



City of Portland Bureau of
Planning and Sustainability
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Special Issue: Attend Climate Action Plan Town Halls.

Garbage rates to increase starting July 1. See page 3.

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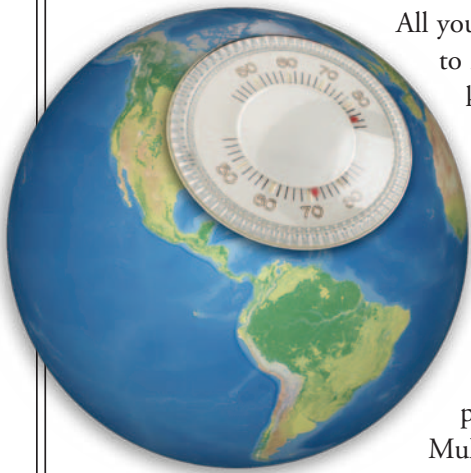
Portland Curbsider

Bureau of Planning and Sustainability • Sam Adams, Mayor • Susan Anderson, Director

Summer 2009

TURN DOWN MY THERMOSTAT!

Change happens one degree at a time. One household at a time. One person at a time.



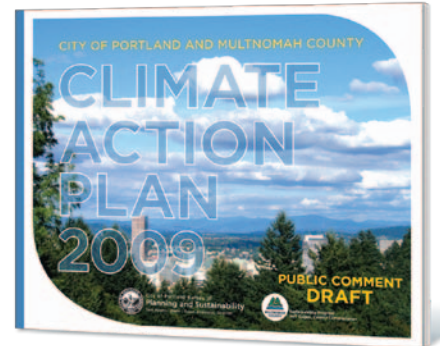
All you Portlanders who reduce, reuse and recycle to minimize your impact on the environment know that every bottle and newspaper you throw in the roll cart and every plastic container you wash and save to pack your lunch means less STUFF going to the landfill. That means a cleaner, healthier planet.

But there are even more actions we can take to REDUCE our carbon footprint and protect the climate. The City of Portland and Multnomah County have drafted a new action plan to lead our community forward in the charge

against global warming. Everything from high-level policy changes and expanded bicycle master plans to on-the-ground, every day practices like insulating our homes, walking to the grocery store and eating less red meat can mean a healthier planet, and healthier families, if we all pitch in.

Join your friends and neighbors to discuss the Climate Action Plan at any of these five town hall meetings. It's the Portland way to have a community dialogue about matters that affect us all.

Get more info on the back page. ▶



CLIMATE ACTION PLAN TOWN HALL SCHEDULE:



SOUTHEAST
SAT June 20, 1-3 pm
 Mt. Scott Community Center
 5530 SE 72nd Ave

SOUTHWEST
MON June 22, 6:30-8:30 pm
 Fulton Park Community Center
 68 SW Miles St

NORTHEAST
THU June 25, 6:30-8:30 pm
 Dishman Community Center
 77 NE Knott St

DOWNTOWN CENTRAL WESTSIDE
MON June 29, 6:30-8:30 pm
 Lincoln HS Cafeteria
 1600 SW Salmon St

NORTH
TUE July 7, 6:30-8:30 pm
 University Park Community Center
 9009 N Foss Ave

Summertime and the Livin' is Easy

The slower-paced summertime mood is exactly what we need to focus on what's important to us: our homes, our community and the planet we share. Check out these basic home maintenance tips that not only save you money, but also reduce waste and help us connect with our neighbors.

Make your outdoor structures last longer.

- ▶ Check your roof, decks and patio for moss. Brush off dead moss with a stiff broom (do not pressure wash).
- ▶ Have your chimney cleaned and inspected.
- ▶ Protect your foundation by cleaning gutters and downspouts and keep gardens sloped away from the house.
- ▶ Make your siding and windows last longer by repairing small paint bubbles and chips before they become big problems. Trim back shrubs and trees so they don't touch the siding.

[continued on page 2]

Waste watchers

Almost one-third of all the food we buy ends up in the garbage and most of this could have been eaten! Eliminating this waste would have a carbon impact equivalent to taking one in five cars off the road. (Source: lovefoodhatewaste.com)

Fortunately, summertime also makes it easy to reduce your waste:



- ▶ Purchase fresh, local produce to reduce packaging.
- ▶ Bring reusable bags when you shop at the farmers' market or grocery store.
- ▶ Buy or build your own compost or worm bin.
- ▶ Find ways to use excess garden produce: trade food with co-workers, have a potluck, store extras in the freezer, or donate it to the Oregon Food Bank.
- ▶ Use durable dishes for picnics.

Ask Us!

Extra yard debris

Q: What can I do with my extra yard debris now that I am working in the yard and garden more?

