

# Oregon Green Schools newsletter

Oregon Green Schools Newsletter

Volume 1, Number 2

Spring 2002

## Welcome!

The Oregon Green Schools Association has created this newsletter to keep you informed about Green School happenings around the state.

Your contributions are needed! Let us know about your events and activities, so we can include them in a future newsletter.

## What's inside?

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Board of Directors

The mission of the Oregon Green Schools Association is to assist Oregon schools in setting up, maintaining and recognizing effective, permanent waste reduction and resource efficiency programs that improve the school environment and community.

*recycled content paper - 30% post-consumer*

## Earth Day Celebrations – Green School Style!

Schools across the state turned their energies toward environmental education and conservation projects during the month of April. Here is what several Green Schools did for their celebrations!

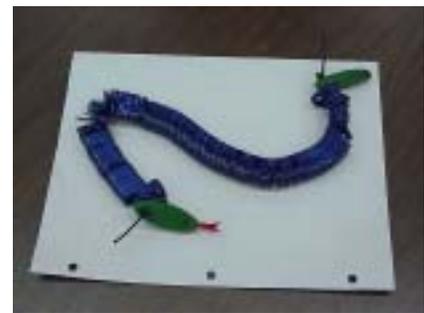
In Sisters, **La Pine Middle** planted two flowering bushes in honor of the “Volunteer of the Year.” Students from LaPine High School’s ROTC program came to the middle school for several days and worked with 5/6 grade student council students in preparing the planting area.

**Edwards Elementary** in Newberg, participated in the Earth Day Grocery Bag project, decorating bags with messages about recycling, worm composting and planting trees. They received the bags from America’s Forest and Paper Association and distributed the decorated bags at a neighborhood Thriftway store.

Parent volunteers and students from **Pleasant Valley Elementary**, Gresham area, planted 150 native trees and shrubs on the school grounds.

**North Gresham Elementary** held a reused art contest. Prizes included t-shirts and Tootsie Pops!

All participants received a bookmark with an earth-friendly message. The clever creations were displayed in the school’s media center for all to view.



Pull-tab snake - North Gresham art contest

Students from **Redmond High School** performed an inspirational resource conservation assembly for their student body and for two middle schools. Students also distributed an Earth Pledge to each classroom and provided a computer recycling event for the community.

**Centennial Middle**, Gresham, conducted a variety of activities including daily announcements about savings from conservation efforts, a waste audit competition between teams, lunch waste audits (second lunch had only 24 pounds of garbage, which meant barely one ounce per person!), and seeing which team could wear the most green!

**Gresham and Barlow High School** conservation students teamed up with City of Gresham, Mt. Hood Community College and AmeriCorps members to restore an area of the MHCC pond. Invasive plants were removed from the banks of the pond, then native trees, shrubs and ferns were planted in their place. A group also worked to protect existing trees from resident beavers.



Milk carton planter, North Gresham art contest

## Oregon Green School Board of Directors

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### Board positions opening in fall

The board is seeking new members with energy, fresh ideas and dedication to help the OGSA continue to grow and expand. Interested? Contact President Freda Sherburne at sherburnef@metro.dst.or.us or (503) 797-1522.

### What's new on the web?

Check out the website for upcoming events, premier profiles, who's who in Green Schools and more.

We'd like to read about your school too! Send your school profiles and corrections to: Dave Larmouth at dlarmouth@keoffice.com.



Oregon Green Schools Association  
P.O. Box 2186  
Salem, OR 97308-2186  
Phone (800) 527-7624  
Fax: (503) 399-7784  
www.oregongreenschools.org

# Highlights from great school programs



## Hugh Hartman Middle, Redmond

Congratulations to the staff and students of Hugh Hartman Middle, recipients of this year's Secondary WRAP (waste reduction and prevention) award from Oregon DEQ and Association of Oregon Recyclers!

A Green School since 1998, Hugh Hartman Middle continues to expand and improve its recycling program each year. This year, the recycling team is comprised of students from the Bridges Program, who each spend about 3 hours per week completing their recycling duties.

The school is especially proud of its Bicycle Repair Shop program. The program involves students from alternative and special education classes in entrepreneurial projects. Students learn how to repair bicycles and provide a community service by restoring bicycles for community organizations. In the past seven years, more than 80 bikes have been restored and donated to the Redmond Fire Dept. for their Christmas toy drive.

Students also design and create jewelry,

small tables and clocks from old bicycle parts. This provides an opportunity for students to be creative and to recycle parts that have been collected over the years. Any unused parts are sent to a scrap metal plant in Redmond for recycling.

Hugh Hartman Middle is also very proud of its success with its Worm Composting Program. Students built 3 bins this school year, reducing lunch waste by 10-15 pounds per week. The program was so successful that they helped institute it at Tuck Elementary School. The Bridges students constructed 5 bins from donated wood and made presentations on worm care and bin maintenance for the elementary students.

Bridges students check on the elementary bins monthly, and will be showing Tuck students how to harvest and use their castings this spring.

## Green Schools receive WRAP Awards

Each year, the Association of Oregon Recyclers and Oregon DEQ recognizes schools with outstanding waste reduction programs with **WRAP** (waste reduction and prevention) **Awards**. This year, three out of the four awards were received by Green Schools!

Recipient of the Elementary Award is **St. Mary's School** in Albany. The Secondary award was received by **Hugh Hartman Middle**, Redmond, (see story above).

A Rising Star award is given to a school that shows evidence of significant progress in the development of its waste reduction program. This year's recipient is **Lent Elementary**, Portland.

The Steele Gayle Martin Achievement Award went to **Sheldon High School's Life Skills Network** students. They are not a Green School yet, but we hope they will apply soon!

