



REPUBLIC SERVICES

# at your disposal

a Republic Services newsletter



Issue 1, Summer 2013

## Summer Safety



Keeping kids safe is everybody's responsibility, especially on our roadways, driveways and parking lots. Here are some helpful kid-friendly tips to make sure we all get where we're going, safely and on time:

### Always Cross at the Crosswalk

Kids, it's never safe to cross in the middle of the street or between parked cars. Drivers—including those in big vehicles like garbage trucks—will have a difficult time seeing you and may not have enough time to react. When there isn't a marked crosswalk, everyone should cross at the corner. Make sure you always look both ways before crossing any street.

### Stay on the Sidewalk

### Trucks Take Time

Trucks—especially garbage trucks—take much longer to stop than cars. Play it safe and let a truck go past before crossing the street.

### Watch for Right Turns

Kids, before stepping off the curb, look over your shoulder to make sure there isn't a vehicle behind you about to make a right turn directly into your path!

### Always Wear Your Bike Helmet

### Pay Attention in Parking Lots

Parking lots, driveways and other "non-traffic" areas are just as dangerous as the streets. Garbage trucks that are backing up or servicing dumpsters, or any vehicle looking for a parking spot may not see you walking around them. So remember—never play in a parking lot!

## Allied Waste is now Republic Services

While our name has changed, our commitment to our customers hasn't. You can expect the same reliable recycling and solid waste collection, transfer and disposal services we've always provided in Lake Oswego.

For many decades, Lake Oswego residents relied on Rossman Sanitary Service/Oswego Garbage to provide waste services in an environmentally-responsible manner. In 2000, Rossman Sanitary Services became Allied Waste Services and the City of Lake Oswego and its residents continued to look to the company to lead the way in providing recycling and waste recovery programs. The merger between Republic Services and Allied Waste Services in 2008 made us the second largest provider of services in the domestic non-hazardous solid waste industry.

Locally, we have 29 full-time employees, in addition to 24 collection vehicles, to keep services flowing smoothly for residential, commercial and industrial customers in the City of Lake Oswego. Republic's resources allow us to provide Lake Oswego with a variety of services that help meet the City's environmental goals, while still providing the quality service that has been trusted for many years.



## Lake Oswego Bulky Waste Day

On June 8, 2013, Republic Services partnered with the City of Lake Oswego to collect bulky waste items from residents. The collection was held to assist Lake Oswegians dispose of items that would not fit in their regular garbage cart. 10.1 tons of bulky waste was collected that day. Over 43% of the items from the event were able to be recovered and recycled from the collection! These items included wood, metal, brick, concrete and E-Waste.

## Helpful Local Links

Lake Oswego - Sustainability: Lake Oswego provides great information on local resources and information about sustainability and recycling.

[ci.oswego.or.us/sustainability](http://ci.oswego.or.us/sustainability)

Clackamas County - Office of Sustainability: In depth resources on waste prevention and other green living tips.

[clackamas.us/sustainability](http://clackamas.us/sustainability)

Metro - Find a recycler: Go to the link below and click on >Garbage and Recycling, then >Find a Recycler.

[oregonmetro.gov](http://oregonmetro.gov)

# The Green Fence

Plastic is everywhere and can be a confusing material to recycle properly. It's in our shoes, cups, phones, toys, desks, chairs, and even our clothes. The world of recycling is based on commodity markets, meaning there must be a market for each material we recycle. Someone must be willing to use the material as feedstock to manufacture new products for these markets to sustain themselves. A shake up in the plastic markets, based mainly overseas, is causing concern. Some say the change is catastrophic, while others think it's the best thing to happen to recycling in years.

Resource Recycling explains, "Last February, China announced a 10-month enforcement campaign relating to the import of waste and recycling materials into the country. The enforcement of the tougher standards has hit mixed plastic bales, with containers either piling up at Chinese ports or being shipped back to the U.S. Mixed bales are ones where contaminants consist of

*Republic Services collects plastic jugs, tubs, bottles, and jars in your recycling cart.*

unacceptable levels of metal, paper, organic material, other non-plastic materials, or other plastic resins. What does this mean for domestic markets? Some think this change may stimulate U.S. markets and help make the domestic market more competitive with foreign buyers. Others argue that domestic material recovery facilities (MRFs) have not invested in technology required to effectively sort the material."

Curbside commingle collection of plastic containers has not changed. Republic Services is still collecting plastic jugs, tubs, bottles, and jars in commingle carts. Part of the reason Republic Services has been hesitant to expand plastics collection is because of the instability of plastic markets. Please do not add other plastics to the cart besides jugs, tubs, bottles, and jars. This helps to minimize contamination and maintain recycling efficiency.

*(By Emily Phillips, Republic Services - Corvallis)*

# Meet Your Garbage Man

**Josh Maier**



For over ten years Josh Maier has been serving the City of Lake Oswego as a garbage truck driver. In 2012, Josh was nominated for National Driver of the Year. During his time at Republic Services, he has maintained a stellar safety record and great customer service is a high priority to Josh.

When Josh is not hard at work for Republic Services, he enjoys playing soccer, watching football, spending time with his family and watching his daughters play soccer. Josh and his wife, April, are volunteer coordinators for the Lake Oswego Soccer Club. His oldest daughter will attend Oregon State University in the fall.

Josh's helpful hint for residents is to make sure your garbage, recycling and yardwaste carts are properly spaced. This allows the "grabber" on his truck enough room to grab your cart to empty it. Carts should be spaced at least 2 feet from each other at your curb. Thank you, Josh, for your dedication to Lake Oswego and Republic Services.

## Have a clean-up project?

Republic provides **temporary 3 cubic yard containers**. These containers are perfect for that weekend clean-up project or other small to moderate household projects, as well as yard clean-ups. For larger projects, we offer industrial drop boxes.

Call us at **(503) 636-3011** and ask about pricing and delivery services for your next project!



## Contact Us

Monday - Friday, 8:00am - 5:00pm  
20765 SW Gerda Lane, Sherwood  
(503) 636-3011

After hours, leave a message and we will call you back on the next business day.

For information and online bill pay:  
[republicservices.com/site/lake-oswego](http://republicservices.com/site/lake-oswego)

To pay by phone: (877) 692-9729



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