



News and Resources for Educators & Schools

Oregon Green Schools Newsletter **October 2013**

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Dear Jeanette,

While Oregon's fall weather can't seem to make up its mind, we are happy to tell you that we have! The OGSA is pleased to announce the **date and location for the 2014 Green Schools Summit: Friday April 11th, in Corvallis!**

<PLEASE SAVE THE DATE> We'd love to see you and your students at the Summit. Watch these newsletters in the coming months for more detailed information.

As always, if you have questions, comments, suggestions, etc. please email us at: mail@oregongreenschools.org.

Happy Autumn!
 Jeanette Hardison,
 Admin Assistant to the OGSA Board

PS. Our newsletters usually include images (photos, logos, etc.). If you cannot see any, please enable images in your email program for maximum enjoyment. Thanks!

Are you a member of First Alternative Co-op in Corvallis?

Vote for Oregon Green Schools to receive funding through Beans for Bags in 2014. Ballots are DUE by Oct 31st.

[Click here for a ballot or more information.](#)



AUTUMN ENERGY SAVING REMINDER:

When turning clocks back an hour on Sunday November 3rd, remember to change the clocks on your programmable thermostats, too!

School Spotlight:

Central Oregon Schools to Start School-Wide Composting

This school year so far, students at two schools, Miller Elementary and Ponderosa Elementary have been learning to place food in special green food waste buckets.

The Green Teams have worked to record the volume and weight to get some baseline data for the composting in their school. In mid-October, the garbage haulers are dropping off food waste bins, and will be taking the school compost to a special area at the landfill to get turned into compost.

Approximately 300 pounds of food per week will now be diverted from the landfill from each of these two schools. **Congratulations to the Miller and Ponderosa Green Teams for making this happen, and our gratitude to the supportive Bend-La Pine School District!**



Ponderosa Elementary students compost food and stack lunch boats to reduce garbage from 12 bags to just two bags!

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2nd Call-out for School-Produced Videos

Has your school created a video you'd like to share, perhaps about your efforts to be even greener, or a video designed to educate others on an environmental issue? The OGSA would like to know!

Here's one we liked about Climate Change, Toilet Efficiency and Zombies, sent in by the Green Team at Portland's Madison High School after last month's request for videos.



Send us your videos and we'll choose some for posting on our website in the School Tools section, and maybe even in future



newsletters.

*Email links or smaller files to
mail@oregongreenschools.org.*

Thanks! We look forward to seeing all the creative works out there.

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Parent Leadership through Eco-School Networks Project

TEACHERS, COORDINATORS, ADMINISTRATORS AND OTHERS:

Do you have students with eco-minded parents? Family members potentially interested in initiating sustainable school practices such as costume-swaps, carpooling rideshare boards, building worm bins, or other green activities? ***IF SO please pass this message along:***

Ready to lead green projects at your school? Want to be supported by a local network of like-minded elementary school parents? Then you are a perfect candidate to join the **Eco-School Networks Project!**

An Eco-School Network is a *grassroots group of parents working both independently and together to define the leading green edge* in any Oregon school district.

A project of the **Center for Earth Leadership**, successful Eco-School Networks have been established in Portland (40 schools) and Beaverton (15 schools). A brand new Network is forming in Corvallis right now (9 schools so far). The Center now seeks to pilot networks in additional Oregon communities for the 2013-14 school year.

If you are interested in launching an Eco-School Network in your community, please **contact Emily Klavins**, emily@earthleaders.org or 503-227-2315. Learn more at www.earthleaders.org/programs/eco-school-networks.



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School Resources

Oregon Green Schools Webinar

Join Oregon Green Schools for a free webinar on Tues, November 19th from 10:00 - 11:30am.

This webinar is specifically geared towards custodians and facilities staff as we'll be hearing the Northwest Center for Alternatives to Pesticides talk about a law requiring schools to have an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) plan in place. There will also be time for Q & A about other OGS issues. For details on how to "attend" please email OGS Board member Bailey Payne (bpayne@co.marion.or.us).

