

The Portland Observer

Sustainability



Explore Benefits of Green Roofing

The Portland Bureau of Environmental Services is inviting the public to learn about the benefits of green roofing during a series of eco-roof events this month.

Green roof and biodiversity expert Stephan Brenneissen's presentation "Green roofs from pilot to mainstream: Pushing the market with wildlife visions" will take place

Thursday, March 3 from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at the Portland Building, 2nd floor auditorium, 1120 S.W. Firth Ave.

Brenneissen will discuss his work and research in Basel, Switzerland. Attendance is free.

On Saturday, March 12, take a guided tour of downtown Portland ecoroofs with Bob Sallinger of the

Portland Audubon Society, Mike Houck of Urban Greenspaces Institute and Tom Liptan of Environmental Services.

Attendance on the tour is free, but registration is required. Email BESEcoroof@portlandoregon.gov or call 503-823-7863.

The Bureau of Environmental Services provides city residents with



Leaders worldwide are recognizing the benefits of green roofing.

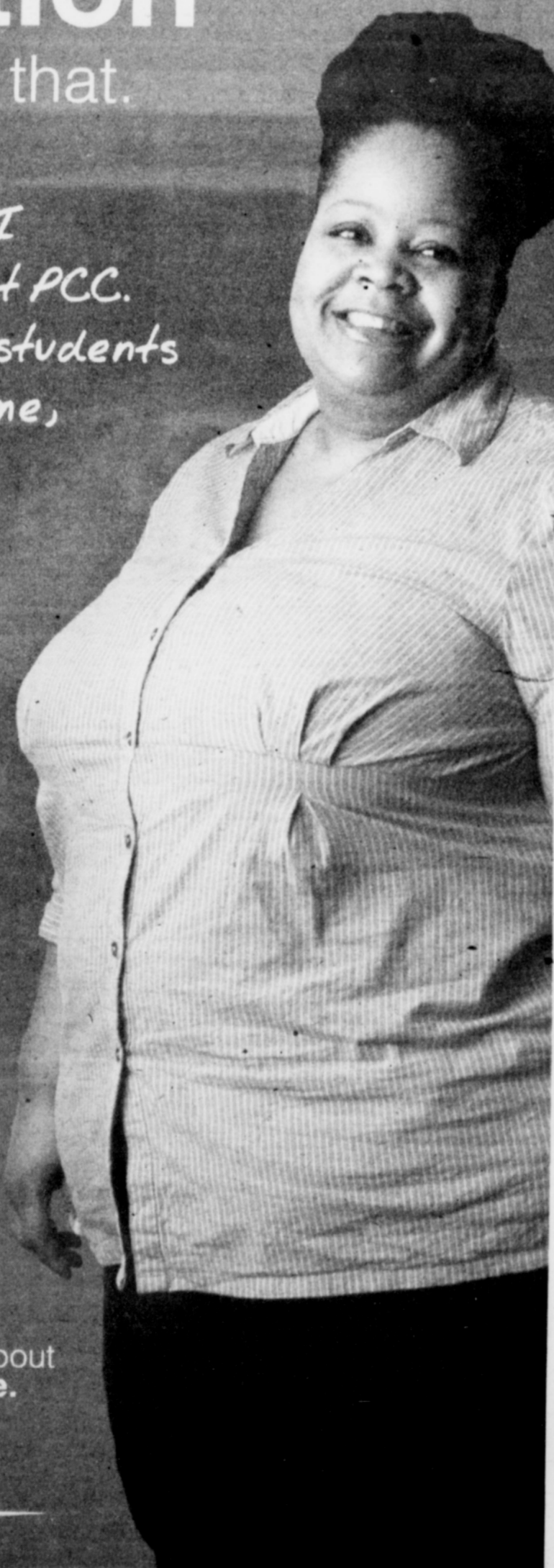
programs to protect water quality and public health, including wastewater collection and treatment, sewer construction and maintenance, stormwater management, and stream and watershed restoration.

Inspiration

We're all about that.

I'm 35 and thought I was quite old to be at PCC. But every day I see students who are older than me, and it inspires me to succeed in my goals.

*Chandra
Future Social Worker*



Spring registration starts March 8!



Portland Community College

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Water Use, Energy Assessments Taken

Residents offered help at savings

The City of Gresham and Energy Trust of Oregon are collaborating to offer free home water and energy assessments to Gresham water customers.

The new Water Audit and Home Energy Review Program, completed by a professional advisor during an in-home assessment, demonstrates ways residents can reduce water and energy use, improve the comfort and performance of their home, and save money.

"There are lots of opportunities to save resources in the home, and many improvements that can save water, also work to save energy," said Jesse Engum, program coordinator.

For example, installing a simple aerator on a bathroom or kitchen faucet can save about 1 gallon of water per minute, while also saving money on the energy needed to heat that water.

During the two-hour assessment, an advisor reviews the home from

top to bottom seeking out areas of water and energy waste. The customer receives helpful tips and information, and even some free products that can help with savings right away.

The advisor measures the flow rate of all faucets and shower heads, and if needed, will install high-performance shower heads and faucet aerators. Toilets are checked for leaks and the flapper valve will be replaced if needed. Customers are also shown how to read and understand their water meters.

The advisor also reviews the home for areas of energy loss, checking insulation levels, the heating and cooling system, common areas for air leakage and more. If needed, free energy-saving products may also be installed, such as compact fluorescent light bulbs.

At the end of the assessment, the customer receives a list of prioritized recommendations, and information on cash incentives, tax credits and local rebates available for making improvements.

To schedule a Water Audit and Home Energy Review, call Energy Trust at 1-866-368-7878.