

Energy & Waste Watcher

September 2006

Electronic resource conservation and recycling newsletter for state agency resource coordinators



What You Can Do for Cleaner Air

for Summertime



Refuel vehicles in the cooler evening hours and avoid spilling gasoline. Gasoline vapors released during refueling contribute to ozone formation. When released early in the day, vapors are "cooked" in the sunlight and turn into ozone/smog. The sunlight is less intense by early evening, so fewer vapors turn into ozone.

Wait until the day cools off to use gasoline-powered mowers and garden equipment.

Cut down the use of spray pesticides. Any material sprayed onto a lawn can end up in the air and add to the toxics in the air. Avoid spraying on a hot or windy day and look into other methods that require less pesticide use.

www.deq.state.or.us/aq/advisories

State Recycling: It's More Than Just Paper Collection



Is your work section doing all it can to recycle? ORS 459A outlines the collection program for state agencies to follow. In addition to office paper, this program includes the collection of corrugated cardboard, newsprint, soda containers, glass, plastics, water bottles, batteries and toner cartridges.

Recycle collection containers should be located in common work areas and break rooms; readily available for employees to sort their recyclables.

Call SORT (State of Oregon Recycling Team) for assistance at (503) 378-2865 x241

Hazardous Waste Collection

Marion County is hosting a Household Hazardous Waste Collection Event:
Saturday, September 30, 2006
9:00 am to 3:00 pm
Wal-Mart Parking Lot Woodburn



City of Portland

Renewable Fuels Standards



At its July meeting, the Portland City Council passed a citywide renewable fuels standard. Service stations must sell gasoline and diesel fuel with a minimum renewable fuel content.

Diesel fuel must contain a minimum 5% blend of biodiesel and gasoline is required to contain at least 10% ethanol. Renewable fuels are shown to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve air quality. This requirement will take effect July 1, 2007.

Waste News, July 31, 2006, p.4.

BACK - TO - SCHOOL "3Rs"

Reduce, Reuse and Recycle

Before starting a new school year, sort through old materials. Many of last year's supplies can be reused or recycled. Recycle unwanted papers and reuse old folders and binders.

Buy smart! Purchase and use a wide assortment of supplies made from recycled products. Many types of recycled paper products contain a percentage of Post-Consumer Waste (PCW).

Buy used goods from resale shops. This is an inexpensive way to get assorted merchandise.

Waste from packaging accounts for more than 30 percent of all the waste generated each year. Use school supplies wrapped with minimal packaging; use compact or concentrated products; or buy products that come in bulk sizes.

For more tips go to:

<http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/osw/specials/funfacts/school3.htm>

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