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Great Curriculum Offered!

If you are looking for some great ways to incorporate waste reduction and other sustainability focused lessons in your classroom, The Environmental Center in Bend has resources to share.

Please check out <http://envirocenter.org/teaching-sustainability/> to find lessons and some online resources to incorporate sustainability education into your classes. Additional resources will be coming soon.

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National Wildlife Federation's Green STEM Initiative and Young Makers Clubs

The STEM disciplines (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) play an important role in the development of the whole student. Educating students in STEM fields is critical to our nation's success and most importantly to the [National Wildlife Federation](#), whose mission is to inspire Americans to protect the environment for our children's future.

Looking to boost your student's skills in [Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math](#)? Start a Young Makers club and set up a Makerspace!! Everyone's a MAKER!



Creativity and innovation are key components to the next great inventions in STEM and through **Maker** experiences students can tinker and embrace their imagination and DIY spirit. Makers Clubs are a great way to inspire students to design, create, and solve all kinds of problems, especially those related to the well-being of our environment.

To learn more about the Maker Movement:

- * [Make Education](#)
- * [Young Makers Club](#)
- * [Makerspace](#)
- * [Google+](#)
- * Follow on Twitter: [@MakerEdOrg](#) / [@MakerFaire](#)
- * Facebook: [Maker Education Initiative](#) / [Maker Faire](#)

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From the national GREEN SCHOOLS ALLIANCE:

CALLING ALL SCHOOLS!
Together We Can Make Green Power Affordable for All



[Green Schools Alliance](#) and [U.S. EPA's Green Power Partnership](#) are collaborating to introduce the [Green Schools Renewable Energy Purchasing Consortium](#).

We are aggregating our collective purchasing power to reduce the price of renewable

energy to a figure that we can all afford. Join this exciting, special collaborative effort!

The consortium was founded in 2013 by EPA's Green Power Partnership and The Green Schools Alliance to help accelerate the adoption of renewable energy by K-12 schools. The consortium is comprised of K-12 schools from across the United States that are collectively purchasing renewable energy for their facilities, earning them national recognition from EPA's Green Power Partnership (GPP) and paving the way for renewable energy use in the broader K-12 educational community.

We've had a great response so far!**Join with other schools to purchase renewable energy.****REMINDER: Submit your non-binding [Statement of Intent](#) before Nov. 8th.**

We are all striving to mitigate carbon emissions from our energy consumption. One great way to do this is to purchase certified, [Green-e Renewable Energy Certificates](#) (RECs), which are created when electricity is generated from renewable resources. RECs are an innovative way of expanding renewable electricity generation in the U.S. and represent actual energy produced by clean power sources. The purchase of RECs can help our schools demonstrate our shared commitment to a sustainable, energy-smart future. Purchasing RECs does not affect existing relationships with your utility service provider.

Together we can take Big Steps toward Small Footprints.[Back to top](#)

FREE Green Chemistry Webinar Series for High School Teachers

**October 30, 2013, 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm PST**[Connecting Chemistry Concepts to Cutting-Edge Science Innovations](#)

Connect chemistry concepts to current chemistry-related inventions and discoveries over the past 20 years in your classroom and lab. This webinar will highlight Presidential Green Chemistry Challenge Award-winning case studies. Chemistry concepts and how they apply to cosmetics, solar energy, and biomimicry will also be discussed.

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/2743974555656922368>**November 13, 2013, 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm PST**[Safer Chemistry: Drop-In Replacement Labs](#)

This webinar will focus on labs that cover the same content as traditional labs, but use more environmentally friendly materials. The emphasis will be on labs that reduce the risk in the laboratory setting by targeting the hazard rather than the exposure. Highlighted replacement labs will be: Reactions: Single, Double, Composition and Decomposition; Flame Test and more.

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4847586590197116416>

The webinars are FREE! But registration is required. We welcome you to register for one, two, or all three (Oct 2nd class has already passed). If you have questions, please contact Saskia van Bergen at: Saskia.vanBergen@ECY.WA.GOV or (360) 407-6609.

