

# Campus Operations Sustainability Work Group



University of Oregon  
Campus Operations, Growing Sustainability

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## Message From F.S. Sustainability Work Group



### Feedback, Please

The Sustainability Work Group needs your help. Keep us informed of your great work, ideas, and feedback as you read these newsletters. Please send ideas for stories and Superstar nominations.

Email comments to: [knowaste@uoregon.edu](mailto:knowaste@uoregon.edu)

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## EMU Deconstruction Update



Lease Crutcher Lewis has demonstrated a commitment to conserving resources during the deconstruction phase of the EMU reovation project. In their email update dated June 4th, 2014, they state:

*"...Lewis, in partnership with Bring Recycling, will begin salvaging doors, hardware, wood, and fixtures from the building so that they can be sold and reused by others in the community. Finally, when the building is torn down, Lewis will be working to divert as much as 90% of all debris away from landfills by recycling materials such as concrete and steel."*

Construction and demolition debris, when not handled appropriately, can cause large volumes of waste due to their scope and size. We applaud LCL for their continued efforts to reuse and recycle throughout the EMU renovation.

Thanks for thinking Zero Waste!

## Recycling Creates Jobs!

- The recycling and reuse industry consists of approximately **56,000 establishments** that employ over **1.1 million people**, generate an annual payroll of nearly **\$37 billion**, and gross over **\$236 billion** in annual revenues.
- Unlike the waste management industry, recycling **adds value** to materials, contributing to a growing labor force including materials sorters, dispatchers, truck drivers, brokers, sales representatives, process engineers, and chemists. These jobs also generally pay **above the average national wage**, and many are in inner city urban areas where job creation is vital.
- The recycling and reuse industry generates **billions** in federal, state, and local tax revenues (estimated at **\$12.9 billion** in 2001).
- **Read more** about the benefits of recycling from the EPA here: <http://www.epa.gov/solidwaste/conserve/tools/localgov/benefits/index.htm>

## New Water Refill Stations Ready For All Campus Events!

The University of Oregon Campus Zero Waste Program is pleased to announce the availability of portable refillable water stations for event rental.

Having one of these stations at your next event promotes zero waste by encouraging the use of refillables instead of single-use, disposable beverage containers.

Thanks to Deaton Love, Brad Lorenz, Bill Kasper, and George Hecht for designing, building and funding the new stations.

The stations are available for set up and rent by calling Facilities Services Customer Service at 346-2319.



## The UO Zero Waste System



A new zero waste system is paving the way for the UO to become a zero waste campus. The system includes new deskside bins, the availability of composting campus-wide and the consolidation of waste to centralized Zero Waste Stations.

As the EMU is being renovated, there are already plans to add the EMU as another premier zero waste building. Straub Hall has also adopted this system for the renovated building.

### Zero Waste Stations in Deady and Fenton

The Zero Waste Station pictured above is installed in Deady Hall and a different style station is now in Fenton Hall.

The stations in Deady are made by a company called Max-R. Max-R used 2318 recycled milk jugs to create each new waste station.

The new Zero Waste Stations are particularly exciting because they are an alternative to standalone landfill bins, where users have no choice about where their waste goes. With the new system, users are empowered by the choice of not just a landfill bin, but also with bins for compost, white paper, mixed paper, and cartons-glass-metal-plastic.



## Sustainability Superstar: Mark Stegner



Mark Stegner got his start at the UO as a custodian in 2007. When the Garbage Truck Driver position opened in 2009 he applied for and was offered the position. Stegner has worked at the position since.

As the garbage truck driver, Stegner sees a lot of reusable and recyclable material get put into dumpsters headed for the landfill. He communicates with the Campus Zero Waste Program and alerts the Program to areas where more materials can be recovered.

Stegner stresses that people need to be more cognizant when they throw things away. He has seen dumpsters three-quarters full of paper at times because people were cleaning out offices and not thinking about the impacts of landfilling their paper.

He would also like to remind us that everybody who is a member of the UO is responsible for their waste. He cautions: "Custodians often have a lot of work to do in a short amount of time, so they can't sort people's trash for recyclables."

Stegner's perspective is a unique one because he sees what the UO community throws away every day. If he could give advice to the UO community, it would be:

*"Think before you throw stuff away,  
recycle if you can,  
and be responsible."*



**Don't throw your ducks away:** The garbage truck's dashboard is filled with ducks that Mark has collected en-route.

## Knight Law Center awarded LEED Gold Certification

The U.S. Green Building Council awards buildings LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certifications to recognize their use of environmentally friendly building techniques and practices. The Knight Law Center has become the latest UO building to receive a LEED Gold Certification, which is surpassed only by a LEED Platinum certification.

To become certified, renovations to the existing structure had to be made. These renovations include:

- Reduction of lighting through time-delay and motion
- sensors
- Use of eco-friendly cleaning agents
- Installing more energy efficient heating and cooling systems

Read the full press release here:

<http://around.uoregon.edu/content/knight-law-center-awarded-leed-gold-certification>



[http://media.bizj.us/view/img/2973401/1-lawschool03\\*304.jpg](http://media.bizj.us/view/img/2973401/1-lawschool03*304.jpg)



# MOVE-INS 2014

THE CAMPUS ZERO WASTE PROGRAM WELCOMED NEW STUDENTS TO CAMPUS BY HELPING THEM SORT THEIR WASTE!



THANKS TO THE ENTIRE ZERO WASTE CREW AND UO HOUSING FOR THEIR LONG HOURS AND HARD WORK!

