



# Waste Wise

Reduce · Reuse · Recycle

A public service of Tillamook County Solid Waste

Fall 2012

## Falcons keep gulls away

Two seagulls were sitting on the roof of a building at the Tillamook Transfer Station not long ago. Sounds like the start of a bad joke, doesn't it?

But, two seagulls are all you're likely to see at any given time these days at the facility on Ekloff Road, thanks to an ongoing program that uses falcons to patrol the area.

"It's worked out really well, especially over the last month or two," said Aaron Averill, the transfer station's manager.

AirStrike Bird Control of Atascadero, Calif., has been working on the seagull infestation at the transfer station since May of 2011 under a contract with Tillamook County. They were hired because the estimated 2,000 gulls that previously infested the station were contaminating runoff from the facility with E. coli bacteria in amounts that put the property in violation of Oregon Department of Environmental Quality standards and possibly exposing the county to fines.

"We had been seeing significant numbers of seagulls come back after the falcons would leave," Averill said. "But now the numbers are way down."

Averill said AirStrike falconer Ryan Spaniel, is currently working the facility three days or 24 hours a week.

Falcons are natural predators of seagulls.

"He only flies when large numbers of gulls come in," Averill said. "If 10 or 15 are here when he arrives, he turns the falcon loose."

Since the program began, county officials noted significant declines in E. coli bacteria in the station's runoff.

The contract has been extended until next summer, but officials also are looking at other options, according to County Solid Waste Manager David McCall.

"DEQ also is reviewing its standards for run-off," McCall said. "But even if DEQ revises our limits, we still need to ensure proper safety and operation conditions."

## Tillamook urges citizens to use free curbside recycling

Tillamook city officials are encouraging residents to take greater advantage of free curbside recycling offered by City Sanitary Service to its garbage collection customers inside the city limits.

At their meeting June 18, Tillamook City Council set a goal of 25 percent participation in the free curbside collections.

"We're trying to get the word out," said City Planner David Mattison. "We're working with the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality on expanding our city recycling plan."

City Sanitary has just under

1,000 customers in the city, but reportedly only a handful of them use the free curbside pickup service. According to City Sanitary, however, more residents do bring items to be recycled to the company's facility at 2303 11th St. in Tillamook where they also are accepted free of charge.

To use the free curbside service, City Sanitary customers inside Tillamook's city limits need only place recycled items out in plastic grocery bags before 6 a.m. on the same day their

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## Handling tsunami debris

State issues guidelines for disposing of items that wash ashore

It started out as a drive on the beach in Pacific City after a family Father's Day dinner Sunday, June 17.

It ended with the discovery of the largest piece of debris so far from the tsunami that devastated northeastern Japan more than a year ago to wash ashore in Tillamook County just south of the Pelican Pub.

Shelby VanTassel, a truck driver for the Robert Warren Trucking Company near Cloverdale, reported the item which he described as some sort of sealed box measuring four by five feet.

"It has some hooks on top to pick it up, but we couldn't budge it, so we left it," he said in an email to the Headlight Herald in Tillamook. "Around it were five plastic floats and clear plastic bottles with Japanese writing."

VanTassel added that there were mussels attached to it that he later learned originated in Japan.

The object has since been removed from the beach.

The Japanese government estimated that the tsunami washed about 5 million tons of debris into the Pacific and that about 70 percent of it sank almost immediately. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) estimated that the remaining 1.5 million tons dispersed in the Northern Pacific in an area about three times the size of the lower 48 states.

In a press release in July, NOAA said most of the debris "is scattered and may continue to disperse north of the main Hawaiian Islands and east of Midway Atoll." But debris is expected to continue washing up on U.S. and Canadian beaches for several



This mystery box washed ashore in Pacific City in June.

years, NOAA added.

Governors from all seven Pacific states and territories have asked for federal assistance to deal with tsunami debris and NOAA has announced that all seven would receive \$50,000 grants. Brig. Gen. Mike Caldwell, deputy director of the Oregon Military Department and head of Gov. Kitzhaber's task force on tsunami cleanup, said early this summer that the state has already incurred tsunami debris expenses totaling more than \$500,000.

Meanwhile, state officials have issued guidelines for the public to follow in handling debris that washes up on Oregon beaches. A network of 32 drop-off sites has been set up along the coast to receive tsunami debris.

The drop-off sites (see accompanying list of sites in this area on Page 2) will accept debris in official beach cleanup bags provided by SOLVE. The bags are

available at state park campgrounds.