# Featured Coordinators

Schools in Central Oregon are lucky to have a great team of folks to help them with their Green School programs. Working cooperatively to serve the region are Paula Kinzer, a private consultant and Resource Conservation Educator for Redmond School District and Jessica Born, an AmeriCorps member for The Recycling Team in Bend.

For her year of AmeriCorps service, **Jessica Born** is the assistant education coordinator. Working with Katy Bryce, she provides resource conservation education for Deschutes Co. schools, community groups and individuals, and coordinates Green School programs in the area.

Jessica has a degree in Family and Human Services from University of Oregon, and is especially interested in Montessori education. She had an internship in Guadalajara, Mexico where she held an environmental science exposition with the Montessori students at her school.

A favorite part of her job is turning folks on to new information,



like showing kids how fleece jackets are made from plastic pop bottles!



**Paula Kinzer** started a consulting business, EcoCents Consulting, in 1999. As the Resource Conservation Manager for Redmond School District, Paula works with school staff to implement resource conservation and efficiency programs. The goal is to save natural resources and reduce utility costs by 15% through these programs.

Paula's favorite part of this job is doing presentations and connecting with kids. She thrives on empowering others to protect and enjoy the earth's beauty.

Paula and her family live in an Earthship home, made mostly from reclaimed and indigenous materials. Solar power provides 90% of their heating and electrical needs.

Paula's advice is: "Don't let the bad news get you down. Let your frustration about obstacles motivate you to find new avenues to environmental evolution. Celebrate your successes and the successes of others in the field of environmental education."

## OGSA coordinator and board member receives "Eco-appreciation" award!

**Pam Wald**, featured in the winter OGSA newsletter recently received an award from the Oregon DEQ and AOR. The award acknowledges Pam for her "excellence in school assistance and education in reducing waste, recycling, using materials wisely and composting." Way to go, Pam! We're thrilled and proud to have you on our team!

## WELCOME!

**Orchard Hill Elementary School** in Medford has become the first Green School in the Southern Oregon region. Congratulations students and staff for all your hard work!

Thanks to recycling coordinator Denise Wolgamott of Rogue Disposal & Recycling, for helping them receive this recognition!

## End-of-school-year recycling tips

Plan ahead to **REDUCE** the waste of valuable resources at the end of the year! On locker clean-out days:

Set up a deposit area for supplies students don't want, and save them for **REUSE** in the fall.

Contact your hauler for extra bins and **RECYCLE** as much as possible. Make sure bins are labeled and monitored.

## Upcoming Events

### S.C.R.A.P. workshops/events

Volunteer Orientation

Sunday, June 2, 1-3pm

For information about volunteering or about reuse workshops call (503) 294-0769.

### AOR Fall Conference

"Still Chasing Arrows After All These Years"

September 12-14, Seaside, OR

For more information visit: [www.aorr.org](http://www.aorr.org)



*Please share this newsletter!*

*Thank You!*

**Oregon Green Schools supporters and sponsors!**

*The following individuals and organizations made contributions to Oregon Green Schools in 2001-02. Supporters and sponsors automatically become Friends of Oregon Green Schools with their contributions.*

**Supporters**

Oregon Refuse and Recycling Association  
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**Friends of OGSA**

City of Gresham  
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Washington County  
Envirographics (Eileen Stapp)

**Summit Scholarships**

Albany-Lebanon Sanitation, American Sanitary Service, Arrow Sanitary Service, B & B Leasing Co. (Gladstone, Molalla), B & J Garbage Co., Bend Garbage & Recycling, Canby Disposal Company, Corvallis Disposal Company, Dallas Disposal Co., Dienes Brothers, Gresham Sanitary Service, Keller Drop Box, Loren's Sanitation Service, Mt. View Sanitary Service, Newberg Garbage Service, Rockwood Solid Waste, Roseburg Disposal Company, Rossman Sanitary Service, Santiam Sanitary Service, Twelve-Mile Disposal Service, Waste Management, West Linn Refuse & Recycling.

**Summit sponsors**

Oregon Refuse and Recycling Assn., Bill Webber, Oregon DEQ, Metro, Marion County Solid Waste, City of Portland, City of Beaverton, City of Gresham, Tetra Pak, Inc., Dallas Disposal Co., DeWald Northwest Co., Recycling Advocates, Resource Revival.

# Summit Updates:

## Call for Presentations

This year, for the first time in Summit history, OGSA is taking proposals for sessions at the Oregon Green School Summit. Here's your chance to show off a program or share your expertise at the annual Oregon Green Schools Summit! Check out the insert in this newsletter and start planning!



## Fall or Spring? Help us choose the date for next year's Summit!

Fall: Allows schools to apply information learned at the summit during the school year and inspires recycling teams, but there is less time for creating displays and organizing teams prior to the Summit.

Spring: Serves as a reward for working hard all year and there is more time to prepare, but may not allow enough time at the end of the year to put new ideas into action.

Please help us decide!  
Contact Dave Larmouth with your opinion by June 15, at (503)474-4847 or dlarmouth@keoffice.com.

## **Be a friend to Oregon Green Schools!**



The Oregon Green Schools Association is dedicated to improving the school environment and community through waste reduction assistance and recognition. Your contribution helps to provide educational displays and recognition materials for schools and supports the annual Green Schools Summit.

**Yes! I want to become a Friend of Oregon Green Schools!**

Enclosed is my annual membership fee for:

- \$5 Student       \$25 Basic       \$50 Merit  
 \$100 Premier       \$250 Best Friend       \$\_\_\_\_\_ Other

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*Thank You!*

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