A: For yard debris that doesn't fit into your green roll cart, options include saving it for your next pick up, composting it at home or taking it to a compost facility. You will be charged \$2.50 for each additional can, bag or bundle you put out for collection. And don't forget, the weight limit for your green roll cart is 100 pounds!



How low can you go?

Q: How can I save money on my garbage bill?

A: Your garbage rate is determined by how much is picked up and how frequently you set it out. Switching to a smaller garbage can or to monthly service will lower your cost. Contact your garbage and recycling company or the Curbside hotline at 503-823-7202 for information on how low you can go.

Remove containers from curb

Q: How can I stop other people from using my garbage container and roll carts?

A: The City recommends removing your garbage container and roll carts from the curb after your collection day. Doing this will stop others from using your containers, which is illegal. Also, only set out your blue recycling roll cart when it is more than half full to maximize driver efficiency.

A bright idea

Q: Can I throw away compact fluorescent light bulbs in my garbage? How can I dispose of them properly?

A: No. CFLs, as they are known, should not be thrown away in your garbage because they contain small amounts of mercury. There are many options for proper disposal, including drop off locations at retail stores and Metro's hazardous waste facilities. Call Metro's Recycling Information hotline at 503-234-3000 for more information.



Send us your recycling questions! 503-823-7202 or wasteinfo@ci.portland.or.us

The Curbsider

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About the Bureau of Planning and Sustainability

In January 2009, Portland City Council merged the Bureau of Planning with the Office of Sustainable Development to create the new Bureau of Planning and Sustainability. The Bureau of Planning has had an exceptional record of guiding Portland's growth and development toward the thriving, livable city that it is today. The Office of Sustainable Development pioneered policies and programs that integrate environmental, economic, and social benefits.

This new bureau will ensure that sustainability principles are integrated into the core of Portland's planning, urban design and government operations, strengthening Portland's position as the global epicenter of sustainable practices and commerce.

WWW.PORTLANDONLINE.COM/BPS



Summertime [continued from page 1]

Save energy and lengthen the life of your appliances with a little maintenance.

- ▶ Vacuum filters in your furnace, fridge and clothes dryer.
- ▶ Have your furnace serviced – it is often cheaper this time of year.
- ▶ Hang laundry on an outdoor clothes line to avoid using your dryer during warm months.
- ▶ Use smart power strips for your computer, TV, DVD player and stereo; they have specially marked outlets that keep appliances and equipment with clocks powered on while shutting off all other electronics not currently in use.

Reduce waste and toxins when you do summer cleaning.

- ▶ Concentrated cleaners and detergents create less container waste, last longer and stretch your dollars. Look for cleaners that don't have toxin warning labels, or you can make them yourself. www.oregonmetro.gov/greencleaners
- ▶ Purchase zero-Volatile Organic Compound (VOC) paint, readily available at paint stores. Zero-VOC paints are healthier for you, your family and the planet.
- ▶ Turn old clothes or linens into rags instead of using disposable paper towels or pre-moistened cleaning pads.
- ▶ Properly dispose of unwanted paint, cleaning products, compact fluorescent light bulbs, batteries and other materials at Metro's hazardous waste facilities.

Help your neighbors and community while you reduce waste.

Summer is the perfect time to connect with your neighbors. Are you planning a trip to Metro's hazardous waste facility? Have extra housewares to donate to a local charity? Consider checking with your neighbors to see if they have materials to drop off too – this will save vehicle miles (and carbon emissions!) and helps build community.

Visit our Web site to get your own home maintenance checklist. www.portlandonline.com/bps/carts

SAVE THE DATE

BUILD IT GREEN!
Tour of Homes and
Free Information Fair

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2009



20 new and remodeled
green homes around the
Portland Metro area

www.portlandonline.com/bps/builditgreen

**GREEN BUILDING
HOTLINE**
WWW.BUILDGREEN411.COM
503 823 5431

Brought to you by Metro / City of Portland
Clackamas / Washington / Multnomah counties



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- Interior/exterior
- Low-sheen finish
- Offer applies to all colors
- One gallon cans/five gallon pails



Sustainable Industries
**TOP 10
GREEN
BUILDING
PRODUCTS
2008**

Redeemable at MetroPaint Store, 4825 N. Basin, Portland. Coupon discount applies to paint only and is not valid with any other offer or discount. One coupon per customer per day. For more information go to www.oregonmetro.gov/paint or call (503) 234-3000. Expires 8/31/2009.

Coupon code: Curbsider



Putting the correct materials into your blue roll cart helps the overall recycling system.

Plastics Recycling Made Easy

Plastic is part of our everyday lives. It comes to us in every shape, size and color. When Portland residents received roll carts last year, additional plastics were allowed in the blue recycling roll cart. With the addition of plastic tubs, plant pots and buckets to the curbside mix, Portlanders expressed a heightened interest in plastics – what can go in the cart, why certain items must be left out, and options for recycling the rest.