Officials said most of the small debris to wash up so far is rigid foam and plastic. They advise anyone who finds Styrofoam not to break it up, but just place it in the bags.

Debris that is too big to go into a bag should be dragged to a point above the high water line and then reported. That includes items such as tires, appliances and other large items. (See accompanying box on how to report debris.)

Debris that includes living organisms should be reported to authorities with the location, date and, if possible, a photo. Then it should be moved above the high water line or removed from the beach, bagged and delivered to a drop-off site. Officials cautioned that such debris should never be

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# Waste Wisdom

By David McCall  
Solid Waste Program Manager

**W**hat's in a word? As time goes by, terminology changes to better reflect the evolution of industry and services. As "wasteshed coordinator," Tillamook County Solid Waste Department is going through a similar process at this time.

I am honored to assume the helm of the department as it makes the transition from running a simple solid waste program towards full-fledged comprehensive materials management.

With an education and outreach coordinator on hand to assist county schools, businesses and organizations in their efforts to Reduce, Reuse and Recycle, we are able to bring our message to nearly every level of the community. We are working full time to provide more opportunities to divert more and more materials from landfills.

Soon we will begin making a series of presentations of our new Tillamook County Comprehensive Materials and Solid Waste Management Plan at city council and chamber of commerce meetings around the county as well as various other gatherings. Residents will have the opportunity to learn more about our plans at these informative sessions and be a part of ensuring this plan is realized, not only on paper, but in our daily lives, as well. Watch and listen for notices of these events in your area in local newspapers, on the radio and on our website at [www.co.tillamook.or.us/gov/SolidWaste/Default.htm](http://www.co.tillamook.or.us/gov/SolidWaste/Default.htm).

We encourage you to take an active part in this process, and ensure a better environment for future generations in the Land of Cheese, Trees and Ocean Breeze.

If you are hosting an event, ensure that waste is kept to a minimum, and recycling is available. Need assistance? Contact us!

If you have an idea how we can better serve our community, contact us by phone at (503) 815-3975 or email at [recycle@co.tillamook.or.us](mailto:recycle@co.tillamook.or.us).

## Recycle

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garbage is collected.

Glass items – bottles and jars only -- should be sorted by color and placed in separate bags. The company does not accept opaque or window glass or broken glass. Tin cans, flattened and with labels removed, should be separated from aluminum cans. Newspapers should be bundled and placed in bags also. Bundled and flattened corrugated cardboard can also be left out for pickup.

According to City Sanitary's website, used motor oil may also be recycled but must be placed in sealed plastic or metal containers that cannot be returned.

City Sanitary does not accept plastic or any household hazardous substances. There is a household hazardous waste drop-off day the first Saturday of every month at the Tillamook County Transfer Station on Ekloff Road.

For more information, call City Sanitary at (503) 842-6262 or go the website at [www.citysanitaryservice.com](http://www.citysanitaryservice.com).

# New manager joins County Solid Waste office

*McCall hopes to continue reducing county's waste*

**T**wo new staff members have taken over operations at the Tillamook County Solid Waste Department administration office on Marolf Loop in Tillamook.

In July, David McCall became the county's new solid waste program manager responsible for all aspects of solid waste management for the Tillamook County wasteshed, including oversight of three transfer stations, a permitted closed landfill and five franchised collection haulers.

He replaces Jennifer Purcell, who joined the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality's North Coast Regional Solutions Team last spring. She held the post of county solid waste coordinator for four years.

McCall, 44, is a native of South Dakota who holds a degree in linguistics from Georgetown University in Washington, D.C. He has been working in Central Europe for the past 22 years.

Following his graduation, McCall spent three years with a Peace Corps-backed program teaching English in Budapest, Hungary. He then got into waste management in Budapest, first working for an Austrian-owned firm that was engaged in turning dump sites into modern landfills; then for



David McCall



Sue Owens

the French-owned East European Recycling Co. (ERECO), the largest recycler in Hungary. He ultimately set up his own composting and curbside recycling companies. He said his return to the United States was prompted by the Hungarian government's move to nationalize waste management operations.

McCall said Tillamook County's agency was one of several to which he applied for jobs, "and the area made an impression on me."

Asked about his long-term goals for the county's solid waste operation, he said, "This county is presently shipping a lot of garbage to out-of-county landfills. I'd like to reduce that by half over the next five

years."

