

Recycled Gardens

6995 NW Cornelius Pass Road, Hillsboro

Winter Solstice Gift Bazaar Proceeds Keep Us Funding Spay/Neuter During Lean Winter Months

Fresh cedar greens, glittering lights, flickering scented candles, cookies, hot spiced cider and mulled wine set the mood for shopping amongst the oodles of hand-crafted recycled merchandise at this year's Winter Solstice Gift Bazaar. Once again the cookie-cutter suet bird feeders were the #1 best seller, but cat toys made from car antennas, fabric covered glamour pots, squirrel feeder boxes, specialty dog collars and hand-sewn pet beds turned out to be popular too.

A special thank you to those few hardy volunteers who helped get the nursery set up for the sale during a week of solid rain. Please take a bow Dianne Kippes, Helen Wolff, June Yamrick, and Val Madison. Those three long days of stringing lights in the rain, cleaning the retail room with that noisy vacuum, and getting absolutely everything priced seemed like they were never gonna end. But they did, and our hard work paid off when the customers who came to shop lingered on and started talking about possibly volunteering at such a delightful place.

The bazaar pulled in \$1,710 during the four days of the official event, with another couple hundred trickling in over the next two Saturdays before the actual holiday. That money has already helped us spay/neuter twice as many companion animals this winter as last and is all we have to give during the winter months when plant sales are slow at Recycled Gardens.

GARDEN HARDSTUFF FOR SALE

Recycled Gardens doesn't just sell plants, we accept donations of rock, gravel, bricks, stepping stones, used lumber (new lumber too), pond liners, hardware cloth, tomato cages, plant stakes, decorative clay and ceramic pots.

PLEASE, if you're in the market for any of this stuff, CALL US FIRST, we'll give you a great price and you'll be helping us raise money to spay/neuter companion animals.

PLANTS **WANTED** LIST

If you have any of the following plants you could donate, please call 503-626-4070 3# and let us know. Thanks!

Camellias (we can always just take cuttings)
Clematis (cuttings???)
Cobra lily
Lavender (assorted)
Lilac (dark purple)
Magnolias (cuttings???)
NW Natives (assorted)
Portugese laurel
Sedums, fancy like tri-color
Viburnum plicatum tomatosa
Violets, scented

PERMANENT POT RECYCLING PROGRAM TO START UP APRIL 2003!!!

Do you have a pile of unwanted plastic pots hiding in or behind a shed in your yard? Well, Recycled Gardens recently partnered with Agri Plas in Keizer to form a recycling program for those very pots. The way it's gonna work is, RG will become the drop spot in the Portland area where gardeners can bring their dirty old plastic pots. For a \$5.00 donation we'll stack and store them until we have several pallets full for Agri Plas to pick-up. (Just like the Boy Scouts and other non-profit groups do with Christmas trees after the holidays.)

What does Agri Plas do with the pots? They run them through a granulator to chip them into pieces, then clean the pieces in an aspirator machine. From there, the chips are fed into an extruder to make pellets that can be processed into "new" recycled pots. So far this labor intensive reclamation process hasn't turned a profit for the company, but they're working hard to build a market for recycled pots. You, the consumer, can help by telling your retail nursery you would be more likely to purchase plants in recycled containers.

So hang onto those pots until April, then bring them out to Recycled Gardens. It's the Earth-friendly thing to do!

Oregon Neutermobile

by Celeste Crimi, Director

People love animals! So, most pet guardians are thrilled when they find out the behavioral, health, financial and societal benefits to sharing their lives with a spayed or neutered friend. However, there is a significant segment of the population who find themselves unable to afford this one-time surgery for the animals in their care. These financially suffering individuals unintentionally contribute to pet overpopulation and high shelter remit numbers, an expensive problem for Oregon to handle.

It's a vicious cycle because if spay/neuter surgery is outside the budget, so is addressing the problems that frequently occur with intact pets. For example, an unneutered male pet marking inappropriately in a yardless apartment means eviction for the very tenants most in need of stable living conditions.

Founded June 2001, POPPA, Inc (Pet Over-Population Prevention Advocates, Inc.) is Oregon's *only* statewide, 501(c)(3) nonprofit spay/neuter referral and assistance service for cats, dogs, rabbits and other small pets, tame and otherwise. We've already subsidized over 460 alterations statewide, and have referred hundreds of callers to affordable spay/neuter they were unaware of.

