



A monthly column of recycling information provided by Florence Master Recyclers

Q. I can never remember what does and does not go in the curbside recycling bin. Do you have any tips?

A. Commingled recycling is both a blessing and a curse. A blessing because it is very convenient and increases recycling participation rates significantly; a curse because it can be confusing to customers and sometimes results in unacceptable or contaminated items that cannot be recycled.

This column has noted in the past that the best answer is to contact your trash hauler; locally that is either Central Coast Disposal or Country Transfer and Recycling. Ask for a

ASK A MASTER RECYCLER

SUSY LACER, MASTER RECYCLER
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For the Siuslaw News

current list of what they accept in commingle recycling, or ask them if a specific item is acceptable.

However, in the interest of easy-to-remember helpful tips, Lane County Waste Management staff recommend a return to the basics:

- 1) Keep It Clean.
- 2) No Plastic Bags.
- 3) No Glass.

1) Recycled material is a commodity, a source material used to manufacture new items. To be useful in manufacturing, the product must be clean; dirty product reduces the value of the commodity. Please rinse all containers, brush off cardboard pieces and remove all food waste.

2) Plastic bags become tangled and damage equipment that is used to sort recycled materials. Recycle your

bags instead at the grocery store; bins are located near the main doors. As a side note, the local Safeway store recently expanded the plastic bags and film they accept; dry cleaning film, wraps around paper towel rolls, mailing envelopes and more are now accepted, visit www.plasticbagrecycling.org for details.

3) Glass is fully and nearly infinitely recyclable — but not when it's broken and mixed in with other materials. Glass fragments in recycle product sent to a paper mill, for instance, damage equipment and raise costs.

Place glass for recycling NEXT to the commingle bin, not in it.

Finally, we encourage common sense: while your old clothes, toys, and dishes are fully reusable and/or recyclable, they don't belong in the commingle bin. When in doubt, leave it out!

Q. Where can I recycle empty propane tanks?

A. The smaller ones, like for camp-

ing, can be taken to the Florence Transfer Station and recycled free. The larger tanks, like for your barbecue, are also accepted at the Transfer Station but a fee applies.

Call 541-997-6243 for details.

Another option is to wait for August, for the City of Florence Environmental Management Advisory Committee's annual Black and White Recycling Event. They will accept empty propane tanks (5 gallon or less), along with tires, appliances and more; all free.

Q. Will Master Recyclers be at the Florence Green Fair?

A. Yes, we will. One booth will highlight our Durable Dishware program, which offers reusable dishes, napkins and flatware free for anyone to borrow. Call 541-590-0506 to reserve.

The second booth will focus on commingled recycling, including a demonstration board showing what is and is not acceptable in commingle.

We'll also have a recycle question

game wheel — answer correctly and win a prize!

Come see us from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, June 11, at the Florence Events Center, 715 Quince St.

Visit www.FlorenceGreenFair.com for more information.

Florence Master Recyclers (MR) 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.

AARP driving refresher offered at LCC Florence

Even the most experienced drivers can benefit from brushing up on their driving skills.

The AARP Smart Driver Course, hosted by Lane Community College Florence Center, 3149 Oak St., is designed especially for drivers age 50 and older, but is open to all drivers.

Participants will learn the current rules of the road, defensive driving techniques and how to operate vehicles more safely in today's increasingly challenging driving environment.

Learn how to manage and

accommodate common age-related changes in vision, hearing and reaction time.

AARP membership is not required to take the course and there are no driving or graded tests in this small classroom course.

Also, most drivers over 55 can save money on car insurance by taking this course, under Oregon Law ORS 742.490.

Class fee is \$20 with a \$5 discount to current AARP members.

The next classes are June 16 or July 21.

Visit LCC-Florence or call 541-997-8444 to register.

Arlis Ulman Nursing Scholarship makes a difference

Not all students looking to further their educational goals are about to receive their high school diploma. Many are returning students who need help as much or more.

Western Lane Community Foundation has several scholarships that fit this criterion.

The Arlis Ulman Health Careers Scholarship awards \$3,000 annually to a student at Lane Community College, Florence Center.

Darlene King was the 2014 recipient of this WLCF healthcare specific scholarship.

King said it was of great help while she studied for her nursing degree.

"Because of the scholarship assistance, I was able to focus

on the demands and enjoyment of learning," said King, who graduated last summer from the LCC nursing program. She passed her exam and is now working in our community.

"I am happy to be working as a registered nurse, putting my knowledge, skills and heart into my work. This scholarship helped my dreams become a reality and I am grateful."

The Ulman Scholarship is designed to assist students



COURTESY PHOTO

Darlene King

enrolled at LCC in their nursing or pre-nursing curriculum.

Students must have a per-

manent residence in the Florence or Mapleton school district; major in the Nursing Program — including students completing prerequisites prior to admission to the nursing program — and who have demonstrated a commitment to academic achievement and have financial need.

Applications can be obtained at the Lane Community College Florence Center office or online at www.wlcfonline.com.

Applications must be post-marked or received no later than June 30, at P.O. Box 1589, Florence, OR, 97439, the LCC Florence campus office or submitted to the web address above by the same date.

Play Bunco, help PEO raise funds

Spend part of Saturday playing Bunco for a good cause when the PEO hosts its next Bunco fundraising event on June 11.

There will be desserts and refreshments, along with prizes for Bunco winners.

The event will be held at Ocean Dunes Golf Links, 3345 Munsel Lake Road, from 1 to 4 p.m.

The funds raised will go to scholarships for local women attending school or continuing their education.

There will be another Bunco event this September.

For more information, call Ocean Dunes at 541-997-3232.

GRAND OPENING!

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Regular priced items at Laurel Bay Gardens. Good through 6/30/16.

Lisa's Avant Gardener Tips of the Month

- Plant drought-tolerant sedums and grasses in areas hard to water
- Fertilize shrubs and trees with a complete slow-release fertilizer
- Add bark mulch and compost to your beds to conserve water and keep plants healthy. Check out our blended mint compost, it's the best
- Plant summer bloom vines next to trees for a "flowering" tree
- A simple irrigation system can save you water and increase plant & lawn health
- Come ask our knowledgeable staff all your yard & gardening questions!



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