Sue Owens also has joined the county's solid waste team as a part-time outreach education specialist.

Owens, a Tillamook County native and graduate of Tillamook Bay Community College, has worked at a variety of local positions. She was most recently employed by TBCC as executive secretary to the president for more than 11 years.

Of her new position, Owens said, "I'm excited to be in a position that can make a difference. Solid waste is such an important and yet often little-known subject. I hope to raise awareness and adequately share with others what I am learning."

# CARTM summer events huge success

**T**wo of the three annual fundraising events for CARTM in Manzanita were held during the month of July.

Organizers said the Trash Art Show held in Manzanita over the 4th of July weekend was the most successful in the annual event's 14-year history.

"Hundreds of local residents and visitors" attended the four-day show held this year for the first time at the Hoffman Center on Laneda Avenue in Manzanita, according to CARTM's Lorraine Ortiz. About 45 trash artists were represented in the show, Ortiz said.

This is the first year that the show was not held at CARTM's recycling facility on Necarney City Road. Earlier this year, CARTM and the Hoffman Center formed a partnership and agreed to split the profits from the Trash Art Show.

The second event was the CARTM Treasures Live Auction July 28 at the North County Recreation District's gymnasium in Nehalem. The four-hour auction featured 250 lots of donated "collectibles, antiques and highly prized items of all kinds" assembled by Belinda Spegel, who heads the resale efforts at CARTM, and professional auctioneer Paul



Carol Newman of Brownsmead models Patty Thurlby's "Reigning Queen of Green" trash art piece. The crown is made from recycled window screen, old jewelry, moss and very old silk flowers. Hundreds of locals and 4th of July vacationers attended the 14th Annual Trash Art Show, held at the Hoffman Center in Manzanita.

– Photo by Lorraine Ortiz.

Thompson of Salem, Ortiz said.

CARTM is currently conducting a "Re-think" raffle for three eco-friendly prizes: an all-electric golf cart, which is street legal in Manzanita valued at \$1,500; a full share of produce from Re-Evolution Gardens Community Supported Agriculture valued at \$800, and a home composter valued at \$45. Tickets can be purchased for \$15 or three for \$40 at CARTM. The drawing will take place at the third event, the Trashion Show & Upcycle Party Saturday, Oct. 13, from 7 to 10 p.m. at the NCRD auditorium/gymnasium in Nehalem.

The two-part recycled fashion

event—the first one to be held indoors in an auditorium complete with a runway—will feature 24 models wearing fashions created with recycled materials and an after party at which guests may mingle with the models. Ortiz said the party also will include "tasty foods, beverages, music and, as typical with all CARTM events, some surprises."

Admission for the show and party is \$20 and \$15 for either the show or the party.

For more information about the "Re-think" raffle or the Trashion Show & Upcycle party visit [www.cartm.org](http://www.cartm.org) or call 503-368-7764.



## Old Safeway recycled

# Metal, asphalt, wood, concrete get second life

**W**hat's the best thing to do with an old, vacant supermarket building?

Recycle as much of it as you can, of course. So, that's what's been happening this summer with the old Safeway store on North Hwy. 101 in Tillamook.

Demolition of the building, which sat largely unused and vacant since Safeway opened its new store on Fourth Street in Tillamook in 2005, began in July. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) bought the building and the seriously flood-prone land it sat on from Safeway for 75 cents on the dollar. The City of Tillamook now

owns it and plans to develop a park on the site. Don Averill contracted with the city to tear down the old store for a reported \$150,000.

Aaron Averill, operations manager at the County Transfer Station on Ekloff Road, said the work involved recycling about 1,000 cubic yards of lumber and plywood, 160 tons of scrap metal and hauling off about 3,000 cubic yards of asphalt and another 2,500 to 3,000 cubic yards of cement.

Averill said the scrap metal – including steel, copper wiring and pipes and brass as well as heating ducts and conduit – went to Schnitzer Steel in Portland. The

lumber and plywood went to Hampton Industries Tillamook Lumber Company to be used as fuel. A lot of the cement and asphalt went to local landowners who have approved fill sites.

“Most of that will be used by farmers for cowpads,” Averill said.

The project also involved depositing eight inches of topsoil on the old Safeway site.

“We got a couple thousand yards from the Third Street reconstruction project,” Averill said.

More came from the site at First and Birch Streets where the Tillamook City Shop was torn down, he added.

