



Bulky Waste Clean-Ups

The Basics

Bulk Waste Clean Ups are an opportunity to provide neighbors with a way to dispose of unused items and can also increase the availability of convenient recycling locations for hard-to-recycle items. Clean Ups can also be a fun activity to promote neighborliness, and introduce new comers to the neighborhood association.

Questions to Answer Before Starting

- What will we collect?
- Where will the event be located?
- Will we ask for donations?
- When will the event take place?
- Why are we doing this?
- What is our budget (ask NWNW how much funding is available per neighborhood)?

Many of these questions are easy to answer, but some require more thought.

Items to Collect

Consider collecting items that are difficult to dispose of where you live. These items can include large items like old furniture, reusable goods, hard to recycle items etc. Neighborhood clean ups cannot accept hazardous waste or kitchen trash. To generate ideas go to the Metro website www.oregonmetro.gov and choose "Garbage and Recycling."

Site Selection

Parking lots make ideal locations for bulk waste clean ups, consider businesses, schools, parks, and churches where lots might be empty on weekends. Important site considerations include maneuverability, two separate entries to serve as an entrance and exit, paved surfaces to place dumpsters, and visibility so your activity will be noticed. Permits may be required for use of lots.

Spotlight: NWDA Bulky Waste Clean Up

Neighborhood activist, Matt Krueger, led a and at one point the line snaked down three successful bulky waste clean up for years in blocks, after the event received publicity in the Northwest District Association. By partnering with an organization with a clear commitment to waste reduction, Legacy Good Samaritan Hospital, the neighborhood increased the ability of neighbors to recycle hard to dispose of items. By using Legacy's connections with local recyclers, the neighborhood inexpensively helped neighbors dispose of Styrofoam, electronics, wood, reusable items, metal, tires, paper, etc.



the Oregonian and The Portland Tribune. Twelve volunteers contributed to the event, which served more than 120 customers and generated nearly \$3000 of profit for the neighborhood.

While this clean up is a large example, small bulky waste clean ups are possible, such as those happening in Hillside Neighborhood. They accepted less variety of goods, but served the neighborhood and allowed them to clean out garages with ease.

