

Kathryn Harrington

METRO COUNCIL DISTRICT 4 NEWS



METRO

PEOPLE PLACES
OPEN SPACES

**Kathryn Harrington
represents
District 4, which
includes Northern
Washington
County, Cornelius,
Hillsboro, Forest
Grove, Northwest
Beaverton, Aloha,
Rock Creek, Bonny
Slope, Bethany,
Raleigh Hills, West
Slope, Cedar Mill
and Cedar Hills.**



Plastics – reduce, reuse, recycle

With many Washington County households able to use roll carts for curbside recycling, it's easier than ever to recycle many types of household packaging and materials. I find the roll cart very easy to use, and the wider range of accepted recyclable plastic items (tubs, buckets and plant pots, among others) means I throw less into my trash bin. That's great news for all of us. Check out these web pages for information about the Beaverton and County curbside programs: www.beavertonoregon.gov/departments/recycling/information/FAQ_Recycling.aspx and www.recyclewise.org/residential/rollcart.htm.

But what about all that other stuff – the plastics that you can't put out for curbside recycling? I know many of you were able to take advantage of the Household Hazardous Waste collection events in our community during October and early November. But in between curbside and hazardous waste collection programs are a lot of plastic packages and products that just don't fit the profile of regular recyclables. What can you do about those?

This year, in my household, we collected all of the clean, dry plastics that don't get picked up at the curb. Our collection, which filled five grocery bags, included containers for berries (I love Oregon berries), plus plastics without numbers such as bottle caps, milk jug caps and rings, jar lids and other odd items. Thanks to the many volunteers participating in the Master Recyclers "Recycling Roundup" program, plastics such as these have now gone on to a new life – recycled and converted into new products. You can learn about roundups in your area at www.MasterRecycler.org.

In addition, many long-standing local businesses in our area accept plastics of various kinds for recycling. Metro has a great web page that helps you find the right local company to take your particular form of hard-to-recycle plastic (or other materials, too). Visit this page, specify your materials, plug in your location, and you'll learn where you can take your stuff. Visit www.metro-region.org/findrecycler or type "recycle" into the search box on the Metro home page, www.metro-region.org. You can also call the Metro Recycling Hotline at 503-234-3000. And looking ahead to the holiday season, the Metro web site even has waste-wise holiday tips. Search for "holiday."

In our household we're going to keep trying to reduce our collection of excess packaging by opting for products that don't include so much of it, and using cloth grocery bags, which also hold a lot more than plastic or paper. And where we can't avoid it, we will continue to collect plastics that can't be put curbside, and utilize the services of our local recyclers and the Master Recycler roundup opportunities to recycle everything we can. It has turned out to be easy and gratifying at the same time. I hope you'll join me in reducing and reusing plastics and packaging where practical, and recycling as much of the remainder as possible.

— Kathryn Harrington

Transportation open house and hearing in Hillsboro Nov. 8

Through Nov. 15, Metro is seeking feedback on the update of its Regional Transportation Plan. You are invited to comment at a 4 p.m. open house and a 5 p.m. public hearing on Thursday, Nov. 8 at the Hillsboro Civic Center Auditorium, 150 E. Main St. in Hillsboro. Comments may also be submitted online. For more information and other opportunities to comment, visit www.metro-region.org/rtp or call 503-797-1551.

MetroPaint receives “green” certifications

Metro is proud to announce that its own MetroPaint, the Northwest’s only 100% recycled latex paint, received the first-ever recycled paint certification from Green Seal™, an independent environmental standards certifying organization. Green Seal approval means that MetroPaint 100% Recycled Latex has undergone extensive environmental and performance testing.

To achieve the Green Seal certification, the paint had to meet stringent environmental standards, including that it contain at least 95 percent post-consumer content, that no harmful ingredients be added, that every batch be tested under strict quality control measures, and that the empty paint cans be recycled.

In addition, MetroPaint received certification from the Master Painters Institute (MPI). The leading paint performance certification organization in North America, MPI requires recycled paint to be sampled and tested numerous times to ensure the same high standards are met as for new paint, such as adhesion and water resistance.

MetroPaint Green Seal certified recycled latex costs less than one third the price of comparable new paint. Depending on the color, it sells for \$6-10 per gallon or \$25-44 per five gallons. Nonprofit organizations receive a further discount. Available in 16 colors, MetroPaint is suitable for both interior and exterior applications and can be brushed, rolled or sprayed.

For more information, call 503-234-3000 or visit www.metropaint.info.

Integrating Habitats design competition closes Dec. 17

Ever wondered how our region could work to better protect its natural areas alongside development? If so, make sure to submit your ideas on designing the built environment with nature in mind to Metro’s international design competition, Integrating Habitats. But hurry– the deadline to enter the competition is Dec. 17.

Along with co-hosts Portland Bureau of Environmental Services, Clean Water Services, and Clackamas County’s Water Environment Services, Metro announced the innovative competition in June, which challenges participants to balance development in the region with conservation of our much-loved wildlife areas.

The competition is open to individuals from a variety of relevant disciplines that range from architecture and engineering to wildlife biology. Participants work in teams to devise site plans that successfully incorporate surrounding natural areas in site design, development and construction.

A world-renowned jury will select the best designs and announce them at an award event. In addition, citizens and communities will select their favorite designs through the People’s Choice Awards, a web-based gallery voting system.

Interested parties should complete the online registration form and send a \$125 nonrefundable registration fee by Dec.17. For information, call (503) 797-1555, visit www.metro-region.org/integratinghabitats, or send an e-mail to integratinghabitats@metro-region.org.

Councilor Kathryn Harrington contact information

Address	600 NE Grand Ave. Portland, OR 97232
Phone	(503) 797-1553
Fax	(503) 797-1793
E-mail	harringtonk@metro.dst.or.us
Assistant	Linnea Nelson
Phone	(503) 797-1886
E-mail	nelsonl@metro.dst.or.us
Web	www.metro-region.org

About Metro

Clean air and clean water do not stop at city limits or county lines. Neither does the need for jobs, a thriving economy and good transportation choices for people and businesses in our region. Voters have asked Metro to help with the challenges that cross those lines and affect the 25 cities and three counties in the Portland metropolitan area.

A regional approach simply makes sense when it comes to protecting open space, caring for parks, planning for the best use of land, managing garbage disposal and increasing recycling. Metro oversees world-class facilities such as the Oregon Zoo, which contributes to conservation and education, and the Oregon Convention Center, which benefits the region’s economy.

Your Metro representatives

Metro Council President
David Bragdon

Metro Councilors
Rod Park, District 1
Brian Newman, District 2
Carl Hosticka, District 3
Kathryn Harrington, District 4
Rex Burkholder, District 5
Robert Liberty, District 6

Auditor
Suzanne Flynn

November 2007 bc/final
Printed on recycled paper