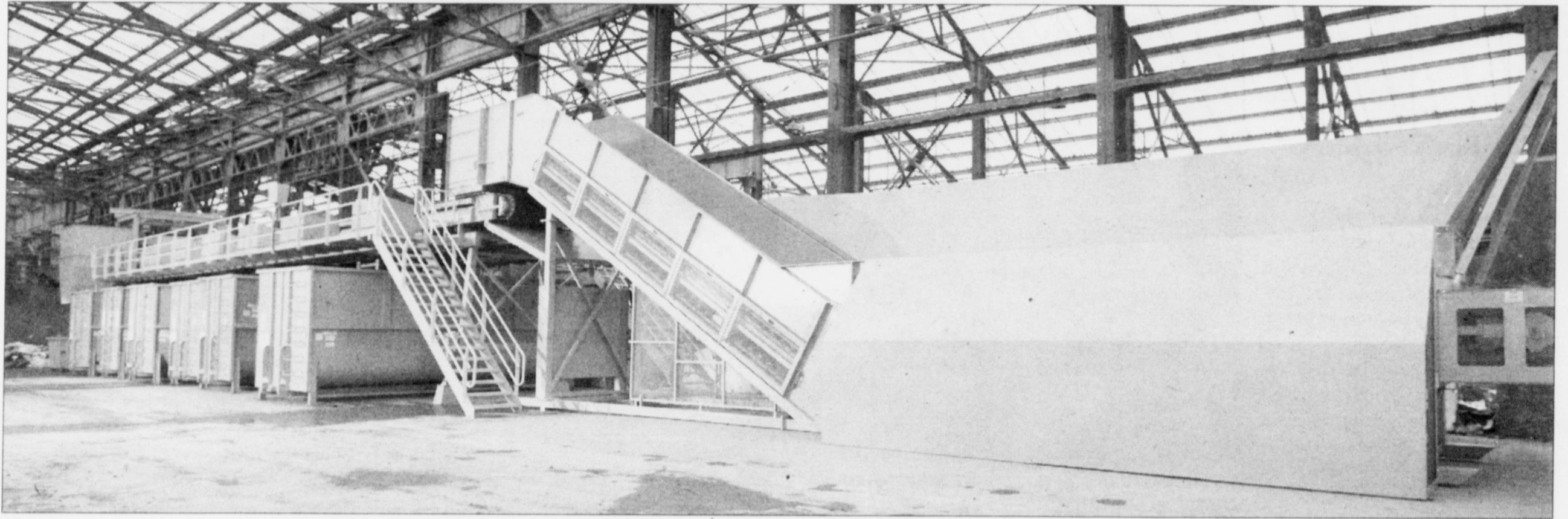


The Portland Observer Sustainability



New equipment at the Metro Central Transfer Station diverts trash from going into landfills and doubles the recycling rate.

Metro Boosts Recycling Rate

Recovers dry waste for reuse in new ways

Four months after taking over management of the Metro Central Transfer Station in northwest Portland, Recology Oregon Recovery, Inc. is close to meeting its first-year

goal of doubling the recycling rate, diverting trash hauled to the facility from going to landfills.

When the company took over the contract to operate the publicly-owned Metro Central Station on April 1, the annual average recycling rate was just over 17 percent. At the end of July, the rate had increased to just over 26 percent. Recology is working towards a

waste recovery goal of 34 percent by November.

Recology installed a new, elevated sorting line at the facility in June, greatly improving the ability of workers to pull materials from the waste stream. The recovered waste is being sent to other local processors and the company's own facilities in the Portland area for recycling.

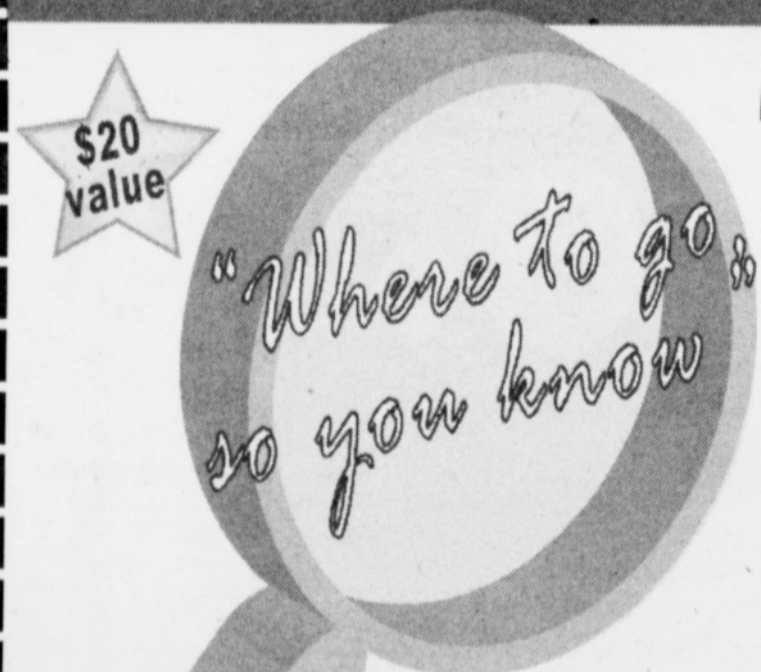
The firm also is working hand-in-hand with the Portland-based, sustainable, green construction non-profit organization, The ReBuilding Center, and St Vincent De Paul foundation in an effort to divert residual materials and discarded items.

The diverted residual material includes cardboard from packaging, along with renovation, demolition and construction debris like

wood and yard debris, metals, glass, sheetrock, plastics, carpet and carpet padding; and inert material such as concrete, brick and tile.

Recology employs 12 sorting personnel to staff the operation six days per week for eight hours each day. Sort line employees help divert an estimated 26,000 tons of dry waste per year.

Take Action. Get Tested!



Multnomah County Health Department's HIV Community Test Site offers **confidential** HIV testing with or without your name at these locations:

Downtown Community Test Site

Call 503.988.3775 for an appt.

Mon | Thurs | Fri

426 SW Stark St., 6th Floor,
Portland, 97204

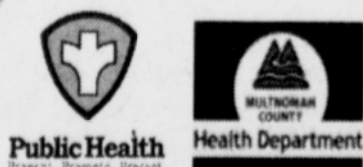
Northeast Health Center

Just walk in

Tuesdays | 5:30 - 7:15 pm

5329 NE MLK Jr. Blvd, 2nd Floor,
Portland, 97211

"Free with this coupon"



Se habla español: other interpretation by appointment.

Rebates for Efficient Home Appliances

Oregon is expanding its State Energy Efficient Appliance Rebate Program to include additional appliances.

The state started offering rebates to qualifying homeowners for replacement of low-efficiency furnaces and heat pumps with Energy Star appliances this year. The program has now been expanded to include rebates for qualified Energy Star water heaters, refrigerators, dishwashers and clothes washers.

"Replacing an aging or dysfunctional home appliance increases long-term energy efficiency, lowers consumption and reduces energy costs in the home," says programs coordinator Melissa Torgerson. "This is particularly important for low-income Oregonians, who are spending an increasingly dispro-

portionate amount of their household budgets on home energy bills."

Oregon's funding comes from the U.S. Department of Energy, which provides American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds for states to provide rebates for acceptable appliances to homeowners whose annual household income is 60 percent or less of the statewide median.

Interested Oregonians can contact Oregon Housing and Community Services at 1-800-453-5511 to learn about the program and apply for a rebate voucher. Qualified homeowners may redeem vouchers for 70 percent of the purchase price, up to a specified maximum. Old appliances must be legally recycled in order to receive rebate funds.