

# Friday Five

Your weekly Thurston County update



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## #1 - What's in our Waste? The Thurston County Solid Waste Division Found Out



What's in our waste? The Solid Waste Division found out. Working with a consulting company, the division studied the contents of our garbage, recycling, and organics from 2022 to 2023.

#### **What we found**

By sorting samples into 42 categories, we learned organics (food and yard waste) make up 23 percent of residential curbside garbage. That equals roughly 104 million pounds per year! Food waste alone was 15.6 percent of our household garbage, or 70.2 million pounds per year.

Want to learn more about the 2022-2023 waste composition study? Read the [full report](#) here.

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## **#2 - Here's How You Can Review the Primary Election Results**



More than 50,000 Thurston County voters turned in ballots by the August 1, 2023 deadline. Results are updated daily at [ThurstonWAVotes.gov](https://ThurstonWAVotes.gov)

Results will be updated until certification of the election on Tuesday, August 15, 2023. Find more information on post-election audits and the canvassing board can be found [here](#).

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### **#3 - Help Make Our Community More Resilient Against Disasters by Participating in Thurston Regional Planning Council's Online Open House**



Thurston Regional Planning Council wants to hear from you! Now through August 25, take part in their online open house and help them make Thurston County safer from natural disasters. For more information and to participate in the online open house, visit the [Hazards Mitigation Plan website](#).

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### **#4 - Become a Master Recycler Composter: 8-week Training Starts September 21**

# 2023 Master Recycler Composter Volunteer Training



## WANTED:

Passionate people who love to:

- Recycle or compost
- Re-use or re-purpose items
- Reduce food waste
- Raise community awareness

The WSU Thurston County Extension and Thurston County Public Works are recruiting for the 2023 Master Recycler Composter (MRC) Volunteer Training.

MRC volunteers are trained on how to reduce waste and increase public awareness about waste reduction, recycling, and composting in Thurston County. Upon completion of training, course graduates agree to give a minimum of 25 hours of yearly service inspiring others to reduce waste at home and work.

### 2023 Training Schedule

Thursdays 6:00 p.m. — 8:30 p.m.

September 21, 28

October 5, 12, 19, 26

November 2, 9

Saturdays 9:00a.m. — 1p.m.

October 7, 14

November 4

### Training Fee

\$25

### Application Deadline

Friday, September 1 at 5 p.m.

Scan code for more information



**For more information or how to apply for the MRC Volunteer Training, visit our website:**

<https://extension.wsu.edu/thurston/gardening/mc>

Applicants must be 18 years of age or older, and either live, work, or operate a business in Thurston County.

WSU Extension programs and employment are available to all without discrimination. Evidence of noncompliance may be reported through your local WSU Extension office. If you require special accommodations please contact the Thurston County Master Recycler Composter office at least two weeks prior to the event at [cori.carlton@co.thurston.wa.us](mailto:cori.carlton@co.thurston.wa.us).



Are you passionate about recycling, waste reduction, and composting? Would you like to make a difference in your community? Join the Thurston County Master Recycler Composter (MRC) Volunteer Program!

Each fall the MRC Program offers a several-week training for new members. Taught by recycling and composting experts, classes cover a range of topics specific to Thurston County and Washington State.

Anyone 18 years of age or older who lives, works, or operates a business in Thurston County can apply: <https://extension.wsu.edu/thurston/gardening/mc/thurston-county-master-recycler-composter-volunteer-training/>.

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## #5 - Thurston County Board of County Commissioners and Staff Fed Fairgoers More Than 600 Pancakes at the 61st Annual Pancake Breakfast



Thurston County Board of County Commissioners and staff served up more than 600 pancakes to hungry fairgoers last Saturday at the annual Pancake Breakfast! The pancake breakfast occurs every year at the Thurston County Fair. The breakfast featured homemade pancakes, coffee, and good conversation. The Commissioners and county staff had a wonderful time meeting and talking to Thurston County residents!



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