

The Green Committee was formed in March 2008 for the purpose of determining ways that Willamette Towers can reduce our environmental impact by conserving our limited natural resources, and by promoting and encouraging recycling. With 92 units in one building we have the potential to make a significant impact on saving water, energy and recycling more efficiently.

The following projects were undertaken in 2008:

CONSERVATION OF RESOURCES:

- replaced four of the top-loading washing machines with four front-load machines
- reduced the drying time of dryers to 45 minutes
- arranged an Energy Audit by EWEB. From that audit, recommendations were made to the WT Board that included changing hall lights and garage lights to more efficient ones, and installing motion sensors in locker rooms
- investigated the viability of solar panels on WT's roof
- arranged for EWEB presentation to residents, "Habits, Attitudes, and Lifestyles with Energy Use"
- distributed information on water leakage and waste, which included a tablet to identify leaky toilets
- conducted a survey on number of lo-flow toilets in the building, and researched wholesale prices for those who want to replace old and inefficient toilets

RECYCLING:

- prepared and distributed to all residents a "Green Packet" of information about recycling resources
- continue to supply office with copies of the Green Packet for distribution to all new residents
- posted laminate signs in each garbage room about how to efficiently recycle at WT
- arranged for a smaller recycle bin to be delivered for those residents who have difficulty opening the large one

In addition, the Green Committee contributed several articles for the WT Newsletter about conservation and recycling, and regularly post information and brochures on the bulletin board.

Under the excellent leadership of Joanne Gulsvig, the Green Committee looks forward to another year of finding ways Willamette Towers and its residents can make choices and take action to lead healthier and more sustainable lives. Committee members are Tina Behnke, Janet Gicker, Ken Guzowski, Yuan Hopkins, Esther Konop, Marla Lowen, and Marty Lynch. All other interested persons are welcome to join us!