



The Apple

Sustainable
Schools
News

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Sustainable Oregon Schools Initiative Newsletter

December 2005

The Apple is the newsletter from the Sustainable Oregon Schools Initiative, and is prepared by the project team at the Zero Waste Alliance (ZWA).

This newsletter is also available in pdf form at <http://www.zerowaste.org/schools/newsletters/>

WELCOME TO THE FIRST ISSUE OF “THE APPLE, Sustainable Schools News”

The Apple will arrive at the beginning of each month, providing a status update for the Sustainable Oregon Schools Initiative including current opportunities to be involved and notice of additions to the Sustainable Oregon Schools website. It will also include a list of upcoming events, details about successes around the state related to sustainability in our K-12 schools and a variety of other information.

THE SUSTAINABLE OREGON SCHOOLS INITIATIVE: WHAT IT’S ABOUT

Imagine school operations with zero or even positive impacts on the environment, where the students learn how to honor the interdependence of our natural systems. This Initiative provides a bridge from current practices to a sustainable future, for all of us.

The Sustainable Oregon Schools Initiative will bring together K-12 school districts and schools, businesses, students, parents and organizations that work with schools and the issues around sustainability. As a group they will define the elements of a sustainable school and district, create a toolbox to help incorporate such elements into practice and begin the journey toward a sustainable future. The project is facilitated by a project team from the Zero Waste Alliance, and guided by a Steering Committee. For more information see http://www.zerowaste.org/schools/steering_c.htm.

PROJECT UPDATE – December 2005

The project team has been working hard to define the project, seek funding and engage participants. The Steering Committee will have its first meeting on December 12 in Portland. (More details below). An informational event for businesses is set for February 8, 2006, and the Kick-off Workshop for project participants is also being planned for early 2006. Our fundraising efforts have secured some start-up money, however our full target has not been reached and the effort will continue. Lastly, the project is receiving a lot of enthusiastic interest from Oregon, around the United States and even Canada.

PARTICIPATION OPPORTUNITIES

A strength of the Sustainable Oregon Schools Initiative is that a large number of people with diverse areas of expertise will be engaged. We hope you will become a participant. To do so, contact Lori Stole, lstole@zerowaste.org or 503-591-1454.

Current opportunities are listed below, and more will follow next month..

1. Add your name to the contact list (if you received this directly from the project staff, it’s already there).
2. Pass this newsletter on to others you think might be interested and encourage them to sign up.
3. Participate on the Steering Committee (details below).

4. Send us information about upcoming events and success stories related to school sustainability, so we can share them with others via the website and *The Apple*.
5. Let us know how we can make *The Apple* even more useful for you.
6. Join the Kick-off Workshop planning team.
7. Send us names of students who are leaders on sustainability issues in their school or community, and who might be interested in joining a Sustainable Oregon Schools Student Group.
8. Suggest funding sources.
9. Look for information in next month's newsletter about participating on topic teams and attending the Kick-off Workshop, planned for early 2006.

STEERING COMMITTEE

There is now a diverse Steering Committee membership in place and the first meeting of this group will take place Monday, December 12 in Portland. Anyone interested in being considered for the Steering Committee is encouraged to contact Lori Stole, lstole@zerowaste.org or 503-591-1454. Steering Committee details and meeting summaries will be posted at http://www.zerowaste.org/schools/steering_c.htm

The Steering Committee membership list follows. Some additional organizations are considering and expected to join, but haven't yet finalized.

| | | |
|---------|-----------|---|
| Bill | Blosser | Oregon Sustainability Board |
| David | Davis | Klamath County School District |
| Ed | Dennis | Oregon Department of Education |
| Ed | Edwards | Oregon School Employees Association |
| Tom | Fahey | Siltronic Corporation |
| Jerry | Green | Beaverton School District |
| Kent | Hunsaker | Confederation of Oregon School Administrators |
| Anthony | Lanni | North Central Educational Service District |
| Betty | Merrill | Oregon Department of Energy |
| Angie | Peterman | Oregon Association of School Business Officials |
| Linda | Rhoads | Environmental Education Association of Oregon |
| Mike | Riley | ReSource |
| Danny | Santos | Office of the Governor |
| Eric | Shawn | Catlin Gabel School |
| Freda | Sherburne | Oregon Green Schools Association/Metro |
| Martin | Taylor | Oregon Nurses Association |
| David | Van't Hof | Office of the Governor |
| David | Williams | Oregon School Boards Association |

UPCOMING EVENTS

(a current list can be found at <http://www.zerowaste.org/schools/events.htm>.)

- December 12, 2005 Sustainable Oregon Schools Steering Committee Meeting.
- February 8, 2006 Informational Event for Businesses, more details to come.
- Early 2006 Kick-off Workshop, more details to come.

Related Events:

Many events that help support sustainable schools occur throughout the year. This information is provided as a service. Listing on this page does not necessarily imply endorsement by the Zero Waste Alliance or the Oregon Sustainable Schools Initiative.

January 12-14, 2006 Washington D.C., EPA Conference on Indoor Air Quality and their Tools for Schools Program. Details are at <http://www.iaqsymposium.com/>.

February 6-April 21, 2006, Fundamentals of Environmental Education Online Course. Details are at http://www.eetap.org/html/online_ee_course.php.

ADDITION TO THE PROJECT TEAM:

The project team consists of Lori Porter Stole, Project Manager, Larry Chalfan, Executive Director of the Zero Waste Alliance, Teri Stoeber and Dorothy Atwood, ZWA Associates. They are now pleased to be joined on December 1 by Anna Sommo, filling the part-time intern position.

Anna has been involved in environmental education in both Oregon and Maine, and was a field instructor for Multnomah County Outdoor School. She has seen the benefits of including youth in conservation work and providing them with hands-on environmental science experience. While in college she was a member of the environmental board where she helped to establish a sustainability plan and participated in several innovative waste reduction projects. Anna has a B.A. in Environmental Policy from Colby College, Waterville, ME.

To learn more about the rest of the project team go to <http://www.zerowaste.org/schools/team.htm>.

**** Thank You to the Members of the Sustainable Oregon Schools Founders Circle! ****

They have provided funding critical to getting the Sustainable Oregon Schools Initiative started.

Gold Level:



Silver Level:

