

Green Team Newsletter 2013



December 2013

Green Team Accomplishments 2013

- Purchased bike rack for Fairgrounds (with contributions from S.A.V.E.)
- Organized and participated in Earth Day by hosting table at an April Farmers Market.
- Collaborated with BatteriesPlus to implement permanent used battery recycling in five county buildings.
- Purchased 20 reusable bowls and 20 plates for everyone to use, and due to popular demand, ordered an additional set of 40 bowls, plates, cups, and cutlery.
- Advanced Environmental Preferred Purchasing Policy county-wide.
- Helped promote and participated in May 2013 Bike/Walk to Work Challenge.
- Organized and participated in Earth Hour (received County Proclamation from Board of County Commissioners on March 23)
- Organized, participated, and promoted Battery Recycling Drive in August. Five gallons were collected.

Meet our new Sustainability Coordinator: Elisa Prescott

Hello Lewis and Clark County, I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself to the Lewis and Clark team as the new Sustainability Coordinator. I am excited to be in this position and work with all of you on creating a sustainable future.

Originally from Vermont, I moved out to Montana after receiving my BA in Environmental Sociology and later a Masters in Environmental Law and Policy. I most recently moved to Helena from Bozeman, where I had been working with an environmental non-profit for the past few

years. My background consists of everything from sustainable agriculture to large carnivore conservation to grant and project management. I am also currently on the Board of Directors of the Alternative Energy Resource Organization (AERO) here in Helena. I am eager to use my skills and experiences as the Sustainability Coordinator for Lewis and Clark.

There will be some great things coming down the road in terms of sustainability for the county, and I would love to hear from you. My door is always open (Room 225) and I welcome anyone to come by

with their thoughts, ideas, or just to say Hi!

Again, I am thrilled to join Lewis and Clark County and look forward to working with all of you in the future.

Happy Holidays,
Elisa Prescott



Green Team Members

JASON DANIELSON
GIS DATABASE ANALYST
AARON DOUGLAS
HR ANALYST
LAURA ERIKSON
GRANTS COORDINATOR
SHERREL RHYS
SOLID WASTE MANAGER
JAN WILLIAMS
LEAD EDUCATION PROGRAM COORDINATOR
ELISA PRESCOTT
SUSTAINABILITY COORDINATOR
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"According to the EPA, the amount of household garbage in the United States can increase by 25% between Thanksgiving and New Year's Day, from 4 million tons to 5 million tons."

Tips for a Green Holiday

Holidays are a time for feasting, gift giving, decorating, and traveling, and is also a time when we consume a lot of resources and generate lots of waste. According to the EPA, the amount of household garbage in the United States can increase by 25% between Thanksgiving and New Year's Day, from 4 million tons to 5 million tons.

Here are some tips to stay green this holiday season:

- Use recycled newspaper/magazine/paper for wrapping paper.
- Purchase energy efficient LED Christmas lights.
- If you receive gift wrap, recycle it
- Shop locally (Not only does this support your local businesses, but it means less travel for you gifts, which means less carbon emissions).
- Have a create-your-own decoration party with friends.
- Turn off or unplug holiday lights during the day and after you go to bed.
- Bring reusable bags when you go shopping for everything from groceries to toys to cloths
- Donate older toys that you no longer use to charities.
- If you host a party, set the table with cloth napkins and reusable dishes, glasses, and silverware.
- Compost food scraps and store leftovers in reusable containers.
- Shop in areas you can walk or bike to. When you need to drive, combine several errands into one trip or travel with friends.

Tri-County Green Business Program

The Tri-County Green Business Program is quickly gaining momentum, especially in Helena. We have now certified 27 businesses recognizing their efforts to promote sustainability in their business practices. Providing educational workshops and serving as an informational resource we help these businesses advance their green business efforts and show leadership in sustainability.

All of the businesses listed on the right have taken action to reduce their environmental impact. We have formally recognized these three businesses for their outstanding leadership.

- [J4 Automotive](#)
- [Blackfoot River Brewery](#)
- [Grandstreet Theatre](#)

I SUPPORT SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS PRACTICES

These local businesses have been formally recognized for their resource efficiency efforts.

ACTION PRINT	GARDENWERKS	PAINTED POT
BENNY'S BISTRO	GRANDSTREET THEATRE	PARK AVENUE BAKERY
BLACKFOOT RIVER BREWERY	GREAT HARVEST	PHILOSOPH(I.E.)
BOULDER HOT SPRINGS	HELENA COMMUNITY GARDENS	PROENERGY CONSULTANTS
COSTCO WHOLESALE	HOME BEAUTIFIERS	SAFEMAY
EXPLORATION WORKS	HUB COFFEE	TACO DEL SOL
FAST SIGNS	J4 AUTOMOTIVE	TRIPLE DIVIDE DISTILLERY
FIRE TOWER COFFEE	LATTES AND SUNDAES	VAN'S THRIFTWAY
FOUR O SIX	ORIENTAL MEDICAL CLINIC	
FUSION GRILLE		



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Ongoing Green Team Accomplishments

Continue to maintain Green Team website with interesting and relevant 'Green' information.

Continue to contribute to VOICE newsletter.

Continue to recognize green behavior with 'Caught Green Handed' cards and prizes.

Copy paper purchasing is now centralized and all departments purchase paper through Misty Edwards. All paper is 30% recycled content.

MYTH: Recycled paper jams copy machines.

MYTH BUSTED: Today's recycled copier paper is high quality and technically perfected for use in copiers.

Thank you Misty for agreeing to be the central paper purchaser!

ON THE CALENDAR

GREEN TEAM MEETINGS ARE USUALLY THE FIRST THURSDAY OF THE MONTH AT 1:30 PM IN ROOM 309.

GREEN DRINKS HELENA
JANUARY 21, 2014
TACO DEL SOL
6-8 PM

EARTH HOUR 2014
SATURDAY, MARCH 29
8:30-9:30PM

EARTH DAY 2014
TUESDAY, APRIL 22

2013 in numbers

Local businesses certified for environmental efforts

27

Cases of recycled paper bought after advancing the EP3 policy

46

300

Coats collected for America Recycles Day & donated to God's Love & Good Samaritan

10

Gallons of used batteries diverted from landfills because of county recycling

714.84

Dollars saved in the last four months by purchasing bulk recycled paper.

[SUBSCRIBE TO OUR BLOG FOR GREEN UPDATES](#)

A few reminders...

-We have Preserve products for use by all county departments. These reusable dishware and silverware can be checked out for free. Contact Laura Erikson if you're interested.

-Did you witness someone doing something Green? Let us know and they will get a "Caught Green Handed" award and be entered to win prize.

-Subscribe to our Green Team

Blogs. Visit our [Green Team Site](#) to follow our blog. Here you can find out about up-coming events, green tips, resources, and more.

-Please close your office blinds at the end of the day to keep the warmth inside.



Check out reusable dishware for Free!

