
Ainsworth ES  
Alameda ES  
Arleta ES  
Beaumont MS  
Buckman ES  
George MS  
Gray MS  
James John ES  
Kellogg MS  
Sunnyside ES  
West Sylvan MS

Merit Schools

Bridger ES  
Environmental MS  
Lent ES  
Sellwood MS

Premier Schools

Glencoe ES

If you would like your school to be added to this list, visit the website at:

[www.oregongreenschools.org](http://www.oregongreenschools.org)

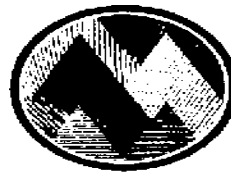
This website includes information about the program, the OGSA Summit,

and an option to download program applications. Otherwise, feel free to contact Nic or Kevin at the Dept. of Health and Safety if you have any questions or would appreciate help with the application process.

**Nic Callero:** (503)-916-2000 x4266,  
[ncallero@pps.k12.or.us](mailto:ncallero@pps.k12.or.us)

**Kevin Kennedy:** (503)-916-2000  
x4267, [kkennedy@pps.k12.or.us](mailto:kkennedy@pps.k12.or.us)

**NEWS FROM METRO**



Celebrate Earth Day 2003 by creating billboard designs now! Students in grades K-12 are

**METRO** invited to submit entries to Metro's annual Earth Day billboard art contest. Four winning entries will be selected and transformed into 48' by 14' billboards, which will be on display the month of April. Designs are judged by grade level: K-2, 3-5, 6-8 & 9-12. As the teacher of a winning artist, you will receive an artist-in-residence program sponsored by Metro. For rules and an entry form go to Metro's website: [www.metro-region.org](http://www.metro-region.org) or call (503) 797-1522.



Need \$\$\$ for your waste reduction and recycling program? Metro still has a few \$500 grants available for K-12 school projects that help start or improve programs. Projects can include related field trips, curriculum materials, worm bins, recycling containers and more!!! For ideas, criteria and/or an application go to Metro's website: [www.metro-region.org](http://www.metro-region.org) or call (503) 797-1522.



Free classroom presentations!! Looking for an interesting and experienced person to talk with your class about waste reduction, recycling, toxics or composting? Metro offers a variety of classroom presentations that can spark interest in your students and supplement your curriculum. Check out their website: [www.metro-region.org](http://www.metro-region.org) or call (503)797-1522 and they will mail you a flyer.



**Metro**  
 Freda Sherburne  
 Waste Reduction Educator  
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## SCHOOL AID PROGRAM



SCHOOL AID...is for children

It is about neighbors and neighborhoods working together to provide a regular, dependable stream of funds to support academic programs in public schools.

Fred Meyer and New Seasons Market receive, at cost, organically grown pears and apples from Mt. Hood Organic Farms. Sales revenue is passed along without profit to the Portland Schools Foundation where it is available to programs and teachers K through 12. The program is currently operating at nine Portland stores: Burlingame, Gateway, Glisan, Hawthorne, Hollywood West, Interstate, Peninsula, Southeast, and Stadium; The Dalles, and at Rosauers in Hood River. One variety of pears and one variety of apples are always available at 99 cents per lb. (1.09 at Rosauers). Each piece of fruit is stickered with a little yellow school bus, the name School Aid and a price code. The store is allowed 17 cents per lb. for shipping, handling, and lost product. The farm is reimbursed 36 cents per lb. for growing and packing, and 5 cents for the farmer's family. The Portland Schools Foundation receives 41 cents from each lb. sold (50 cents per lb. in Hood River schools). Neither the store,

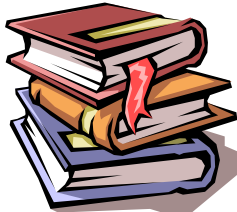
nor the farm makes a profit on their contribution to School Aid.

Please help School Aid become established in your neighborhood by supporting member stores, spreading awareness of the program, or asking your Fred Meyer store to begin it.

Contact Information:

John Jacobson  
Mt Hood Organic Farms  
Phone: 541-352-7123 or 541-352-7492  
FAX: 541-352-7545  
Email: [mthoodorganicfarms@gorge.net](mailto:mthoodorganicfarms@gorge.net)

### ECOLOGICAL MASTERS PROGRAM



Audubon Expedition Institute is accepting applications for the Summer 2003 start of its Ecological Teaching and

Learning M.S. program in both the Northeastern U.S. and the Pacific Northwest. Accredited through Lesley University, this 18-month program is designed for professional educators interested in integrating ecological concepts into the curriculum. The degree program includes two three-week summer field semesters, and two fall and one spring semester via distance learning, which means there is no need to interrupt career and income.

For more information, contact Audubon Expedition Institute, P.O. Box 365 Belfast, Maine 04915. Phone: 1-888-287-2234.

Email: [info@aei-udubon.org](mailto:info@aei-udubon.org).

[http://home.acadia.net/userpages/crora/ven/etl/etl\\_home.htm](http://home.acadia.net/userpages/crora/ven/etl/etl_home.htm)

### COMPUTER ENERGY USE REMINDERS



Computers account for a significant percentage of overall energy consumption within the PPS district.

