

The Intersection of Homelessness and Solid Waste

November 13, 2018

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November 13, 2018

Morning Panel Presentations



Rob Nathan, Metro RID Patrol



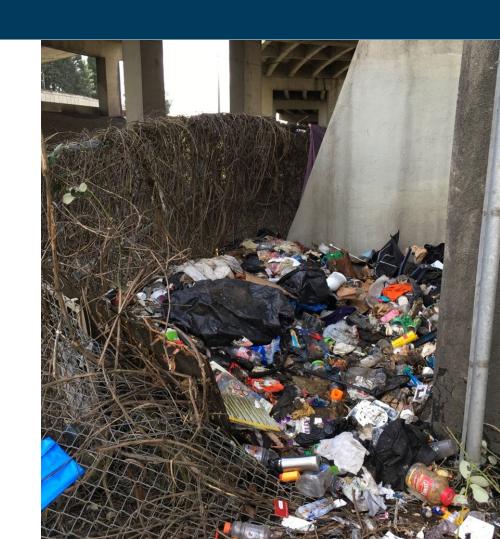
Regional Illegal Dumping (RID) Patrol:

The intersection of our housing crisis and solid waste services

Rob Nathan – Solid Waste Community Engagement Specialist

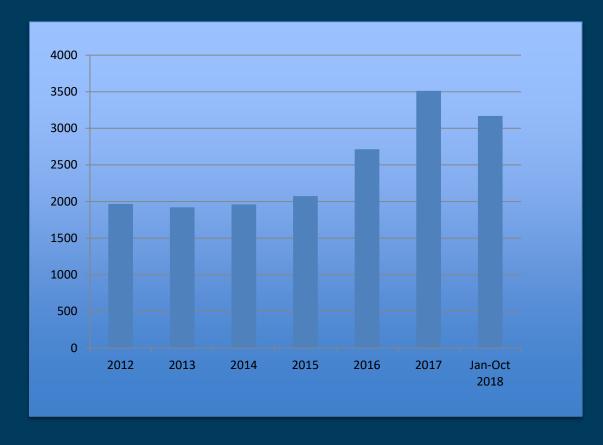
People Experiencing Homelessness & Illegal Dumping

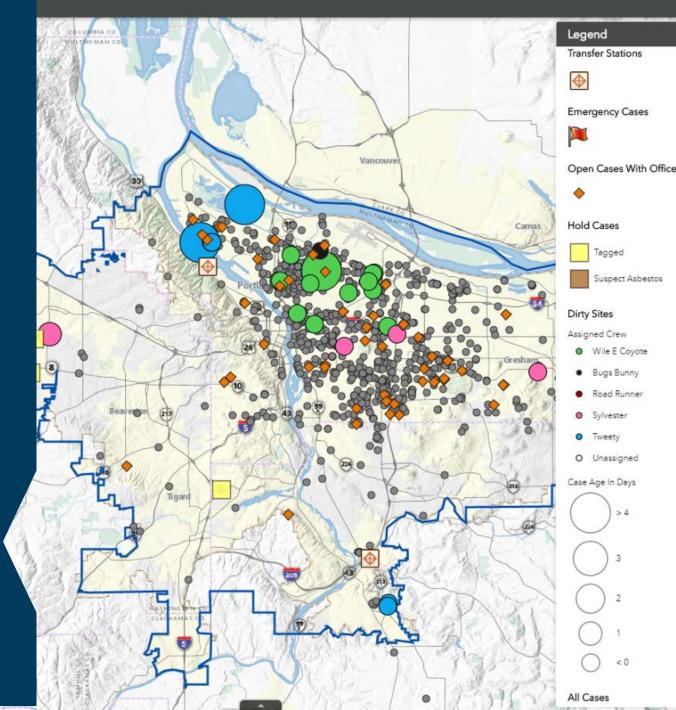
- This complex issue that intersects with human health concerns: mental illness, addiction, access to dry and safe shelter and other trauma
- Items found include shopping carts, tarps, rain soaked clothing, propane tanks, butane cans, tents, and needles, and much more
- People are often trying to survive in hidden transportation corridors including railways, alleys, under bridges, and on or near trails



2017 RID Patrol Data

- 3,512 sites cleaned up 2017 (22%)
- 3,169 sites cleaned up 2018 (27%)
- 1-3 day response time

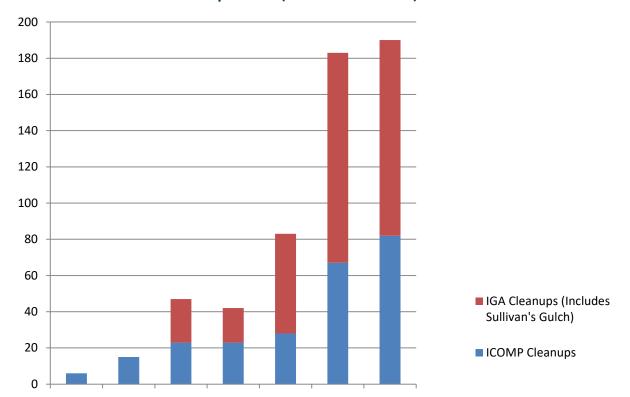






Camping and Cleanup

- 2017 Cleaned up 116 camps (67 on Metro)
- 2018 Cleaned up 108 (82 on Metro)