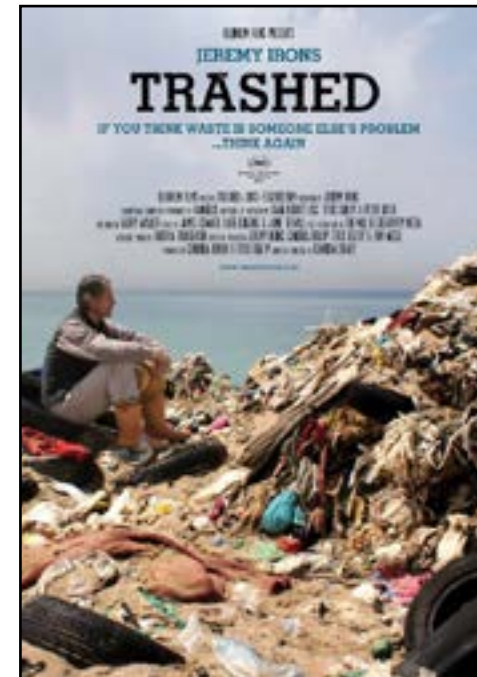
MOVE-INS PRODUCE A HIGH VOLUME OF PLASTIC WRAP AND BLOCK STYROFOAM AS NEW STUDENTS UNPACK



THANK YOU, UNIVERSITY OF OREGON, FOR CONTINUING TO LEAD THE WAY ON THE ROAD TO ZERO WASTE!



## Movie Review: *Trashed*



*Trashed* is at times a difficult movie to watch because it confronts the global waste problem without sugarcoating the facts. Incinerators that burn trash emit lethal toxins into the air, hazardous waste is sometimes landfilled dangerously close to communities, and trash is dumped directly into oceans and rivers. All these facts are plainly laid out in *Trashed*.

The movie follows Academy award-winning actor and documentarian Jeremy Irons as he travels the world visiting sites that have been affected by human-generated waste and the unsafe ways in which it is "disposed".

The tagline of the movie is: "If you think waste is someone else's problem, think again." *Trashed* is a call to action by Irons because it shows how everyone is complicit in the generation of trash, how everyone can be harmed by the toxins released from trash disposal and generation, and how everyone can help solve the garbage problem by taking steps to reduce their waste.

[https://encrypted-tbn3.gstatic.com/images?q=tbn:ANd9GcS08KPUEUmwmr\\_3hBcbZ1qzdNGjhuX4zPprWTON1Ai6Z1fslgw](https://encrypted-tbn3.gstatic.com/images?q=tbn:ANd9GcS08KPUEUmwmr_3hBcbZ1qzdNGjhuX4zPprWTON1Ai6Z1fslgw)

The movie visits sites where steps are being taken to reduce waste, such as packaging-free grocery stores in England and a material recovery facility (MRF) in San Francisco that has helped San Francisco to achieve 80% waste diversion from landfills.

*Trashed* empowers its viewers by making them aware of how garbage is contaminating the Earth and giving them solutions to work toward a garbage-free, and therefore healthier future. If you are interested in learning more about the problems of and solutions to the global waste epidemic, consider watching *Trashed*.

## In Los Angeles, Cash for Grass

The Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (DWP) has an innovative program called "Cash In Your Lawn". The program gives \$3 per square foot of conventional lawn that property owners replace with native plants.

Native plants are adapted to the harsh drought cycles that occur in California, and require much less watering than a conventional lawn. According to an article on the L.A. DWP website: "Of the 600 million gallons of drinking water delivered daily in the City of Los Angeles, about half is used for watering outdoors."

The LADWP also provides gardening classes, a native plant guide, and tips for a more sustainable garden for free for its customers.

The LADWP estimates that: "Since LADWP implemented the California Friendly Landscaping Incentive Program in 2009, more than 8 million square feet of turf has been replaced, resulting in 250 million gallons of water saved."

Read more here: <http://bit.ly/1pGYgFH>

<http://dpw.lacounty.gov/wwd/web/Documents/DroughtTolerantPlants.pdf>





## Zero Waste Training Videos

Summer 2014 found the Campus Zero Waste Program producing two separate training videos. One, entitled *A Day at Zero Waste* is now a component of new student employee orientation. It serves to familiarize new employees with the history of the Campus Zero Waste Program, how to service sites, process materials, and the myriad other details that student recyclers must know to perform their job correctly.



The other training video, entitled *University of Oregon: On the Road to Zero Waste* is meant to familiarize faculty and staff at the UO with how to use the new Zero Waste Systems in select buildings. These new systems feature UO Zero Waste Stations, the absence of standalone trashcans, and desktide compost and recycling.



Both videos are available to be viewed on the Zero Waste Program's YouTube Channel found here : <http://www.youtube.com/user/UOCampusRecycling>

# ZERO WASTE FUNNIES!



<http://media-cache-ec0.pinimg.com/236x/cd/7c/c3/cd7cc362b1e4fc07bb0c6f7da64d4bea.jpg>



America Recycles Day (ARD) is November 15th!

ARD is an initiative of Keep America Beautiful (KAB). According to KAB, America Recycles Day is the only nationally-recognized day dedicated to promoting and celebrating recycling in the U.S.

Support ARD by making November 15th an especially zero waste day!



<http://www.centerforsustainability.org/images/comics/Comic1.jpg>

## University Employees: Did You Know?

If you are signed up for Direct Deposit, the University of Oregon has a "paperless" billing option by which employees receive an electronic earnings statement via their Duckweb account.

Take a moment to consider if you really need a pay stub mailed to you every month when you may receive it digitally anytime instead.

It's quick, convenient, and easy. It also saves administrative time and natural resources.

Follow this link to learn more:

<http://ba.uoregon.edu/general/paycheck-delivery-paperless-option>



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