Making sure computers are turned off when not in use is an extremely easy step that will prove to conserve energy and eventually save the district a lot of money. Here are some numbers on computer energy consumption which deserve consideration.

\* 55 million Personal Computers in US workplaces and rising

\* PC's use more energy than all other types of office equipment combined representing 32 billion kWh per year and can account for as much as 10%-25% of the total energy consumption in many organizations

\* Each PC/monitor combination consistently left running overnight contributes one ton of CO<sub>2</sub> to the atmosphere each year - an amount 5 times higher than if it were routinely powered down.

Do a quick calculation in your school to figure out how much it would cost per year if each computer were left on all the time. Number of Computers multiplied by \$72.88 equals the total cost annually. This is potentially a very large figure so please take the time to encourage staff and students to **turn off** all computers when not in use.

# GENERAL INFO

## EARTH DAY EVERY DAY

Check out **Earth Day, Every Day Oregon**, a web-resource ([www.EarthDayEveryday.org](http://www.EarthDayEveryday.org)), now in its second year, designed to help Oregonians find out about and get involved in environmental activities on a year-round basis. On the site, you'll find an easy-to-use calendar of events (and event posting page) plus Eco-tips, and information about their small grants program.

## CHINOOK BOOK



Is your school interested in raising money for field trips, books, or environmental projects? Then, the Chinook Book is a great fundraising tool for your school. It is an eco-friendly coupon book with coupons to places such as Nature's, New Seasons, the BTA, and many other environmentally conscious businesses. It also includes four all-day passes on the TriMet. The book costs \$18 and pays for itself after one or two uses. Depending on the number of books ordered, schools can receive anywhere from \$7-9 for each book sold. If interested, contact Eric Loebel at (503)-222-7400. He is a Chinook Book representative who would be glad to answer any of your questions or work with your school. Otherwise, check out the website at: [www.chinookbook.net](http://www.chinookbook.net)

## ENERGY CURRICULUM

Looking for fun and exciting ways to teach kids about energy use and conservation? Check out these websites. They are full of fun facts and activities for kids of all ages. Both are free resources for teachers and classrooms.

<http://wattwatchers.utep.edu/pages/Projects.htm>

<http://www.getecosmart.com>

## PRINTER CARTRIDGE INFO



The following companies have simple systems that provide good support and pay competitive market prices for your empty laser, inkjet, fax and toner cartridges. **Tonerinx** markets empty cartridges to recyclers and re-manufacturers nationwide. Located in Welches, OR, Tonerinx provides reusable collection containers and picks up your container at a prearranged time. Call **503-516-3377** or go to their website at [www.tonerinx.com](http://www.tonerinx.com) for free enrollment.

**Ecco Recycles** is based in Kent, Washington and also sells empty cartridges to re-manufacturers nationwide. They provide prepaid postage collection boxes, envelopes and signs to help your recycling efforts. Enroll your school for free at [www.eccorecycles.com](http://www.eccorecycles.com) or call **1-800-368-5881**.

## **RECYCLE YOUR COMPUTER**



**ATTN:** Any old computer or computer equipment that needs to be recycled please contact **Nancy Bond** in the Department of Health and Safety. 503-916-2000 x4279

## **PURCHASE 30% POST-CONSUMER RECYCLED PAPER FOR YOUR SCHOOL**



There is good news in regard to the 30% post-consumer recycled paper that the PPS warehouse currently has available. While the price of a case of the virgin paper has risen to \$19.29, the price for a case of the recycled paper has remained stable at \$19.78. Thus, they are nearly the same price and offer equal quality performance. Spread the word throughout your school and help increase the demand for post-consumer recycled paper. Order # 64-7500

## **SPRING RC MEETINGS**

Nic and Kevin are tentatively planning the Spring RC meetings. At this point in time, we intend to hold them some time in late February or Early March. The Fall meetings were a big success, as three meetings drew representatives from over 19 schools. We intend to secure food, refreshments, and door prizes from the same generous sponsors who supported us at the last meetings. For those of you unfamiliar with the meetings, they

are an excellent opportunity for RC's and PPS staff to share concerns, ideas, or questions that pertain to the district's recycling and resource conservation efforts. The meetings serve as a great forum for discussion, and attendance is not limited solely to Recycling Coordinators. We will keep you posted of any and all updates pertaining to these meetings.

# **SCHEDULE A PRESENTATION!**

**\* Contact Nic and Kevin for a presentation dealing with resource conservation. We highly recommend taking advantage of our specialization in the fields of waste reduction, storm water management, and energy conservation. We feel that these are important issues that students deserve exposure to. Through education we all can work towards an ecologically sustainable future.**

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**Kevin Kennedy       916-2000 x4267**

**Patrick Wolfe**, Health and Safety Manager: 503-916-3449; e-mail, [pwolfe@pps.k12.or.us](mailto:pwolfe@pps.k12.or.us)  
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**Herb Wagner**, Hazmat/Safety Specialist: 503-916-2000 ext. 4277; e-mail [hwagner@pps.k12.or.us](mailto:hwagner@pps.k12.or.us)  
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