

ASK A MASTER RECYCLER

A monthly column of recycling information



SUSY LACER, MASTER RECYCLER
 A MONTHLY COLUMN OF RECYCLING INFORMATION
 PROVIDED BY FLORENCE MASTER RECYCLERS
 For the Siuslaw News

Q. Please settle a wager I made with my daughter. The three arrows triangle symbol on the bottom of a product means it's recyclable, right? There's a pizza riding on your answer.

A. Sorry, but it looks like you're buying pizza! This is a common misconception. The "chasing arrows" symbol frequently seen on products means the item could be recycled if there is collection for that item in a particular community, not necessarily in your community.

Which items are recyclable in the Florence area is specified by what your trash hauler, or what the transfer station, will accept for recycling. Be

sure and read the newsletters and information from these service providers and follow their guidelines. If you have any questions, just ask; they are always happy to talk trash.

Florence currently has two trash haulers, both offer curbside recycling for commercial, residential and multi-family properties.

Whether products are recyclable in a given community is dictated by the market for the material and whether the cost of collection and transportation makes sense for the businesses involved.

Q. What does the number mean that is found inside the recycling

symbol on plastic containers?

A. This is the base resin type of plastic used in that container. For example, milk jugs are often labeled 2 or HDPE (High Density Polyethylene). This labeling system was developed by the plastic industry to help recyclers identify different resin types. It's important to note that the number alone is not an indicator of whether the item is recyclable; how they form the resin changes the plastic.

Just like a glass bottle is recyclable but window glass is not, a No. 1 PETE bottle is recyclable but a #1 cookie tray is not. At least not in Florence, not yet!

Q. Can I recycle paper plates and paper towels? Paper is recyclable, correct?

A. Unfortunately, no. Paper products that are designed to stay strong

when wet-like cups, plates and towels, often have a chemical or plastic component that is damaging to the paper remaking process.

Also, paper products with food or grease residue are not recyclable. The better option? Choose durable dishes and reusable towels.

Q. What about those funny boxes that juice and soy milk come in? They're not really paper, or plastic or foil. Do they just go in the trash?

A. We call those aseptic or shelf-stable containers and, yes, they are recyclable at the Transfer Station-check with your trash hauler to make sure they accept them curbside.

Aseptic containers commonly hold juice, soup, rice milk and similar products. When empty just rinse and drain. By the way, the classic gable top milk cartons are also recyclable.

When the carton is empty just rinse

and allow to drain. If the carton is not allowed to dry out, the material just molds on its way to the paper mill and then is not recyclable.

Florence Master Recyclers are part of the Lane County Master Recycler Program, a service of the County's Public Works Waste Management Division since 2002. The mission of the MR program is to bridge the gap between awareness and action by motivating people to reduce solid waste at home, work and play. This monthly column, written for The Siuslaw News, answers commonly asked recycling questions.

For more recycling information, visit www.ci.florence.or.us/building/recycling or www.lanecounty.org/Departments/PW/WMD/Recycle or follow Master Recyclers of Florence on Facebook.

SOS receives \$10,000 grant from Coquille Tribes

On Feb. 19, Siuslaw Outreach Services received a \$10,000 grant from the Coquille Tribal Community Fund in North Bend. This grant will supplement the SOS Emergency Voucher Fund, which is used for a broad array of emergency situations.

In 2014 nearly 1,000 vouchers were provided to persons who were senior, disabled, low-income or homeless, and who found themselves in some sort of emergency circumstances.

"This grant will help carry our fund through most of 2015, and we will need to use it carefully to make it last until we are able to secure other grants," said executive director David Wiegan.

Tribal Council Chairwoman Brenda Meade recited the



COURTESY PHOTO

SOS treasurer Lori Gates displays the \$10,000 grant issued by the Coquille Tribal Community Fund of North Bend.

opening prayer at the ceremony and presented the check to SOS treasurer Lori Gates.

Sixty-five grants, totaling \$408,000, were presented at the ceremony.

"The Coquille Tribe is a community whose binding thread is their Coquille identity; where members give to and receive from the tribe," said Meade. "Decisions and actions are based on the long-term sustainable health and well-being of the Community. In 2001 the Coquille Tribal Community Fund was established to set aside a portion of The Mill Casino profits for nonprofit organizations in our five county service area. We are pleased to be able to continue to play a positive, proactive role in the well-being of our community as a whole."

DINNER SPECIALS FOR MARCH

STARTS AT 4PM

KAROE
Thursdays & Saturdays
starting @6pm

Wednesdays:	Beef Enchilada with beans and rice	\$11.
Thursdays:	New York Steak w/crimini mushrooms and a whiskey glaze	\$13.
Fridays:	Prime Rib served with potato, vegetables and salad	\$12.
Saturdays:	Crab Encrusted Halibut served with potato and salad	\$16
Sundays:	Meatloaf with mashed potatoes and gravy.....	\$8.

Beginning March 17th, we will be Open Tuesday-Sunday.
 Serving daily lunch and dinner specials.
1263 Bay St., Old Town Florence
541-997-2800

Spring!

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Subscribe to the Siuslaw News or renew your 1-year subscription by March 31, 2015 and receive a **SPRING SAVINGS COUPON BOOK.** Valued at over \$300.

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Coupon Books available at the Siuslaw News office.
148 Maple Street • Florence, OR

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Shorewood Luck-o-the-Irish

Senior Game Night

Tuesday, March 17th
Gaming 3-7pm
FREE DINNER 4 to 6pm

Call for Reservations 541-997-8202

\$25 FREE Chips per player

BINGO • BASEBALL TOSS

Roulette • Charades "21"

Redeem winning chips for prizes or donation to Van Fan cancer support

Raffles for Gift Basket

- \$1,000 off 1 Month's Rent
- **GRAND PRIZE**
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Independent Senior Living

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