

# Oregon Green Schools newsletter

Oregon Green Schools Newsletter

Volume 1, Number 1

Winter 2001

## **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 our newsletter. The next issue will focus on what schools did to celebrate Earth Day.

## **What's inside?**

Green School Summit

Featured Coordinator

School Highlights

Upcoming Events

Annual Report (insert)

Friends of OGSA

Earth Day Ideas

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*

## Students "Make Connections" at 2001 Oregon Green Schools Summit

On Friday, November 9th, 250 students and teachers met at Dallas High School for the annual fall Summit to "make connections" and to celebrate their school waste reduction achievements.

Participants attended a variety of sessions including a Premier School Showcase where students from Premier and Merit level schools shared their successes.

Old-favorite sessions included paper making, how to do waste audits, and compost critters. New sessions included "Watt's up with Waste," (destined to be a new-favorite!), and Greeting Card Reuse.

Nearly every school brought a display this year, and they were terrific! The displays showed the level of commitment and energy that students have for making their school "green" and for sharing what they know about waste prevention and recycling.

The highlight of the day had to be the performance put on by Brainwaves Improvisational Comedy group. The hilarious series of skits were based on audience suggestions and a recycling theme.

Many thanks to The Dallas HS Environmental Club, led by Stephanie Preuitt, for



hosting this year's Summit. The club members were busy all day long, helping with set-up and clean-up activities and leading tours of the school's recycling program.

The Dallas HS Catering Club did a great job of providing the food service for the Summit – something we all appreciated!

We also could not have the Summit without sponsors! Please see the last page for a list of organizations that contributed to the Summit as a sponsor or provided scholarships for schools. Thank you sponsors!

Greatly appreciated also, were door prizes donated by Green School Coordinators.

And finally, a big thank-you to all the volunteers, presenters and committee members that made this year's Summit a success! It is because these people are so willing to give of their time and energy that we can provide wonderful events like this to our members across the state.

Anyone wishing to assist with the planning of next year's Summit is asked to contact Dave Larmouth at (503) 474-4847. We are also looking for a school to host next year's Summit.



## Oregon Green School Board of Directors

2001-2002

### *President*

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## Check out our web site!

Log on to the OGSA web site for a look at a Premier School (Harold Oliver Primary is our first school to submit a profile), to see which schools across the state are "Green," to look at pictures from the Summit and more!

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

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



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# Highlights from great school programs



## Dallas High School – Dallas, Oregon

From paper and aluminum cans to kitchen grease, batteries and everything in between, Dallas HS is attempting to recycle it all. Although paper recycling had been going on for some time, it wasn't until the inception of the Environmental Assistant class in fall, 1996 that the school's efforts were formalized into an award-winning program. In the period of time between fall, 1998 and spring, 2001, DHS achieved the level of Premier School in the OGSA program and won the 2001 DEQ WRAP award for their waste reduction efforts at school.

What makes the DHS program so great? Besides the fact that they have reduced their waste stream by 25%, they have done community service projects such as organizing the annual local creek clean-up – pulling 1200 pounds of metal alone out of the water the first year. Students have volunteered for programs aimed at

educating the public such as Recycling Fest, an event sponsored by local disposal companies. They have also visited elementary schools to promote the Oregon Green Schools program.

The people involved are what really makes the DHS program special. It takes dedication, cooperation and support to have a successful program. The program thrives because of the dedication of the students in the Environmental Assistant class and mentor Stephanie Preuitt. Their belief in a sustainable lifestyle both in school and out is their driving force. Also key is a close working relationship with local recycler, Steve Briles of Dallas Disposal Co., the cooperation of all the diverse groups within the school coming together to make it happen and support from principal Scott McLeod.

With all this support and cooperation, DHS will be teaching the 3 Rs long into the future!

## Glencoe Elementary – Portland, Oregon

Glencoe Elementary, a Merit Green School, has several exciting environmental and recycling projects going on this year. With the creation of an outdoor classroom naturescaping project, opportunities for education and composting abound. The worm team takes care of two worm bins, feeding them vegetable waste collected from the cafeteria. The compost that is produced from these two bins are used in the nature gardens around the school. Parent volunteers also compost yard debris from the gardens.

The recycling team students chart how much paper is collected and calculate how many trees they have

saved that week. The "tree amounts" are then added to the Glencoe Recycling Forest display in the cafeteria. The goal is 125 trees this year!

"Oops!" boxes by each copy machine collect one-sided papers that are used for rough drafts in the classrooms, offices and in the library for recess-time art projects.

Learn more about recycling and composting at Glencoe on the web!  
<http://glencoe.pps.k12.or.us/recycling.html>

Glencoe hopes to be flying the Premier flag by the end of this school year!