I frequently take calls from panicked or tearful animal guardians from all over the state—including McMinnville! How can I describe the relief and compassion I feel for those same guardians when I hear the hope in their voices as we discuss POPPA, Inc. sponsoring their pets' alteration? For sure, they love their companions intensely and want to proudly ensure that they are cared for properly.

Of course, we'd like to help everyone who calls or writes asking for assistance. As we become increasingly well-known and word spreads about our unique program, we're having to really think on our feet and be proactive to meet public demand!

Luckily, we've found a simple, humane and economical solution! **Oregon Neutermobile (ON)**, POPPA, Inc's newest division, has a unique and important project mission: **"To operate a mobile, low cost spay/neuter program for companion animals in rural and economically depressed communities throughout Oregon."**

By blanketing our state and making alteration convenient and affordable to financially struggling residents, we can reduce the currently high number of animals being given up or forced outdoors.

Because longtime Oregon resident Dr. Rebecca Henry believes so strongly in spay/neuter, she is offering her expertise to ON clients at a fraction of the price she could command in private practice. This translates to an average cost of only \$19.61 per surgery. Currently, the **best average price is 240% more expensive**, at \$47.25 (with Oregon Spay/Neuter Fund's coupons).

Our specially outfitted mobile clinic has been purchased at a grassroots price; beginning early March 2003, we'll be visiting destitute or isolated parts of Oregon, starting with Tillamook. But before we can do that we have a few items on our Wish List we need to procure. PLEASE help!

Oregon Neutermobile "Wish List"

All prices are approximate and, although researched, cannot be guaranteed, as we are flexible on brand and source and may obtain an item for slightly more or less than the amount indicated. If you would like to make a donation, please send your check to POPPA, Inc, and indicate "ON" in the check's memo field. Thank you!

Walk-on scale (\$1,000): Knowing an animal's exact weight is crucial to administering a safe and effective dose of general anesthetic. **Every large dog** must be weighed on an accurate, platform-style scale.

Laptop computer and attachable printer (\$1,000): Essential for mobile operations, including keeping inventory of supplies, electronically communicating with stationary administrators, admitting clients, record-keeping, and printing client receipts and post-surgical instructions. Can be previously owned, prefer lithium ion type batteries (can last entire operating day).

Local, long distance and toll-free telephone service (\$1,200 annually): We must convey pre-surgical instructions to potential clientele statewide, and there's too much vital information to cram onto a flier. Additionally, a toll-free number will allow us to schedule clients who can't afford or don't have long distance service.

Vehicle and liability insurance (\$3,000 annually): To keep moving forward safely and confidently, Oregon Neutermobile's operation and vehicle will of course need to be properly insured!

Vehicle maintenance and minor repairs (\$3,500): We were able to purchase our mobile clinic at the rockbottom price of \$13,000, but it does require a bit of fine tuning. The idle is a bit low, the air conditioning doesn't work, there is a transmission leak, an oil leak from the oil pan, and more leaks in the area of the rear main seal and valve cover gaskets, the fuel gauge doesn't work, the Speedo cable is bad, and the ignition switch is hard to turn. Nothing alarming, but concerns that do need to be addressed, even though the clinic recently made a round trip from Portland to Bend successfully.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January & February Digs Tues, Wed, Thurs starting Jan 21 10:00-3:00

We've STILL got 10 digs left to do before we start adding more to our list (which is a distinct possibility as plants start to poke up out of the ground early and make their gardeners nervous). If you've got an inkling to work in somebody else's garden, and get first dibs on new plants for yours, please give us a call (503-626-4070 3#) and sign up to volunteer. Remember, you earn a one-gallon plant for every three hours worked! And, it's terrific exercise!!!

EVERY Saturday in Feb & March, 10:00-3:00 Potting Parties

Recycled Gardens is STILL pulling in new nursery stock from donor gardens as we've got 10 more gardens on the Dig List. This means there's loads of potting to be done. Pack a lunch and bring your garden gloves, we'll be playing in the dirt for hours and it's way more FUN if lots of folks are there to share gardening stories and learn about new plants by writing tags for whatever we pot up!

