



Waste Watcher

Winter 2007

Quarterly, electronic resource conservation newsletter for state agency resource coordinators

DAS Buildings Savings Update

The data is always two months behind due to billing cycles. All bills are compared to the calendar year 2000 as a baseline. The goal and OAR requirement is a 10% reduction in electricity and natural gas usage. The buildings without baseline adjustments are not normalized for weather or any other factors. Electricity is reported in kilowatt-hours (kWh) and gas in therms; the % column is combined electric and gas savings in Btu's compared to the year 2000 usage; and the cost is combined electric and gas; not all utilities. This list does not include all DAS-owned or operated buildings. Detailed graphs are available upon request.

January–October 2007 data are as follows:

	Billed Electricity	Billed Gas	Billed Cost	% change
• Agriculture:	872,686	13,749	\$ 90,210	-31%
• Albina*:	461,710	4,231	35,895	-36%
• Archives:	1,030,818	23,839	112,442	-30%
• Blind Comm:	289,338	7,441	35,740	+7%
• Burns:	432,166	---	23,890	+33%
• Central Pt:	455,926	11,016	43,070	-6%
• Commerce*:	271,907	4,408	29,473	-13%
• Data Ctr^:	5,220,427	7,001	391,142	N/A
• Employ*:	2,035,269	---	163,225	-8%
• Executive:	775,040	7,546	78,353	-19%
• Gen Svcs:	571,181	8,157	62,719	-17%
• GS Annex:	40,033	519	4,490	-8%
• Hum Svcs:	3,393,914	26,836	297,302	-21%
• L&I:	2,348,388	27,592	214,365	-19%
• Library*:	445,571	8,035	46,271	-20%
• NMHD*:	60,200	3,243	9,538	-24%
• NMOB*:	1,160,710	10,639	110,115	-15%
• NPSOB:	399,624	10,918	38,554	-23%
• OPSOB:	228,194	2,035	17,674	-7%
• Port CL*:	1,308,362	21,289	123,205	-3%
• Port SOB:	3,056,470	14,988	196,962	+3%
• Port MP:	173,024	2,310	19,249	-43%
• Print Plant:	1,535,085	5,978	139,351	-9%
• Prop Dist:	256,701	10,154	31,548	-12%
• Pub Svc:	2,042,355	2,971	161,220	-16%
• Pub Utility:	1,258,631	1,315	106,834	-16%
• Real Estate:	166,978	5,769	22,277	-11%
• Revenue*:	4,580,611	53,147	394,792	-20%
• Salem MP:	318,649	9,334	39,269	-24%
• Spring MP*:	86,089	936	5,600	-17%
TOTAL DAS:	41,100,472	347,776	\$3,567,679	-14%

Note: DAS is investigating factors for buildings not meeting 10% goal.

* Baseline adjusted for usage patterns, project impacts, and weather.

^ Baseline adjustment under further analysis.

Reusing Holiday Cards

Each year companies produce 2.65 billion Christmas cards. Instead of throwing out your old holiday cards, consider donating them to charitable groups that will create new cards – or turn them into new cards yourself.



- Send holiday cards to St. Jude's Ranch, a nonprofit home for youths that collects old holiday cards for reuse. Either cut off the backs of the cards or leave them intact. Children at St. Jude's earn money by creating new holiday cards from the old. Mail the cards UPS "ground" or "bound printed matter" to St. Jude's Card Recycling, 100 St. Jude Street, P.O. Box 60100, Boulder City, NV 89006.
- Cut off the backs of old holiday cards that do not have writing behind the front and use them as postcards.
- Create your own card by cutting and pasting parts of old cards onto a new blank card. You can find packages of blank cards at most arts and crafts stores.
- Use old holiday cards as gift tags by cutting them into square or rectangular shapes and punching holes in the corners for string or ribbon.
- Make placemats out of holiday cards instead of buying new ones. Cut out pictures or shapes from the old cards, place them between two pieces of contact paper and press together.
- Save holiday cards for arts and crafts throughout the year if you have children.

http://www.ehow.com/how_9171_recycle-reuse-holiday.html



Battery Recycling

We go through a lot of batteries this time of year, and you want to do the right thing with the used ones. If you have garbage service at your home, you could leave them at the curb, but if not, Marion County Public Works – Env. Services created this list of no-charge collection locations.

