

RE:think Review

Recognizing Efficient Businesses in Lane County



RE:think: A Community Partnership

In 2010 BRING received a one time grant from the Lane County Waste Reduction Education Fund to develop and implement an assistance program for businesses. Those initial funds helped to launch the RE:think Program but, to keep the program going past the pilot stage, new funding partners were needed.

RE:think is thrilled to partner with The City of Eugene, EWEB, Lane County Waste Management and the Springfield Utility Board, (SUB) to offer education, resources and certification for businesses that do their part to prevent waste and conserve resources!

As always, RE:think is a free service for businesses in Lane County. For more information check out our website at:

www.rethinkbusiness.org

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Protecting Water Quality

RE:think offers businesses lots of advice and resources on how to reduce waste, conserve energy and save money. Another aspect of RE:think's service is to provide education on water conservation and water quality.

To help conserve water, RE:think checks for toilet leaks and installs low flow devices on faucets, showers and toilets. Our recommendations also encourage businesses to monitor their water bill. By paying attention to usage and costs, a suspicious spike in your water bill will alert you to a leak.

Water quality, something we don't always think about, is directly related to the stuff that washes off of streets and parking lots and into storm drains. Unlike wastewater, stormwater flows untreated into waterways carrying pollutants such as litter, oil, gasoline, pesticides and other debris along the way. These contaminants degrade our lakes, rivers and streams resulting in fish kill, algae blooms and water that is unsuitable for drinking or recreation.

One RE:think certified business, Mountain Rose Herbs, an industry leader and supplier of organic herbs, spices, teas, essential oils and natural health and body care products, is going above and beyond to protect water quality. The West Eugene headquarters sit directly next to a wetlands area. By installing a bio-swale system to collect and filter stormwater run-off from the 2-acre industrial site, Mountain Rose Herbs is reducing pollutants to waterways and reducing stormwater costs.

With a bio-swale in place, Mountain Rose Herbs diverts 100% of its runoff into a biologically enhanced on-site pond planted with native species that act as natural filters. During the rainy season, the pond also supports wildlife including migratory birds and a resident beaver.

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Water Quality continued...

Mountain Rose installed the bio-swale because of the known environmental contributions, but the on-site treatment of run-off is saving the company nearly \$1500 per month on stormwater fees.

The Company also created a grassroots river project that focuses on restoring and protecting riparian ecosystems, stream health, and fish habitat.

For more information on Mountain Rose Herbs and their efforts to protect water quality in our local watershed go to:

www.mountainroseherbs.com



Mountain Rose Herbs installed a bio-swale to protect water quality,

RE:think Highlights

Since March 2010 our Resource Conservation Specialists have:

- Visited a total of 70 businesses.
- 34 businesses have been certified by RE:think.
- Identified 12 businesses that qualify for rebates and incentives to upgrade inefficient lighting.
- Helped to complete eight lighting upgrades and replaced two refrigeration motors.
- Saved over 100,000 kWh and reduced Co2 emissions by 90,000 pounds.

Business Spotlight: Potter Decals

Who new that one of the oldest makers of custom decals was right here in Eugene? That's right! Since 1923 Potter Decals has been designing and manufacturing custom decals, vinyl transfers, specialty labels, magnets and more right here in Eugene. RE:think is even a client! So when they asked us to help them devise a plan to waste less and earn more, we couldn't wait to help.

Potter wasted no time getting started and used the RE:think framework as a guide. The company upgraded their older, inefficient lights to better performing bulbs and ballasts. They changed out a leaky garage bay door for an energy saving one that lets in more light too. New windows, energy efficient hand dryers and a change in their purchasing have helped to reduce materials use and conserve energy and water. Potter also worked with Life Technologies, another RE:think Certified Business, to reuse packaging materials that Life Tech was throwing in the garbage. Now, Potter gets some of their packaging materials for FREE!

Way to Go Potter Decals!





Autohaus:

autohaus.bz

Birth to Three:

birthto3.org

Blackburn and Company Catering:

blackburnandcompany.com

Brothers Cleaning:

www.brotherscleaning.com

Cafe Yumm!:

cafeyumm.com

Cawood:

cawood.com

The Divine Cupcake:

divinecupcake.com

ElderHealth and Living:

elderhealthandliving.com

Eugene Coffee Company:

eugenecoffeeco.com

EuroAsian Automotive:

euro-asian.com

FedEx Ground:

fedex.com

Hot Mama's Wings:

hotmamaswings.com

Hummingbird Wholesale:

www.hummingbirdwholesale.com

Jones & Roth:

jrca.com

Lane County Historical Society and Museum

lanecountyhistoricalsociety.org

Life Technologies:

www.lifetechnologies.com

McKenzie Family Practice:

mckenziefamilypractice.com

Mountain Rose Herbs:

mountainroseherbs.com

The Nature Conservancy:

nature.org

Nearby Nature:

nearbynature.org

NetGreen News:

New Dream Child Care Center

www.newdreamfamily.com



9Wood:

9wood.com

Oregon Community Credit Union:

oregoncommunitycu.org

(downtown and corporate)

Oregon Research Institute:

ori.org

Pacific Women's Center:

pacificwomenscenter.com

Presentation Design Group:

pdgdesign.net

Potter Decals

www.potterdecal.com

Stadium Automotive

stadiumautomotive.us/tag/eugene/

Sweet Life Patisserie:

sweetlifedesserts.com

Unique Properties:

unique.cc

Vox : voxprpa.com Formerly known as The Ulum Group:

ulum.com