Plastics you can put in your blue recycling roll cart:

- ▶ Bottles with a neck – 6 ounces or larger
- ▶ Margarine-type tubs – 6 ounces or larger
- ▶ Rigid flower pots – 4 inches or larger
- ▶ Buckets – 5 gallons or smaller

Glass on the side



Why are some plastic materials not accepted?

The curbside program accepts materials based on size and shape. The materials are sorted by machines and people in a very quick-paced process. Smaller plastics, like caps or small pill bottles, fall through the holes in the machines and will not make it to plastics recyclers. Larger or odd shaped materials, like plastic bags, will jam equipment. Flat plastic, like lids, will hide under paper and end up at the paper mill.

To see how it works at one facility in the Portland area, watch SP Recycling's Processing Video on YouTube. tinyurl.com/sprecycling

Recycling Markets

With a sluggish commodities market, materials for recycling are not moving as quickly as they were a year ago. At that time, the value of plastic, along with paper, metal and cardboard, was high. Garbage and recycling companies were able to pass on revenue of curbside recycling to customers and depots were creative in finding new markets for odd materials.

Unfortunately, recyclers have to tighten their belts just like the rest of us. Local recycling depots are finding they need to reduce some of the materials they can accept. Curbside materials have more consistent markets and were chosen because they can weather the ups and downs. For that reason, materials set out at the curb are getting recycled. Manufacturers still need curbside recyclables to make new products and your participation will keep the recycling loop going.

Make a difference with recycling!

Portlanders are some of the best recyclers in the country because we know that recycling helps save energy and curb climate change. These simple steps for recycling make a huge difference:

- ▶ **Reduce and reuse** – it saves money and energy!
- ▶ **Buy recycled content material** to keep the recycling markets active.
- ▶ **Keep using the roll carts at home.** It is more important than ever to put only accepted materials in the roll carts. Improper preparation costs the overburdened system money and reduces the market value of good products.
- ▶ **Recycle non-curbside materials**, such as plastic bags and clamshell containers, at grocery stores or other local depots. Contact Metro's Recycling Information hotline for the most up-to-date information. 503-234-3000 or www.oregonmetro.gov/findarecycler
- ▶ **Keep faith in recycling because it is the right thing to do.** Recycling reduces carbon emissions, creates jobs, and saves money and energy—all things we need to jumpstart our economy.

Garbage bills to increase

Every year, the City sets rates based on a thorough look at what it costs to provide garbage, recycling and yard debris collection service. The average Portland household's garbage and recycling bill will increase by 85 cents a month starting July 1, 2009. The main reason for this rate increase is that the value of recyclable materials has dropped in the current economic downturn.

If you have questions about your rate or service level, call your garbage and recycling company. Find your company's name and phone number and view all rates at www.portlandonline.com/bps/carts or call 503-823-7202.

Curbside Recycling Guide

Visit www.portlandonline.com/bps/guide for detailed recycling instructions.



Spanish, Russian and Vietnamese

For recycling instructions in Spanish, Russian and Vietnamese, visit www.portlandonline.com/bps/guide or call 503-823-7202 to request a copy.

Do you know someone who is visually impaired?

Tell them they can listen to a recorded message about garbage and recycling at 503-823-1261.

Oregon E-Cycles



Oregonians have great new options to recycle old electronic waste!

The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality launched the Oregon E-Cycles program in January, offering free recycling of computers, monitors and TV's at various locations throughout Portland. This program is available to anyone with seven or fewer items to recycle at a time.

Visit www.oregonecycles.org or call 1-888-5-ECYCLE for a list of free collection sites.

Call the Metro Recycling Information hotline at 503-234-3000 to find out how to recycle other devices.

Attend a free solar workshop

Did you know that heating your water is the second largest energy expense in your home? During summer months, a solar water heater can cover up to 100 percent of your hot water needs. Plus, new 2009 federal tax credits have made solar more affordable than ever. Cash incentives from Energy Trust of Oregon and tax credits from the State of Oregon and the federal government can cover more than half the cost of a solar energy system. Learn more at our next workshop. www.solaroregon.org/workshops

THE Earth Machine COMPOST BIN

Available at MetroPaint Store, 4825 N. Basin Ave.
M-F 8am - 4pm
SAT 7am - 4pm
www.oregonmetro.gov/gardening

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Get involved with your city. Portland wants to hear from you!



CITY OF PORTLAND AND MULTNOMAH COUNTY CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

EIGHT CITY ACTION AREAS TO PROTECT THE CLIMATE

The City and County have released the draft 2009 Climate Action Plan for public comment, a strategy to decrease local carbon emissions 80 percent by 2050. The plan identifies high-level goals and specific steps in eight areas that we must undertake in the next three years. **Here's a quick look at what's included in the draft plan:**

1. BUILDINGS AND ENERGY

- Reduce the total energy use of all buildings built before 2010 by 25 percent.
- Achieve net zero carbon emissions in all new buildings and homes.
- Produce 10 percent of the total energy used within Multnomah County from on-site renewable sources and clean district energy systems.