<http://www.co.marion.or.us/PW/ES/recycle/batt.htm>

Marion County Achieves Top Recycling Honors

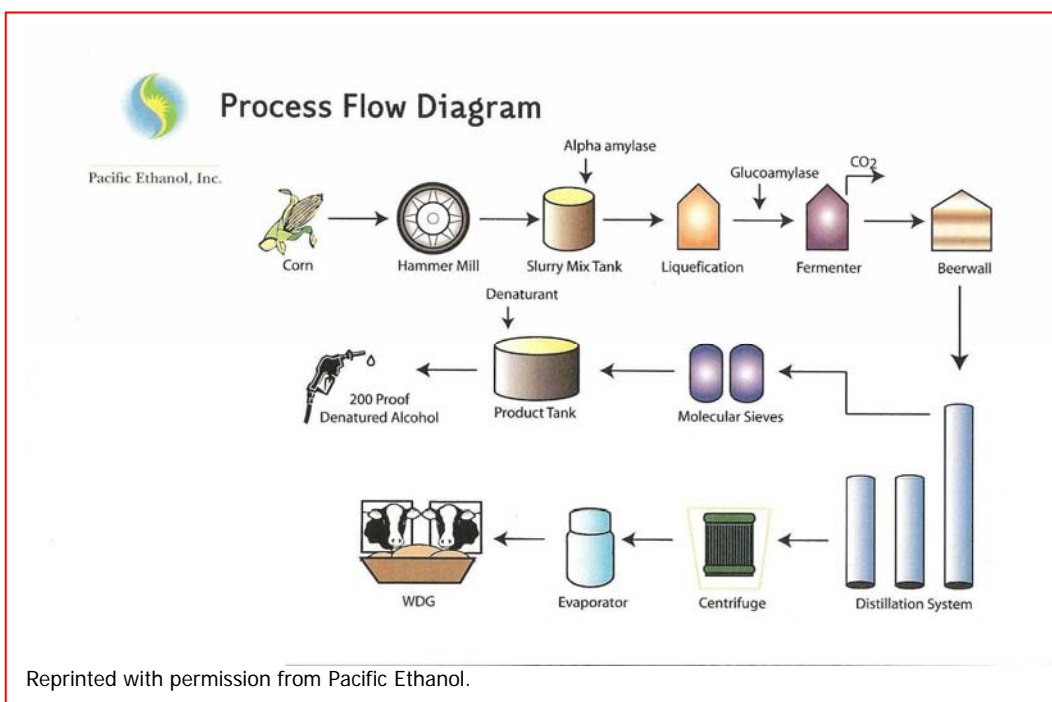
Marion County is leading Oregon in recycling and composting! On 11/15/07, the DEQ released their annual report on the state's recovery numbers. Marion County's businesses, residents, and state offices achieved a 57.5% recovery rate – the highest in Oregon!

<http://www.deq.state.or.us/lq/pubs/docs/sw/2006MRWGRatesReport.pdf>

Ethanol Plant Opens in Boardman, OR

Oregonians were greeted by Governor Kulongoski and local officials when Pacific Ethanol's new plant opened in Boardman on October 5, 2007. The \$150 million state-of-the-art facility provides 40 jobs to the local economy and will bring in an estimated \$100 million a year of indirect revenue to Boardman and the Port of Morrow. While it marks an important economic benefit to the community of Boardman, it also represents an important step in Oregon's commitment to alternative fuels. Ethanol is created through a process of distillation from corn (see process flow diagram below). In the case of the Pacific Ethanol plant in Boardman, the corn is shipped in from the Midwest in railcars that stop directly behind the plant. They only have to be moved a few hundred yards into the first tanks in the process. Once it follows through a series of screens and tanks, it ends up as ethanol gasoline that can be used directly in some equipment, or added to traditional fossil fuels to make E-85 and other fuel blends. The distilled ethanol is trucked a mile from the plant to the river, where it is barged down the Columbia to Portland and shipped all over the world.

Governor Kulongoski, Congressman Greg Walden and other dignitaries spoke at the grand opening and shared that ethanol is an important part of the alternative fuels picture, but it is not the only one. There is new research in using algae to create an ethanol-like additive for fuels. Other technology, such as hydrogen and fuel cells are also decreasing the domestic dependence on foreign fuels. While the technology is promising, it still has a long way to go before it makes a dent in the market. However, these efforts, combined with increased fuel efficiency requirements, shows a future of more stable prices and less volatility in the foreign markets. And, it's happening right here in Oregon.



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Did you know...

...Natural gas is a fossil fuel, composed primarily of methane, which started forming millions of years ago from decaying plants and animals. It is extracted from the earth's crust much like petroleum. When natural gas is burned, it releases a high level of heat.

Tip of the Month

Consider buying a laptop for your next computer upgrade; they use much less energy than desktop computers.

ANNUAL SUSTAINABLE HOLIDAYS REMINDER

Did you know that between Thanksgiving and New Year's Americans throw away 25% more trash nationwide? That amounts to about an extra one million tons of waste each week. Here are a few ideas to reducing waste during the holidays:

- ★ **Think reuse.** Need a fancy holiday outfit or new stuff for the house, think antique or consignment stores.
- ★ **Make your own gift wrap and ribbons.** Use stamps, stencils, comics, pictures from magazines, napkins, towels, or tablecloths.
- ★ **Recycle wrapping paper** curbside.
- ★ When buying electronic toys and other portable items, remember to **buy rechargeable batteries** to go with them.
- ★ **Consolidate last minute shopping trips.**
- ★ Don't forget your trusty **reusable shopping bag.**



Statewide Resource Conservation Program
 DAS Resource & Sustainability Coord.: Elin Shepard
 Phone: (503) 378-2865 x241
 Fax: (503) 373-7210
 Email: Elin.D.Shepard@state.or.us
 Web Page: http://www.facilities.das.state.or.us/Energy_conserv.htm

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