## Plans under way for local Styrofoam recycling

**I**f you're wondering why officials ask that Styrofoam debris found on beaches not be broken up, but returned intact to transfer stations and recycling centers, here's the answer: It can be recycled and Tillamook County is working on a way to do it.

“Recycling centers, transfer stations and businesses can use what are called mobile densifier units to squish Styrofoam into something that looks like a railroad tie,” said Tillamook County Solid Waste Program Manager David McCall. “A 40-foot container can hold 14 to 16 metric tons of densified Styrofoam.”

In this form, according to McCall, it can be shipped to China for any number of uses, including producing picture frames or coat hangers.

Styrofoam, officially called expanded polystyrene, or EPS, has a great many uses, but is not without its problems. Among its benefits are that it has an insulating quality that can help keep food warm or cold during transport. Its light weight and

durability make it an excellent material for packaging.

However, only about 2 percent of an EPS package is polystyrene; the rest of it is air.

Polystyrene is made from petroleum and the production process uses benzene, a cancer-causing chemical. Polystyrene is not biodegradable. Unless a solvent is

used on it, polystyrene can last indefinitely. If it is eaten by animals, it can block their digestive systems and kill them.

EPS also takes up incredible amounts of space. Some experts estimate that it takes up as much as 30 percent of space in landfills around the world.

## Where to recycle rechargeable batteries

Tillamook County residents and businesses may now recycle their rechargeable batteries during normal business hours at several locations throughout the county, according to County Solid Waste Program Manager David McCall.

Rechargeable batteries may be dropped off at:

- Commissioner's Office, Tillamook County Courthouse, 201 Laurel Avenue, Tillamook.
- Public Works Office, Tillamook County, 503 Marolf Loop Road, Tillamook.
- City Sanitary Service, 2303 11th Street, Tillamook.
- Tillamook Transfer Station, 1315 Ekloff Road, Tillamook.
- Pacific City Transfer Station, 38255 Brooten Road, Pacific City.
- Manzanita Transfer Station, 34995 Necarney Road, Manzanita.
- Nestucca Valley Sanitary Service, Hebo.
- Tillamook City Hall, 210 Laurel Avenue, Tillamook.

## How to report tsunami debris

**A**nyone wishing to report tsunami debris on an Oregon beach may call 211 or 1-800-SAFENET. If it's an emergency situation, debris reports may also be called into 911. But officials emphasize that 911 should only be used in case of an emergency.

Debris may also be reported to state officials via email at [beach.debris@state.or.us](mailto:beach.debris@state.or.us).

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration also has an email address where debris washing up anywhere along the Pacific Coast can be reported. That is [disasterdebris@noaa.gov](mailto:disasterdebris@noaa.gov).

Debris in the water that could be considered a hazard to navigation can be reported by phone to the U.S. Coast Guard Pacific Area Command at 1-510-437-3701.

Debris that can be traced back to an individual or group in Japan can be reported to the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department at 1-888-953-7677.

To report potentially hazardous items of debris -- such as oil or chemical drums, gas cans or propane tanks -- call 800-OILS-911 or the National Response Center at 1-800-424-8802. Officials warn that such items should not be touched or moved.

### Debris drop-off locations

- Nehalem Bay State Park, 9500 Sandpiper Lane, Nehalem.
- Cape Lookout State Park, 13000 Whiskey Creek Rd. W., Tillamook.
- Manzanita Transfer Station, 34995 Necarney Rd, Manzanita.
- Tillamook Transfer Station, 1315 Ekloff Rd., Tillamook.
- Pacific City Transfer Station, 38255 Brooten Rd., Pacific City.

All state parks will accept debris in bags produced by SOLVE during normal operating hours seven days a week. Beach cleanup bags can be obtained at any Oregon State Parks campground. Debris will be accepted free of charge at all these locations.

For an online map of all coastal state park drop-off locations, go to [http://www.oregon.gov/OPRD/PARKS/tsunami\\_debris.html](http://www.oregon.gov/OPRD/PARKS/tsunami_debris.html).

## Tsunami

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moved to another body of water or taken home in order to reduce the threat of introducing invasive species into the state's environment.

David Solomon, Risk and Safety Manager for the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department which has jurisdiction over the state's beaches, said most jurisdictions along the coast are developing their own protocols for either using or disposing of large debris items.

“If it's garbage,” he said, “take it to a transfer station. If it's fish floats or other marine type items, try to recover it and find a home for it.”