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Recycling 101 or Master Recyclers classes? Which one is for me?

Recycling 101

In collaboration with several non-profit organizations and government agencies, the Association of Oregon Recyclers (AOR) launched an on-line, self-paced class called Recycling 101 (<https://pne.oregonstate.edu/catalog/recycling-101>).

This **award-winning course** includes approximately 20 high quality videos, interactive games and short tests spread throughout eight modules. The cost is \$75 for individuals and \$50 for organizations that purchase 5 or more registrations.

What's the difference between Recycling 101 & the Master Recycler Class?

There are a number of differences between Recycling 101 & the Master Recycler Program...

- The Master Recycler class combines presentations from over 25 different experts, with 40 hours of interactive instruction and field trips.
- It also gives students the opportunity to meet 20-30 of their fellow community members that have the same interests and motivations for learning the material.
- The Master Recycler class also has a real focus on your area's local and regional programs whereas the Recycling 101 course gives more of a state-wide perspective.
- While the Master Recycler class is the best way to get the information, clearly not everyone can commit to eight evening classes and three weekend field trips.

The Recycling 101 course provides flexibility so **students can take the class over the course of a few days or even months.**

- It does not include a volunteer payback element so it is a good option for employers that want to give their employees a solid foundation in the topics covered in the class, but can't require them to spend 30 hours educating the community.
- It's a great way for any busy person that needs to juggle the course around their work and family responsibilities.
- It's also appropriate for some people that may not be able to attend the evening classes or who live far away from the site that the Master Recycler class is taught.
- Recycling 101 is also available in Spanish which will make this information available to a much larger segment of our community!

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Educator Resources

The Career Toolbox: The Guide for Educators

[View this online resource](#), developed for teachers, to help you build your skills in everything from new technologies to communications. The Career Toolbox hopes to supply educators with the resources you need to succeed in the changing world of education.

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OSU's ECampus Offers Online Environmental Classes

Oregon State University has a HUGE variety of environmental classes that are available online, geared toward adults. Here are just a few of the offerings, below.



- [Master Gardener \(fall and winter courses\)](#)
- [Oregon Master Naturalist \(fall and winter courses\)](#)
- [Growing Fruit Trees in the Pacific Northwest](#) (dates TBA, in Portland and Oregon City)
- [Landscaping with Native Plants](#) (available anytime, online, self-paced)
- [Permaculture Design Certificate Online](#) (Sept 30-Dec 6, 2013, online)
- [Nature Writing Workshop](#) (date TBD, one-day workshop at Silver Falls State Park in Silverton)
- [Recycling 101](#) (available anytime, online, self-paced)
- [Master Interpretive Guide Professional Certificate](#) (begins May 1, 2014, online)
- [Free-Choice Learning Professional Certificates](#) (various dates, all online)
- Click [HERE](#) for a complete listing of classes

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Meet the OGSA Board: Jackie Wilson, Member at Large and Green Schools Regional Coordinator



I moved to Bend, Oregon in 2004, after teaching Earth Science and Biology at North Country School in Lake Placid, NY. I wanted to ski, backpack and teach. I explored the state of Oregon on skis and with a backpack and then I got a job teaching the EarthSmart sustainability education program through The Environmental Center in Bend. This program teaches students about recycling and compost, energy and water reduction and is a great way to get kids excited about what they can do to be stewards of the earth and help their school.

In 2010, I received a Master's in Education with a focus in Sustainability education and became the Regional Green School Coordinator for Oregon Green Schools. I love working with kids to help make real changes in their school and supporting the district sustainability plan. I have been working hard to get more and more schools east of the cascades involved in the Green School Program. I am a new member of the board and look forward to assisting schools get certification and streamlining the process for teachers.

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The Oregon Green Schools Association is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization formed in 1997. We are dedicated to helping Oregon schools set up and maintain effective, permanent waste reduction and resource efficiency programs that improve school environments and communities, and to recognizing schools for their efforts and achievements.

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