

Columbia River Gorge Master Recyclers

August 2013 EDITION

TRI-COUNTY HAZARDOUS WASTE AND RECYCLING PROGRAM

Upcoming Events:

- **Hazardous Waste Collection**
Friday August 16th, 9am-2pm
Hood River Transfer Station
Volunteers needed ☺
- **Hazardous Waste Collection**
Saturday August 17th, 9am-2pm
The Dalles Disposal
Volunteers needed ☺
- **Master Recycler Potluck ?**
This Autumn? Stay tuned
- **Drug Take-Back Event**
Saturday September 28th 10 -2 at
MCMC Water's Edge in The Dalles

Master Recyclers make a difference! Thank you for helping make our quarterly hazardous waste collection events run so smoothly!!!



Mary Lou Perry celebrates recent retirement from DEQ by helping out in The Dalles !



Marilyn Wall styling with our chemist friend John from Phillips Service.



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Tri-County Hazardous Waste and Recycling Program is part of the North Central Public Health District.



Lisa Knapp surveying a customer who is evidently thrilled to clear out the garage.

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The results: 162 customers delivered 17,765 pounds of hazardous wastes to our event in Hood River on May 17!



Jodi TePoel graciously dropping off unwanted chemicals from Habitat-For-Humanity to our event in T.D.



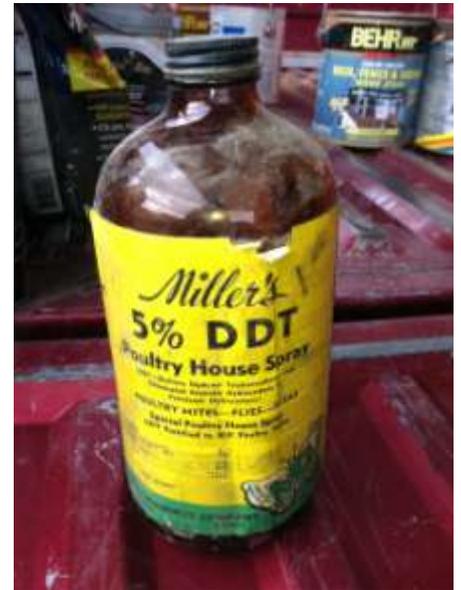
None other than our beloved Karen Murray, having an “olfactory” moment while managing the entrance to our hazardous waste event in Hood River on May 17th. What a smile, after greeting over 160 customers... Thanks!



Allergic to peanuts?



We received these 2 charming Seagram's bottles full of mercury.

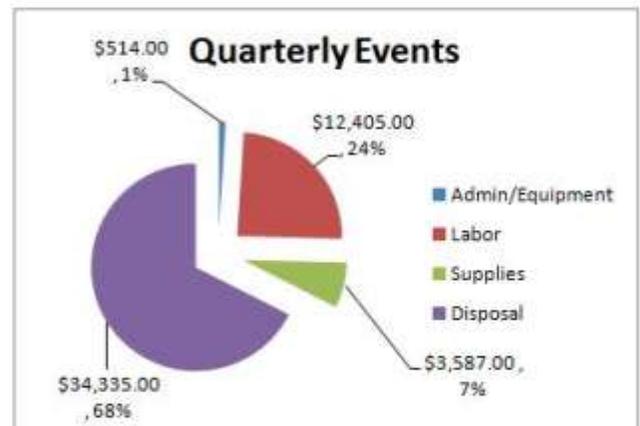
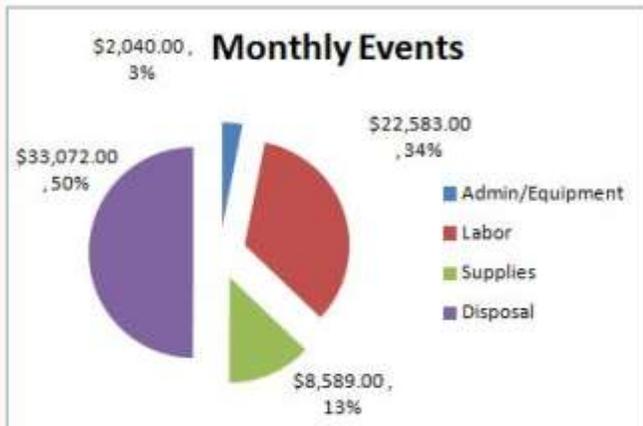


DDT was outlawed in the 1970's. Yet we continue to collect it regularly.

Monthly Versus Quarterly Hazardous Waste Collection events in Hood River and The Dalles

Here is a comparison of costs and effectiveness due to switching from monthly to quarterly hazardous waste collections. Thus far, we are able to compare a nine month period of quarterly events (September '12-May '13) to monthly collections during the equivalent time period in the previous year (September '11-May '12). All data reflects total numbers combining Hood River and The Dalles.

Highlight: 23% increase in hazardous waste collected, 23% decrease in total collection costs, 37% decrease in cost per pound.



	MONTHLY (2011-12)	QUARTERLY (2012-13)	DIFFERENCE
CARS	989	890	-10%
POUNDS	107,712	131,840	+23%
ADMIN	\$2,040	\$514	-75%
LABOR	\$22,583	\$12,405	-45%
SUPPLIES	\$8,589	\$3,587	-58%
DISPOSAL	\$33,072	\$34,335	+3.8%
TOTAL COST	\$66,284	\$50,841	-23%
COST PER CAR	\$67	\$57	-15%
COST PER POUND	\$.62	\$.39	-37%



Gracie and Tia enjoying “Garbanzo” cookies during a quick break in the action at the Feb. collection in The Dalles.



Marilyn Richardson assisting with our shredding service at The Dalles event. Gorge Security Shred then recycles it.



Another friendly face: Yvonne Huskey keeping the peace in Hood River.

Master Recycler Update, by David Skakel

State and local government programs are doing a lot of “belt tightening” these days. And our program (Tri-County Hazardous Waste & Recycling Program) is no exception. To be clear: without additional staffing, our program is unable to offer any new Master Recycler courses (despite interest). Heather Alexander was a wiz at desktop publishing and handling the “social media” role of our program’s mission to help folks navigate the continual changes in “materials management”. The absence of her skill and productivity is evident. Likewise, Karen Murray personified the passion and commitment of our esteemed Columbia River Gorge Master Recyclers. Without her at the helm, we all have to seriously question the future (if any) for this Master Recycler program which steadily emerged since our first graduating class in the Fall of 2009. With nearly fifty trained Master Recyclers lingering in The Gorge at this moment with scant guidance about “what next”, I suggest we convene another Potluck this autumn to reflect and re-engage the possibilities. I encourage any of you to contact me directly with your thoughts about that. Meanwhile, I have narrowed my focus to “providing essential services”. I won’t bore you with those details. But I will say that I find great merit in the Master Recycler program. It makes such sense to match the unheralded passion of citizenry with the best information of the day in order to accomplish a most effective public/private partnership for outreach. I hope it continues in The Gorge.

How to get in touch with “us”:

*Do you have ideas for our next Master Recycler Newsletter?
We need your input and your creativity.*

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