

Business news

Providence Milwaukie plants garden for local food bank clients

This year employees of Providence Milwaukie Hospital set out to do a good deed for their community.

On their own time, more than 30 employees and family members planted a garden to feed local food bank clients such as the residents of Hillside Manor and Park, a Clackamas County Housing Authority community near the hospital.



With some help from the Oregon Food Bank on logistics and materials, and many donations from the community, the employees did the hard work of growing vegetables, melons and berries. Then fruit trees were added. As of mid-September, 861 pounds of food was grown and donated to families in need.

The benefits weren't just for the food recipients. "Employees enjoy visiting and working in the garden. It has given them a place to visit for personal solace, an avenue to release their inner gardener and a sense of community," said Tina Seely, the manager of Providence Milwaukie Hospital environment services. "Caring for patients day to day and now having the garden to provide fresh vegetables and fruit brings our care and concern for the poor and vulnerable full circle."



Metal recycling is alive and growing in Clackamas County

Oddly enough, the spate of metal theft in the last few years has made people realize all kinds of metals are valuable for recycling. Increased advertising has helped raise awareness as well, says Aliza Mooney, an office manager for R.S. Davis Recycling, Inc., a large metal recycler in Clackamas County.

Like other metal recyclers, R.S. Davis takes just about every metal home appliance, including the kitchen sink – if that sink happens to be cast iron. It's possible to get money for many items including metal fencing, swing sets, bed frames, tools, scrap metal, and even strings of Christmas lights (it's the copper in the wiring). The company follows all laws pertaining to metal theft including requiring legal titles for cars and Department of Motor Vehicles ID for people entering the premises.



Both ferrous metals (tin, steel, iron and vehicles) and non-ferrous metals (copper, aluminum, brass and stainless steel) are recyclable. R.S. Davis sorts, bales and shears these materials, then ships them to mills and refineries. This reduces the amount of new raw materials needed for manufacturing which means bigger energy savings, and more natural resources.

After over 35 years in the business, R.S. Davis recently built a new LEED Gold facility in Clackamas. The state-of-the-art building is a metaphor for the kind of work the company does to save valuable resources. "We're always looking for new and better ways to reduce our environmental impact," said Mooney.

To find a metal recycler in your area, check Recycling Depots on Page 12 or Metro's Find a Recycler at www.oregonmetro.gov/findarecycler or call the Metro Recycling Hotline at 503-234-3000.



- The Clackamas County Office of Sustainability recently honored **R.S. Davis** with a BRAG (Business Recycling Awards Group) plaque for its internal practices. To name a few: recycling paper, batteries, cell phones, paint and fluorescent bulbs, and switching to 30 percent recycled-content paper. The company uses certified green cleaners and buys office equipment with the ENERGY STAR label to insure energy conservation.



CAN THE EXCUSES

Be a champion for LESS WASTE & MORE RECYCLING in your office.

Schedule a FREE WASTE REVIEW today!

CALL 503-234-3000







Recycle at Work
from Metro and your local governments

RECYCLEATWORK.COM