He said steel and concrete from a 66-foot long dock that washed ashore this summer on Agate Beach in Lincoln County would be recycled. He estimated that the dock contained 180 tons of concrete, steel and Styrofoam.

The earthquake also inflicted heavy damage on nuclear reactors at the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant causing concerns about radioactive tsunami debris crossing the Pacific. NOAA officials say there is little likelihood that any of the debris is radioactive because the tsunami swept debris out to sea before radiation leaks occurred at Fukushima.

# Materials Collected by Drop-Off Sites in Tillamook County



	Transfer Stations			Recycle Shacks				
	Tillamook	Manzanita	Pacific City	City Sanitary	Les Schwab	Bay City	Garibaldi	Rockaway Beach

## PAPER



Newspaper	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Cardboard	●	●	●	●				
Magazines	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Mixed Paper	●	●	●					

## CANS



Metal	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Aluminum	●	●	●	●	●			

## PLASTIC



Bottles	●	●	●	●				
Other Plastics		●						

## ORGANICS



Wood	●	●						
Yard Debris	●	●						

## APPLIANCES



Refrigerator	●	●						
Washer/Dryer	●	●	●	●				
Dishwasher	●	●	●	●				
TV/Computer	●	●						

## MISCELLANEOUS



Tires	●	●	●	●				
Scrap Metal	●	●	●	●				
Glass	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●

## HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE



Propane Tanks	●	●						
Medical Sharps				●				
Motor Oil	●	●						
Batteries	●	●	●	●				

For additional information on recycling in Tillamook County, please visit our website at [www.co.tillamook.or.us/gov/solidwaste](http://www.co.tillamook.or.us/gov/solidwaste).

### City Sanitary

(Operated by City Sanitary Service)  
2303 11th Street, Tillamook  
(503) 842-6262  
Mon.-Fri., 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

### Manzanita Transfer Station

(Operated by CARTM Recycling)  
34995 Necarney Rd., Manzanita  
(503) 368-7764  
Thurs.-Sun, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

### Tillamook Transfer Station

(Operated by Averill Recycling)  
1315 Ekloff Rd., Tillamook  
(503) 842-2431  
Open daily, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

### Pacific City Transfer Station

(Operated by Nestucca Valley Sanitary)  
38255 Brooten Rd., Pacific City  
(503) 965-6898  
Fri.-Sat., 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

# County's new hazardous waste facility is a success

*Collections up nearly 50% in first year*

Collections of household hazardous waste materials have risen sharply in the past year, following the opening of the county's new facility at the Tillamook Transfer Station on Ekloff Road.

Over its first 11 months of operations, more than 55 tons of materials – nearly 50 percent more than in any previous year – were dropped off by 851 vehicles during collection events on the first Saturday of the month, according to County Solid Waste Program Manager David McCall.

"That's double the quantities collected in 2004 and 2005," McCall said. "And the vast majority of it has been recycled."

The HHW Facility officially opened Sept. 20, 2011, and the first collection event was held 10 days later.

Residents may dispose of household hazardous waste items free of charge on the following scheduled dates from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.:

- Oct. 6, 2012
- Nov. 3, 2012
- Dec. 1, 2012
- Feb. 2, 2013
- March 2, 2013
- May 4, 2013.

No collections are scheduled for January or April.

Small businesses may also dispose of HHW items at the facility on specific dates set aside for them. The next such event is scheduled for Friday, Nov. 2. Businesses wishing to participate must schedule an appointment by calling the contractor, Pat Hymas of PSC Environmental in Kent, Wash., at 360-835-8594.

Common household hazardous waste items accepted at the facility include:

- Paints, stains, thinners and solvents;
- Pesticides, herbicides, fertilizers and poisons;
- Motor oil, antifreeze and other automotive fluids;
- Cleaners and disinfectants plus art and hobby chemicals;
- Aerosol spray products and batteries;
- Fluorescent light bulbs, tubes and ballasts;
- Items containing mercury, such as thermometers and thermostats;
- Propane tanks or bottles and fire extinguishers.

## Composting Made Easy

Food waste and yard debris are the largest single component of household waste. Start your backyard composting today! Reduce waste and enjoy the benefits of a fertile soil amendment for seasons to come.

To buy your  
**Earth Machine Composter**  
contact the County Public Works Dept.  
**(503) 815-3975**

**\$45<sup>00</sup>**

