Celebrating Kris Major

Kris is retiring!

It is with mixed emotions that we say good-bye to Kris, the hero that held this whole MC/R show together for the last thirteen years. She has had such a positive impact on so many MC/R volunteers and will be leaving a legacy of hundreds of trained waste-reduction educators in our community.

Please enjoy Kris’ farewell letter below, and also...

Join us to celebrate Kris at her retirement party!

When: Thursday March 7th 4:30-7pm, drop-in anytime
Where: Saranac Commons, 19 W Main Ave, Spokane
See last page for invitation.

What a ride!

March 8 is my last day working for Spokane’s Solid Waste Departments. It is not, however, my last day as a Spokane County Master Composter/Recycler. Once an MC/R, always an MC/R, right? That’s something I learned from my mentor (thank you Carol Albietz) and a loyalty I hoped to have instilled in everyone who has taken the journey with me these past thirteen years. Once you take the class, the message just sticks with you the rest of your life, in a good way.

The reason isn't that it is an amazing program, it is, but that it attracts the most amazing people. We learn from each other how to live more sustainably and to share that knowledge with others in the most impactful ways. MC/Rs have been my inspiration, my co-workers, and my friends. I will miss every one of you when I retire. How could I not when we have shared so much?

Thank you for all you have given me personally and will continue to give to our community. And I know you and this program are in very good hands with Jill, Elisabeth, and Tera. Parting is sad, but I have wonderful memories and quite a few pictures. What more can I say other than it has been a great ride!

Kris Major (MC/R Class of 2010)
2024 MC/R Training Begins 3/18

Tera Lessard (MC/R Class of 2016) will be coordinating the training program this year. Some of you may remember Tera as the person who taught the Zero Waste Living session for the last few years. She’s also a familiar face at our spring and fall compost fairs. Several expert MC/Rs have volunteered to teach this year and we’re looking forward to a fun line-up of topics and presenters.

We are currently accepting applications for the 2024 training.

Click here to access the application. HINT: forward this newsletter to anyone in your circle who might be interested in the training.

A reminder that current MC/R volunteers are always welcome to attend a session for a refresher on a particular topic, or to add your experience to the discussion. Once we have a final schedule together, we’ll post it on the private Facebook Group and send by email.

Volunteer Sign-up Moving

Upcoming opportunities to volunteer as an MC/R will now be migrating from the Google Doc to Sign-up Genius. You can expect an invitation to join the Sign-up Genius group shortly after the release of this newsletter.

Each month, Jill Reeves will share opportunities to volunteer through this new platform. Be on the look-out for more information soon!

Continuing Ed is Back!

2024 is going to be a great year for continuing your MC/R learning and connecting with friends old-and-new. We are currently working on securing dates for group learning opportunities such as

- Fascinating Black Soldier Flies
- DIY Bokashi Bin & Bran Workshop
- DIY Compost Screen Workshop
- SMART Center & Barr Tech Tours

As dates are finalized, we will post to the private Facebook Group and by email.

If you have suggestions for topics and/or want to volunteer to lead a session, contact tera@beargrassmending.com

Mend-it Cafe

Did you know that 92 million tons of textile waste is produced every year? That’s equivalent to a dump truck full of clothing discarded every second.

Mend-It Cafe exists to reduce textile waste going to landfills and incinerators, to build community and self-reliance, and to have a great time.

Talented volunteer menders will repair clothing and household textiles at no cost and help you live up to our motto, “Sew It Don’t Throw It.”

The February Mend-It Cafe is on Sunday 2/25 from 12-2:30 p.m. at the Shadle Park Library 2111 W. Wellesley Ave.

The March Mend-It Cafe will be on Saturday 3/16 12-2pm at Bellwether Brewing 2019 N. Monroe.

Mend-It Cafe is a project of Spokane Zero Waste and funded by a grant from WA Dept. of Ecology.

Interested in volunteer or serving on the Board of Directors? Contact elyse@spokanezerowaste.org
Kris’ Retirement Party

Come celebrate Kris & all she’s given in service to our community!

Join us

Thursday, March 7th
Drop in from 4:30-7:00pm
Saranac Commons

Contact Elisabeth Murphy @ 360.280.6446 with any questions