2. LAND USE AND MOBILITY

- Create vibrant neighborhoods where 80-90 percent of residents can easily walk or bicycle to meet all basic daily, non-work needs.
- Reduce per capita daily vehicle miles traveled by 50 percent from 2008 levels.
- Increase the average fuel efficiency of passenger vehicles to 40 miles per gallon.
- Reduce the lifecycle carbon emissions of transportation fuels by 20 percent.

3. CONSUMPTION AND SOLID WASTE

- Reduce total solid waste generated by 25 percent.
- Recover 75 percent of all waste generated.
- Maximize the efficiency of the waste collection system.

4. URBAN FORESTRY

- Expand the forest canopy to cover one-third of Portland.

5. FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

- Significantly increase the consumption of local food.
- Reduce consumption of carbon-intensive foods.

6. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

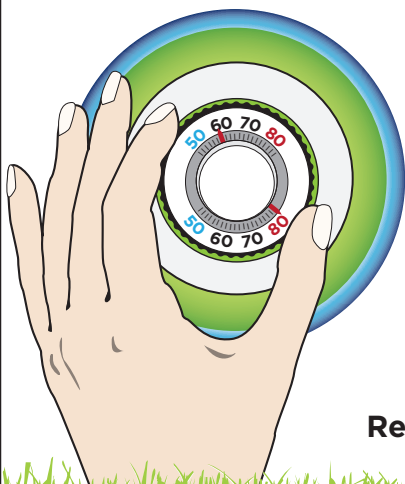
- Motivate all Multnomah County residents and businesses to change their behavior in ways that reduce carbon emissions.

7. CLIMATE CHANGE PREPARATION

- Adapt successfully to a changing climate.

8. LOCAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

- Reduce carbon emissions from City and County operations 50 percent from 1990 levels.



What's this all about? Tell us what you think!
Read more and comment online at www.portlandonline.com/bps/climate

EIGHT ACTIONS YOU CAN TAKE TO PROTECT THE CLIMATE

Change happens one degree at a time. One household at a time. One person at a time.

1. Calculate your carbon footprint. www.b-e-f.org/calc
2. Get free help with what your business can do — visit www.bestbusinesscenter.org or call 503-823-3919.
3. Contact Energy Trust of Oregon at www.energytrust.org or 866-ENTRUST (368-7878) for a free home energy review. Contact your utilities to sign up for clean energy.
4. Discover how driving doesn't have to be your only option. www.drivelessavemore.com
5. Learn about energy efficiency and green building for your next home project — visit www.buildgreen411.com or call 503-823-5431.
6. Reduce stuff. Contact the Metro Recycling Information hotline at 503-234-3000 to learn how to reduce the amount of garbage you generate.
7. Count the number of times you eat red meat in a week; replace 20 percent of your red meat consumption with other food.
8. Find out about the City's Action Plan: **Attend a Town Hall!** →

CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

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SOUTHEAST
SAT June 20
1-3 pm

Mt. Scott
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5530 SE 72nd Ave

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DOWNTOWN CENTRAL WESTSIDE
MON June 29
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Lincoln HS Cafeteria
1600 SW Salmon St

NORTH
TUE July 7
6:30-8:30 pm

University Park
Community Center
9009 N Foss Ave

Refreshments served!

Portland Plan Gears Up for Summer Outreach



Starting this summer, the Bureau of Planning and Sustainability will engage the public on the Portland Plan, an inclusive, citywide effort to plan for Portland's long-term growth and development.

The Portland Plan will set goals for how our city will grow over the next 25 years, and how we can meet our needs and goals for transportation, economic development, housing and public facilities.

We already live in a great city and region. Through the plan process, we will explore how we can make and keep Portland the most thriving city in the nation — a city that is prosperous, healthy and full of opportunity for all Portlanders.

Please see www.portlandonline.com/portlandplan for more information and/or to receive updates.

The Portland Plan will include:

- 1) Goals for a thriving and sustainable city and strategic indicators to track our progress.
- 2) A new Comprehensive Plan — the city's long-range development plan update, which is state mandated.
- 3) A new Central Portland Plan — the long-range development plan for the Central City.

Portland's First CityWorks Newsletter Available Online!

The NEW CityWorks online newsletter went live on June 1, 2009. In the first issue, see for yourself what your City Council and the City's hardworking employees are doing to keep Portland a great place to live and work.

CityWorks: Reporting Out to You! www.portlandonline.com/cityworks (paper copy: 503-823-4000)