March 2003

Oregon Neutermobile (ON) Hits the Road to "Drive Out" Animal Homelessness in Tillamook County

ON will travel to Tillamook County in March and provide a targeted service by *staying there* for as long as there continues to be high demand for our services. This is more effective than simply visiting an area for a day or two periodically, leaving a high percentage of intact animals behind to reproduce while we are on tour elsewhere. ON plans to be in operation 3 days a week, 48 weeks per year, performing a low estimate of 4,320 surgeries annually.

April Fool's Plant Sale, April 5-6, 2003

No kidding! By April we're ALL gonna be very ready to do some gardening. So Recycled Gardens is gonna host a Plant Sale to celebrate the "opening of the season".

All plants ONLY \$2.50 a gallon!!!
So take stock of where the holes in your landscape are, or create some, and make plans NOW to attend this event, you'll be very glad you did.



POPPA, Inc.

Pet Over-Population Prevention Advocates, Inc.

P.O. Box 5721

Beaverton OR 97006-5721

POPPA Inc., Pet Over-Population Prevention Advocates

People working together CAN make animals precious again! Help POPPA wipe out animal abuse and neglect—promote spaying or neutering of ALL pets.



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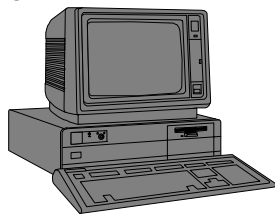
Special Edition 2003

WE WANT YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS

Share your email address with us and you'll get current updates about the happenings for both Recycled Gardens and the Oregon Neutermobile (ON). After all, the newsletters only come out quarterly unless we can find time for a special bulletin like this one. Instead, you can get up-to-the-minute info online at our website, www.POPPAinc.org, or by emailing us at info@POPPAinc.org.

Think about it, wouldn't you like to know as soon as possible about upcoming events like plant sales and fundraising parties? It would certainly make it easier to reach you in the event we get invited to participate in something FUN, like Rejuvenation Hardware's spring sale (which, BTW, we have been asked to be part of, though no date is set yet). Or, we may have a volunteer surprise us with a fundraising idea, like a candy sale just in time for Valentine's Day, and our having your email address could be your ticket to making it a financial success for POPPA, Inc. and the key to your lover's heart.

Eventually we hope to be able to offer the newsletter online too, probably through Acrobat Reader. Doing that would mean we could spend more money on spay/neuter as we wouldn't have to pay for printing and stamps. So please, visit our website, www.POPPAinc.org, or drop us a note at info@POPPAinc.org, and we'll add you to the information database. Thanks!



***Recycled Gardens is now on
Winter Hours which are
Saturdays ONLY, 10:00am-5:00pm,
through March!***

Things are HAPPENING at POPPA, Inc. Very Good Things!!!

It's a New Year, a perfect time to make changes and improvements. Good changes that is! Some of POPPA's major changes are a new logo, new telephone number, improved website (www.POPPAinc.org), and even a new division, the Oregon Neutermobile. This means we also have new board members and other volunteers aboard to help administer all of these wonderful new things.

Please take a minute to note our new telephone number, 503-626-4070, and even give it a try. You'll discover it's an expanded voice mail system with three mailboxes that will help you reach the division of our operation you need to contact faster. It also gives us the flexibility to leave detailed greetings with important info, such as what we need to know to get a check out to a caregiver wanting help with spay/neuter. This feature alone should reduce the number of call backs burning up volunteer time. And, this new system actually costs us LESS than the cell phone did!

The website too has been expanded. This was necessary in order for us to be able to put up pictures of volunteers working happily at Recycled Gardens, the plants we've got for sale, and even some shots of the pets we've been fixing. Hey! It's nice to be able to put a face to a name and see for oneself just how many beautiful creature's lives we're making happier and healthier.

Isn't our new logo great? We feel it more clearly epitomizes the fact we are the "flora and fauna connection". After all, the majority of our funding for spay/neuter of companion animals comes from selling recycled plants. It's simply a natural!

Our biggest change for the New Year is the addition of The Oregon Neutermobile (ON) which is our new mobile spay/neuter clinic. We were able to purchase this terrific vehicle for ONLY \$13K, the majority of which came from private donors! Many, many thanks to all of you very generous people. The remainder of the funding came in the form of a loan we'll need to pay off within a year. So PLEASE, if you haven't already made a donation, now's your chance to be part of our founding team. Become a part of ON's history today, send your check made out to POPPA, Inc. with a notation of "ON" in the memo field.