## Oregon Green Schools Coordinator feature:

# Pam Wald



If you attended the Summit at Dallas High School, you probably saw this energetic Green Schools Coordinator busy at work setting up the exhibit area or organizing an activity around the cool “Making Connections” sculpture.

Pam Wald has worked for Albany-Lebanon Sanitation and Corvallis Disposal for 12 years as a waste reduction educator. She doesn't have an official title but likes what the kids call her: “garbage lady” or “worm lady.”

Pam started her career in waste reduction education by promoting recycling in schools as a substitute teacher. (She subbed for 10 years in grades K-12 and says that experience has helped a lot with this job.) She pursued her interest in recycling when she discovered that ALS needed someone to do presentations in schools one day a week. That her job went full-time within 3 months is a testament to the dedication, energy and creativity that she brings to the job.

Pam enjoys her job in part because each day is different. She especially likes working with kids on a wide variety of projects. Currently, 46 of the 70 schools in Pam's service area are Oregon Green Schools. Way to go, Pam!

Pam's advice to other coordinators: don't get discouraged! Each school is unique and can't be compared to others. The program is worth your effort to try and bring it to the schools.

Pam worked with Tom Shafer at La Creole Middle School to create this cool “Making Connections” sculpture for the Summit. After the Summit it traveled to and has been on display at Philomath HS and Crescent Valley HS. If you would like to have it at your school, give Pam a call at (541) 754-0445 ext. 204.



## Name the newsletter and win a prize!

Help us come up with a clever name for our newsletter and win a cool prize. Send your ideas to Freda Sherburne, Metro, 600 NE Grand Ave., Portland, OR 97232 or [sherburnef@metro.dst.or.us](mailto:sherburnef@metro.dst.or.us). Open to all OGSA members. Deadline: March 1, 2002.

## Upcoming Events

Association of Oregon Recyclers Spring Education Conference  
May 17, Willamette Valley Vinyards  
For more information call Keri Morin-Handaly at (503) 229-6823 or check AOR's website: [www.aorr.org](http://www.aorr.org)

Master Recyclers Training  
Learn more about waste reduction in this eight-week course. Tuesdays, 7:00-9:30 pm, March 5-April 23. Application deadline Feb. 21. For more information call Megan Cogswell at (503) 725-2035.

Environmental Education Assn. of Oregon – Spring Conference  
“Energy: The current that moves us”  
March 15-17, Oregon 4H Conference and Education Center, Salem  
For information: [www.eeao.org](http://www.eeao.org)

## WRAP Awards

You could be a winner! Nominate your school or a special recycler for one of four waste reduction and prevention awards from DEQ and Association of Oregon Recyclers. Download an application from DEQ's web site: [www.deq.state.or.us/wmc/solwaste/wrap.html](http://www.deq.state.or.us/wmc/solwaste/wrap.html). Deadline for nominations is April 3. For more information call (503)229-6823.



*Please share this newsletter!*

## Celebrate Earth Day!

What will your school be doing to celebrate Earth Day? We would like to feature schools that have resourceful events and activities in our next newsletter. Following are a few ideas to get you started.

• Participate in the Earth Day Grocery Bags project: [www.earthdaybags.org](http://www.earthdaybags.org)

• Register your activity or check to see what events are happening at this web site: [www.earthdayeveryday.org](http://www.earthdayeveryday.org)

• Sign up for a SOLV event, or organize a service learning project for your school. Grant funds are available to help with costs. Find out more on SOLV's web site: [www.solv.org](http://www.solv.org)

*Thank You!*

# Oregon Green Schools members and supporters

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

## Supporters

Oregon Refuse and Recycling Association  
*With special thanks to Kimera Coady, Rachel Wagner and Kristan Mitchell for clerical, legal and organizational support and advice!*

Oregon DEQ  
Waste Management & Clean-up  
*Grant for website development*

## 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 scholarships

*The following haulers provided substitute teacher and mileage reimbursements for schools in their service area. Without these scholarships, most schools would not be able to attend the Summit.*

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.

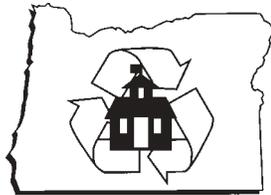
## Friends of OGSA Members

*"Best Friend/government"*

City of Gresham - DES  
Metro  
Washington County

*"Premier"*

Envirographics (Eileen Stapp)



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

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_

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Please tell us your relationship to Oregon Green Schools \_\_\_\_\_

Mail checks payable to: Oregon Green Schools Association  
PO Box 2186  
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*Thank You!*

Contributions to The Oregon Green Schools Association are tax deductible