

# News Release

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## **Local retirement community honored for its extraordinary sustainability effort, receives BRAG award.**

**Willamette View**, a nationally accredited continuing care retirement community, is being honored for its extraordinary commitment to recycling, waste reduction and prevention, and other sustainable actions. For its efforts, Willamette View will receive a Distinguished BRAG Award (Business Recycling Awards Group) and a recycled glass plaque from the Clackamas County Recycling Partnership. Willamette View ([www.willametteview.org](http://www.willametteview.org)), located at 12705 SE River Road, Milwaukie, Oregon, 97222, sits on a 27-acre campus, has 485 residents and 350 employees.

“Willamette View administration and residents have been proactive for several years,” said Clackamas County Sustainability Analyst Rosalyn Greene. “I started working with its newly formed **Green Team** in the fall of 2009 as we trained resident-trainers within each residential setting. Members of the Willamette View Green Team continue to serve as a resource for recycling questions from their peers and provide training for new residents. The Green Team also provides leadership for a variety of other sustainability efforts on campus.”

In addition to residential recycling, Willamette View composts yard clippings, recycles film plastic, fluorescent bulbs, computers, and electronics. Improvements have been made in each of its recycling rooms to accommodate increased efforts.

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Before electronics are sent to be recycled, they are checked and if the items are salvageable they are repaired by residents and made available for sale in “The Mart,” a resale shop at Willamette View where gently used furniture and appliances are available at low prices. Likewise, gently used clothing and household goods are available in Willamette View’s “Carousel” resale shop. Both are run by residents with the proceeds donated to the Willamette View Foundation.

Green Team efforts also include the development of an identifiable Green Team logo, and field trips and programs for interested residents. It recently co-sponsored, with the resident-directed International Relations and Public Affairs committee, the showing of the film “Bag It” at Willamette View. In addition, the Green Team works with staff of the community’s **artworks** program in using recycled materials in artistic endeavors.

Beyond recycling and reuse, Willamette View uses non-toxic cleaners and has completed an energy audit through the Energy Trust of Oregon. All new office equipment purchased comes with an ENERGY STAR label. Employees and residents are currently in the process of adopting a sustainability policy which includes purchasing guidelines for recycle content products.

The Clackamas County Recycling Partnership is a cooperative of local garbage and recycling companies; the cities of Barlow, Canby, Damascus, Estacada, Gladstone, Happy Valley, Lake Oswego, Milwaukie, Molalla, Oregon City, Sandy, West Linn and Wilsonville, and Clackamas County.

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