

Save It!

Portland Public Schools Resource and Energy Conservation Newsletter

Winter 2010

Recycling News

- Did you know that PPS recycling procedures are different than your household service regulated by Metro? Visit the PPS website for a current list of recycling procedures: <http://facilities.pps.k12.or.us/.docs/pg/11250>
- Recycle your obsolete instructional materials. Contact text-books@pps.k12.or.us for more information
- Do you have electronic waste? Visit the PPS IT website for information on recycling: <https://it.pps.k12.or.us/index.pl?id=13182>
- Visit the PPS Resource Conservation Website's Recycling page for information on Toner and Ink Cartridge recycling: <http://facilities.pps.k12.or.us/.docs/pg/11115>

Running While Empty

Does your school have an abundance of mini refrigerators? Is there a large fridge or freezer that is sparingly used? What about that dinosaur in the boiler room that's just accumulating ice? Well, think about eliminating or consolidating these appliances.

In an effort to conserve energy, save money and reduce the plug load on our aging electrical circuits, the AmeriCorps Conservation Team (ACT) is encouraging schools to get rid of these unnecessary refrigerators.

Let's start a conservation movement and put the money that it takes to run these units back into the general fund!

For more information about eliminating appliances contact Aleta Mills, amills@pps.k12.or.us.

To recycle your fridge (must be larger than 10 cubic feet) and receive **\$30**, contact the Energy Trust of Oregon: <http://energytrust.org> or 1.866.444.8907.



Is this your refrigerator?

Reusable Trays — Update

Many of you have been wondering about the progress of implementing reusable lunch trays district-wide. The desire and intention is to switch PPS schools from Styrofoam to permanent ware trays, but the timeline for implementation is uncertain. Kristy Obbink, Director of Nutrition Services and supporter of permanent ware trays will be retiring this year. If her successor

is of similar mind, and if the budget that Kristy proposed is approved by the Board the program looks well poised to start rolling out in the Fall 2010. It is complicated to estimate the cost of labor and benefit packages to pay the staff for washing the trays as well as to quantify the cost of training staff and students. How to cover the cost of purchasing the trays is also an un-

known. Until now, grant or PTA money paid for the trays and volunteers washed the trays which is unsustainable and inequitable. In advance of the district's effort, schools are encouraged to host waste free lunch campaigns and permanent silverware drives.

Fork It Over

Before each major school break, Nutrition Services and Melissa Kerry, Resource Conservation Coordinator, are hard at work organizing a food donation program – Fork It Over. Thousands of pounds of perishable food are diverted from the landfill and donated to local non-profit agencies. One of the most successful Fork It Over's to date was held on Friday,

December 18, 2009, with at least two and a half tons of food being donated!

***Lighting Retrofits***

Over winter break Creston and Alameda got full-building T12-to-T8 ballast and lamp retrofits. Projects were funded by SB 1149 energy efficiency funds and are expected to save 43% in usage and over \$5000 in annual electricity cost at each school, with a payback of 4-5 years. Abernethy, Woodstock, and Hosford are next!



“The It’s Not Cool to Idle at School toolkit includes all the information, directions, and materials teachers and students need to complete a fun, rewarding, and educational project.” pg. 3

Turn Your Scrap Paper into Notepads

Any school can collect used paper and have it bound into nifty half-sheet pads. Here's how: **1.)** Collect once used paper: old assignments, hand-outs or copy machine errors. Multiple colors are fun! Please remove staples, make all sheets face the same way and do not include paper containing confidential

information. **2.)** Send the box to the Print Shop (at BESC) with a request for the sheets to be cut in half and bound into ~50 sheet paper pads. The Print Shop will make the pads, charge the school \$12 for the service and send them back to you. **3.)** Distribute the pads to students, teachers and staff for convenient note

taking and to reduce the use of brand new paper!

**Solar Waffle Cart Opens on NE Alberta**

On Saturday, October 24, 2009, Solar Waffle Works opened its window at NE 23rd Ave and Alberta St. This solar powered waffle cart is a partnership between PPS and Soltrekker, a non-profit organization dedicated to spreading awareness of sustainability through green building practices, renewable energy and efficient design.

Solar Waffle Works is a training program in socially responsible business and entrepreneurship, designed and operated by young adults in the community transition program.

The cart is open 11AM-2PM Monday – Friday and 9Am-3PM Saturday and Sunday.



February Recycling Coordinator Meeting, 2/24/10

Join us for the first Recycling Coordinators meeting of 2010.

Agenda items include:

- District-wide Energy Conservation Incentive Program
- Tray Update

Share resources and exchange info.



Wednesday
February 24, 2010
4:30-6PM
BESC Windows
Cafeteria, 2nd Floor
501 N. Dixon St.

Round-table discussion starts at 4:30PM, updates and agenda items begin at 5:15PM.

Sellwood Dumpsters

One of several schools participating in the reusable lunch tray program, Sellwood Middle School has been able to remove one dumpster, with a second on its way out. Each dumpster removed saves the district approximately

\$3,400 annually. Sellwood's Make A



Difference Club with the help of teacher Dan Adkison were integral in the removal of the dumpster. For dumpster removal information at your school contact Melissa Kerry, 503.916.2000 x74276.

It's Not Cool to Idle at School

The Oregon Environmental Council's **It's Not Cool to Idle at School** vehicle anti-idling project is now available to PPS.

The program is geared for use by 5th – 8th grade students. The program utilizes different learning processes to introduce students to environmental topics and encourages students to take the lead in reducing pollution in and around their school.

The *It's Not Cool to Idle at School* toolkit includes all the information, directions, and materials teachers and students

need to complete a fun, rewarding, and educational project. The toolkit guides your students through:

- the facts and statistics of air pollution caused by vehicle idling;
- effective communication methods for reducing air pollution in and around their school;
- observation and calculation techniques; and
- hands-on scientific analysis skills they will use in the future.

If your school would like to utilize these materials

and engage students in an anti-idling project, please contact the OEC directly for further assistance.

Email volunteer@oeconline.org to find out more about the project and/or participate in a challenge between schools.



Oregon Green Schools Association

The following schools are in the process of certifying as Oregon Green Schools:

Faubion, King, Beach, Portland Youth Builders, Sabin, Hayhurst, Maplewood, Chapman, Creative Science, Richmond, Marshal Leadership, Ainsworth, Capitol Hill

Congratulations to the following schools that have advanced to Merit or Premier status:

Skyline, West Sylvan, Roseway Heights, Sellwood, Woodstock

Join the movement. Visit our website, <http://facilities.pps.k12.or.us/docs/pg/10522> to begin the process.

We're on the web!
<http://facilities.pps.k12.or.us/docs/pg/10516>

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