

On the Shelves

By Shannon Romtvedt

Over the past five years working for the Library, I've had many conversations with staff and volunteers about space: open area for seating, fewer stored items in the meeting space, more room in the staff area, less clutter in the Janitor's closet. I've been told many times that what the Library needs is an outdoor shed.

Thanks to Cory Colburn and Fall Creek Woodworking, City staff, and a few amazing community members, we now have a shed at the Library. And what a beauty it is!

The shed was built off-site at the Keasey Mill, loaded on a trailer, and put in place with the help of Public Works staff and equipment. It has an 8 in 12 roof pitch, based on the style of bunkhouses made for O-A Logging. Cory pointed out that traditionally these bunkhouses had a cedar shake roof. The Library's shed has a comp roof to match the style of our main building.

Four types of wood are weaved into the shed's construction, all from local trees. The subfloor and siding is Western Red Cedar, built from a load of logs hauled out of Airport Park by Weller and Sons Trucking. The timber was purchased from the City of Vernonia.

The stair is Ash, also from the

Airport Park load of logs. Door jams, sheathing, rafters, and studs are Douglas Fir, timber that came from Cory's property up Keasey Road.

The exterior door trim is Cedar of Lebanon. Cedar of Lebanon is not a native tree, but it's a true cedar and a commonly found ornamental. It came from Kennedy Ragsdale of Vernonia, planted by Tim Enyart's grandpa. The same timber was used to build the Vernonia School benches.

The shed is locally built, with all local wood, and will be easily modified for future use. Cory says it's important for the shed to be adaptable. You can add windows, shelves, paint, covered entryway, skylight, whatever is needed. That's not something you get when you buy a prefabricated shed.

For more information about the construction of the Library shed, contact Fall Creek Woodworking (503) 429-4351.

Upcoming Events

Documentary Night

Tuesday, January 21, 6:30 pm
3rd Tuesday of every month, 6:30 pm.
Title for January: TBA

Writer's Group

Thursday, December 19, 6-7:30 pm
Thursday, January 2, 6-7:30 pm
Now the 1st and 3rd Thursday of every

month, 6-7:30 pm. For writers with all levels of experience.

Book Discussion Group

Last Monday of every month, 5:30 pm. No Meeting in December.
Discussion for January 27: *Voices from the Mill Pond Vol. 1*

Storytimes

Library Playgroup

Wednesdays, 10:30-11:30 am
Activity stations designed for young children, birth - preschool. Drop-in and play or stay the whole time.

Preschool Storytime

Fridays, 10:30-11:15 am
Stories, activities, and a craft for children up through age 6.

Did You Know:

For Kids at the Library

We realize that it's hard to get to the Library when we have storytimes and special programs, so we offer things to do during all open hours. We have a craft table and rotate out crafts weekly. We also have coloring pages and activity sheets. Our children's area has toys, puzzles, Legos, and Magnatiles, and a growing selection of board games to borrow or play in the Library. Come to the Library with your family and friends over winter break! It's a fun place to spend time.

Featured Titles at the Library: *Voices from the Mill Pond Vol. 1*

Hands on Art and *Vernonia's Voice* held a book release at the Library on December 5 for the newly published title: *Voices from the Mill Pond Vol. 1 Stories, Poems, Artwork, and Photographs from Vernonia, Oregon*. Over 60 people came to the Library to celebrate the new book. Copies are on sale at the Vernonia Library for \$20. Cash or checks payable to *Vernonia's Voice*. Make sure to get your copy of this beautiful book. Thank you to Diana Peach, Hands on Art, and *Vernonia's Voice* for all your hard work on this project!

Library Closures

December 24 and 25 for Christmas Holiday
December 31 and January 1 for New Year's Holiday

Hours & Contact Info

Mon, Wed, Fri 10 am - 5 pm
Tues & Thurs 12 pm - 7 pm
Sat 12 pm - 5 pm
Closed Sundays

Phone: (503) 429-1818

E-mail: library@vernonia-or.gov

Website: www.vernonia-or.gov/departments/library/

Go Green, Don't Be a Grinch – Holiday Waste Reduction

By Hannah Scholes

December is flush with potlucks, parties, and social gatherings of every imaginable sort. While the gift-giving and good cheer can be contagious, so can the waste! Did you know that during the holidays, Americans throw away 25% more trash and waste 33% more food?

But don't worry, you don't need to be a Grinch to be green during the holidays! Here are a few tips to keep in mind as you plan for gifts, potlucks, and decorations this season.

When it comes to gifts, there are many ways to rethink and reduce. Try

gifting experiences, rather than things, to avoid waste. It's the perfect opportunity to try something new with your loved ones – wine tasting, a new restaurant, a ball game, or pottery class. The options are endless.

Whatever your gift, our #1 waste reduction tip is to wrap presents with re-used materials like newspaper or last year's gift bags and bows. When you can't reduce or reuse, make sure Recycle Right. Almost all wrapping paper can be recycled. The exception is paper with a plastic coating or metallic finish. Bows and ribbons cannot be recycled, so save them for next year. If they're not in reusable condition, toss them in the garbage.

Another way to go green during the holidays is to avoid food waste. Holiday feasts can lead to extra food, so encourage dinner guests to bring a reusable container to take home leftovers. Freezing leftovers is also a great option. For food scraps that can't be salvaged, make sure to compost to help our local soils stay healthy!

Finally, remember to be environmentally conscious when it comes to holiday lights and decorations. As always, the first step is to reduce and reuse as much as possible! Get creative with a home-made wreath or ornaments. Buy energy-efficient LED light strands that are wired in parallel so, if one goes bad,

the others will still work, and you can avoid throwing away the whole strand.

Once it's time to retire a strand of lights, they must be disposed of properly, which is to say, NOT in your recycling cart! (This is important and worth repeating: Holiday lights cannot be recycled in your curbside cart!) Light strands cause problems at recycling centers because they tangle around recycling equipment and create hazards for workers. Holiday lights are okay to place in your garbage cart when they no longer work, but recycling holiday lights can still be an option. Check out a few mail-in programs that will ensure that the materials that make up your holiday lights get another lease on life.

HolidayLEDS - <https://www.holiday-leds.com/christmas-light-recycling-program.aspx>

Christmas Light Source - https://www.christmas-light-source.com/Christmas-Lights-Recycling-Program_c_210.html

Here's to a green holiday season filled with fun and good cheer!

Hannah Scholes is Waste Management's Recycling Education and Outreach Manager. Not sure what goes in your recycle bin? Find out more at wmnorthwest.com/oregon.

FOR TOWING EMERGENCIES IN AND AROUND THE VERNONIA AREA

Make sure you request service from a local provider!

Police and County personnel are required to use a rotation of available providers, **UNLESS YOU SPECIFICALLY ASK** for a service by name.

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RTRP #P00448199 - designated as a registered tax return preparer by the Internal Revenue Service
The IRS does not endorse any particular individual tax return preparer. For more information on tax return preparers, go to www.irs.gov.

Vernonia's Voice is published twice each month on the 1st and 3rd Thursday. Look for our next issue on January 2, 2020!