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## IN THIS EDITION

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## AROUND THE CITY

### **First Loads of 'Love Food Not Waste' Compost Donated to Area Gardens**

In honor of International Compost Awareness Week (May 6 - 12), Rexius Sustainable Solutions donated the first few finished loads of compost from the Love Food Not Waste program to three area gardens. On Saturday, May 12, FOOD for Lane County's GrassRoots Garden, Huerto de la Familia's community garden, and the Faith Center Garden



received between seven and 15 yards of finished compost that will be used throughout the season to grow fresh, local crops.

The GrassRoots Garden received the first load of Love Food Not Waste's compost from Rexius. Slug Queen Holly GoSlugly made an appearance to commemorate the occasion. The second load of compost was donated to families belonging to The Family Garden (Huerto de la Familia) at the Springfield Youth Farm. At that site, 50 University of Oregon students helped families move compost to their new plots and assist with planting their first vegetable crop. The final load of compost was donated to the new Faith Center Garden, Eugene's newest garden located at 15th and Polk.

This garden demonstrates how the faith community can create urban agriculture spaces from underutilized lands and offer self-provisioning options for the community. Additionally, food grown in the Faith Center Garden will go to the FOOD for Lane County food pantry at the church and to community members who help grow the food.

Love Food Not Waste is a commercial composting program that aims to divert 3,200 tons of food waste from local landfills during its first year. A collaboration between local food-related businesses, the City of Eugene, local garbage haulers and local commercial composters, the program converts produce, meats, food-soiled paper and other waste into valuable nutrient-rich compost. In addition to saving businesses money, the initiative conserves land, water and energy, and reduces the need for fossil-fuel fertilizers. Businesses can sign up for service with their garbage hauler. Food scraps are picked up regularly and delivered to commercial composting facilities like Rexius, where they are transformed into compost in two months using a natural process.

For more information, and to view the list of over 60 participating businesses, visit [www.eugene-or.gov/lovefood](http://www.eugene-or.gov/lovefood) or contact Stephanie Scafa at 541-682-5652 or [Stephanie.scafa@ci.eugene.or.us](mailto:Stephanie.scafa@ci.eugene.or.us).

### **Pilot Program Begun for Placement of Certificates of Deposit**

During the past six years, the City has invested more than \$50 million in certificates of deposits (CDs) with local banks. By investing in local CDs, the money stays in the community and diversifies the City's investment portfolio, and the City earns a market rate of return.

Over the past few months, City Finance Division staff put together a pilot program to expand the CD program by soliciting CD bids from local credit unions. Fourteen credit unions with branches in Eugene were contacted to determine whether they would be interested in participating in this program and six institutions responded: Northwest Community Credit Union (CCU), OnPoint CCU, Oregon CCU, Selco CCU, Eugene Water & Electric Board (EWEB) Employees Federal Credit Union (FCU), and Pacific Cascade FCU.

The City issued three requests for bids for CDs from local credit unions. While the response hasn't been overwhelming, the City received offers from one institution at each solicitation. As a result of the solicitations, a \$246,000 CD has been placed with EWEB Employees FCU, which is the maximum allowed under state law after taking into consideration interest earnings. One bid did not result in a placement because the interest rate offered was not competitive with alternative investments. Another bid did not result in a placement because the credit union could not meet the City's business requirements.

Finance Division staff plans to continue offering CD placement to local credit unions from time to time and hopes to expand the number of participating institutions. For more information, please contact Finance Director Sue Cutsogeorge at 541-682-5589 or [Sue.L.Cutsogeorge@ci.eugene.or.us](mailto:Sue.L.Cutsogeorge@ci.eugene.or.us).

### **Amazon Pool Opens for Summer Season on May 21**

Amazon Pool will open for the summer season on Monday, May 21, with daily lap swims through September 3. This favorite summer site annually draws more than 100,000 visits during the summer season.



Beginning June 18, Amazon Pool will open for recreation swims held Monday - Sunday from 2 - 5 p.m. and Mondays and Wednesdays from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. Family Swim times (one adult must be in the water with children) will be held Monday - Friday, 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m., and Monday - Thursday, 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. Water aerobics and swim lessons are also offered at Amazon during the summer months.

Swimming is a great, fun way to get exercise and on June 20, families are invited to a free recreation swim from 2 - 6 p.m. at the Let's Move - Eugene event. Part of First Lady Michelle Obama's initiative to fight obesity in children, Let's Move encourages healthy eating and physical exercise. The event at Amazon will include games, relays, prizes, information booths, a farmer's market and healthy snacks.

For more information on activities and classes offered at City pools this summer, visit [www.eugene-or.gov/recaquatics](http://www.eugene-or.gov/recaquatics) or call 541-682-5350 (Amazon), or 541-682-5525 (Echo Hollow).