



earth day 2015

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Mission: It's important to know where you live in relation to the natural world

Continued from Page 1A

Maine and his wife, Karen Maine.

While the Maines were down at Haystack Rock and Neal was taking photos, a group of young visitors approached them and asked about rock's history and ecology, Neal Maine said.

Later that day, Karen asked Neal, then a biology teacher at Seaside High School, to teach her about Haystack Rock so that the two of them could enlighten future visitors.

"If (people) don't really know how it works, then it's just a target for spitballs," Neal Maine said.

At the next low tide, the couple left the camera equipment behind and returned instead with aquariums, binoculars and a plan to share their knowledge of, and passion for, Haystack Rock, Neal Maine wrote.

"People were so appreciative and interested that we went back the next day, and the next day," he said. "It got a little out of hand." Shortly thereafter, a group of their Cannon Beach friends joined them.

Before long, the concept caught on, and the group discovered that the city of Cannon Beach shared their enthusiasm for an environmental stewardship program specifically for Haystack Rock.

Then-Mayor Lucille Houston and City Manager Mark Lindberg threw their support behind the project, and, in 1984, interested environmental agencies met to discuss it, according to the exhibit.

In 1985, the city officially incorporated the program.

'No greater joy'

Neal Maine is proud that the modest awareness program he founded with Karen — who died in 2006 after a 20-year battle with leukemia — has become an integral part of Cannon Beach's ecological ethic.

It is important that cities know where they live in relation to the natural world, he said, and that community members have a sense of ownership toward the natural resources in their midst.

Because Haystack Rock is located at a major tourist destination, a big part of the HRAP team's job is to prevent people from collecting animals and crushing them underfoot while traipsing over the rocks.

"If we weren't there, I can see, very easily, there would be nothing there in a very short time for anybody to see," said Alan Quimby, one of two lead staff interpreters.

Ferber said that HRAP would not have been able to continue for three full decades without the ceaseless support of the city and the North Coast community, including the nonprofit organization Friends of Haystack Rock, which provides guidance and support to the program.

She has come to view HRAP as a "vessel to open people's eyes to the natural world, to make them understand that, if you look closer at these intricate systems, that, really, they're amazing, how they work perfectly together," she said. "And it's also important to try to make them realize that we're part of that intricate system as well."

Reflecting on what the program has meant to her during her five beach seasons with HRAP, Ferber said, "There's no greater joy that I get than when a child gets happy about an anemone or a hermit crab."

Nala Cardillo, a former HRAP coordinator, after informing this reporter that her sister recently had a baby, said, "I would love for that child to experience over the next 30 years what many children of all ages have experienced at Haystack Rock over the last 30 years."

Celebrated every April 22, Earth Day is the largest environmental event worldwide. The idea for Earth Day came to founder Gaylord Nelson, then a U.S. senator from Wisconsin, after he witnessed the damage cause by the 1969 oil spill in Santa Barbara, Calif. Earth Day was first launched as an environmental awareness event in the United States in 1970, and is now celebrated as the birth of the environmental movement.

The first Earth Day involved 20 million participants in teach-ins that addressed decades of environmental pollution. The event inspired the U.S. Congress to pass clean air and clean water acts, and to establish the Environmental Protection Agency to research and monitor environmental issues and enforce environmental laws. Learn more at www.earthday.org.

How to help

- Conserve gasoline by using public transportation, sharing rides, riding your bike and walking.
- Recycle cans, glass, paper, cardboard, oil and batteries. Recycle clothes and furniture you no longer need by donating them to people who can use them.
- Save electricity by turning off lights and putting lids on pots. Avoid using plastic and Styrofoam by toting groceries in reusable bags and by using a reusable mug to carry drinks.
- Conserve water by taking showers instead of baths, by placing a weighted plastic bottle in the toilet tank, by using front-loading washing machines and by not running water unnecessarily.
- Decrease ozone-damaging chlorofluorocarbons in the atmosphere by choosing aerosols, insulation, and fire extinguishers that are free of CFCs.
- Avoid using toxic insecticides or fertilizers in your home, in your garden, or on your lawn. Instead, use organic solutions to control pests.
- Reduce organic waste by freezing leftovers for soups and stews, by cooking more accurate portions and by composting the remains.
- Write to manufacturers to complain about wasteful packaging, disposable items, and other earth-unfriendly practices.
- Vote for candidates

EARTH DAY FACTS

BY THE NUMBERS

93 million Median distance in miles from the sun to Earth.

1.3 million Number of Earths that could fit inside the sun, an average-sized star.

100 to 300 Tons of cosmic dust that enters the Earth's atmosphere daily.

6 The length of time in hours our days would be if the Earth didn't have the moon.

42 The time in minutes it would take to fall to the other side if you drilled a tunnel straight through the Earth and jumped in.

500 The time in seconds it takes for light to travel from the sun to Earth.

100 Times per second that lightning strikes Earth.

22,000 Approximate number of man-made objects orbiting around planet Earth.

40 Percentage of wildlife the Earth has lost in the past 40 years, according to the World Wide Fund for Nature.

0.003 Percentage of water on Earth that can be used by humans.

Source: www.factslides.com/s-Earth

Alan Kenaga/EO Media Group



BY THE NUMBERS

Recology Western Oregon

990,000 Miles traveled by Recology drivers last year.

33,000 Number of collection service customers.

75,000 Number of phone calls each year.

2,000 Emails from customers every year.

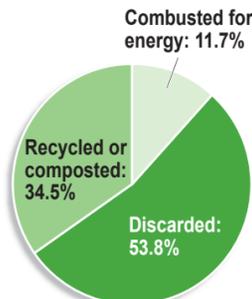
100 Percent employee-owned company.

Source: Recology Western Oregon

Alan Kenaga/EO Media Group

What happens to the stuff we throw away?

Global solid waste generation is predicted to reach more than 6.5 million tons per day by 2025, according to a 2012 World Bank report.



Source: Environmental Protection Agency
Alan Kenaga/EO Media Group

who vow to protect the environment and hold them to their word by monitoring their voting records and by writing to them about your concerns.

• Join an organization that actively seeks environmental justice.

Reducing and reusing basics

- Buy used. You can find everything from clothes to building materials at specialized reuse centers and consignment shops. Often, used items are less expensive and just as good as new.
- Look for products that use less packaging. When manufacturers make their products with less packaging, they use less raw material. This reduces waste and costs. These extra savings can be passed along to the consumer. Buying in bulk, for example, can reduce packaging and save money.
- Buy reusable over disposable items. Look for items that can be reused; the little things can add up. For example, you can bring your own silverware and cup to work, rather than using disposable items.
- Maintain and repair products, like clothing, tires, and appliances, so

that they won't have to be thrown out and replaced as frequently.

• Borrow, rent, or share items that are used infrequently, like party decorations, tools, or furniture.

• Donate. On person's trash is another's treasure.

• Sell out. Have a garage sale, donate to a local charity thrift shop, or post items online.

• Block junk mail. To help stem your tide of junk mail, visit www.junkmailstopper.com

— Environmental Protection Agency and Recology Western Oregon

Earth Facts

• There are more living organisms in a teaspoonful of soil than there are people on earth.

• One-third of Earth's land surface is partially or

totally desert.

• Before trees were common, the Earth was covered with giant mushrooms.

• The Earth's core is about as hot as the sun.

• Earth is the only planet whose name in English is not derived from a Greco-Roman God.

• Large parts of Canada have less gravity than the rest of Earth. The phenomenon was discovered in the 1960s.

— www.factslides.com/s-Earth

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