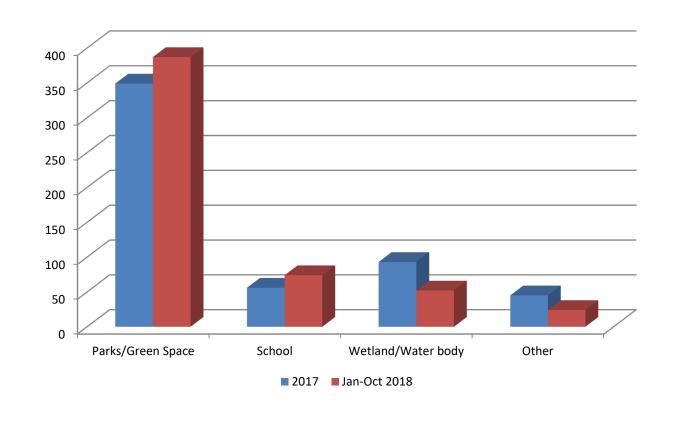


Environmentally Sensitive Areas



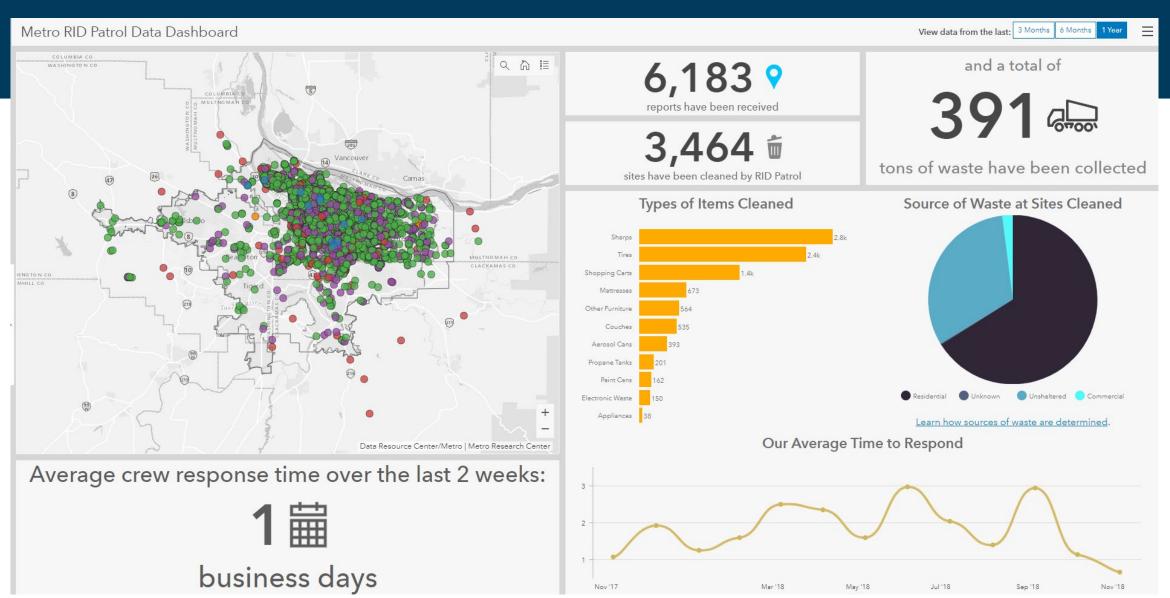
Environmentally Sensitive Areas

Area Type	2017	Jan-Oct 2018
Parks/Green Space	349	387
School	56	74
Wetland/Water body	93	52
Other	45	24
Total	543	537



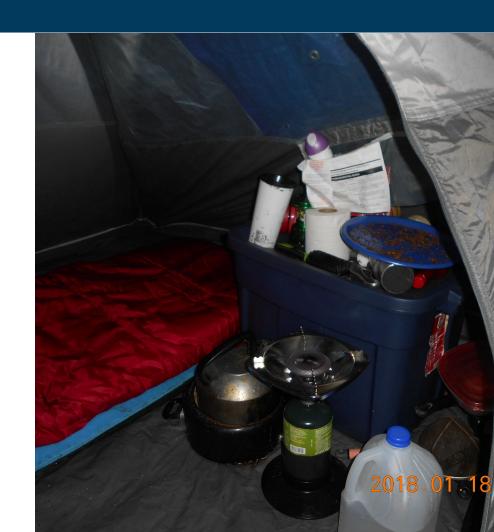
RID Patrol Reporting and Data

oregonmetro.gov/ridpatrol



People Experiencing Homelessness

- People experiencing homelessness don't have access to solid waste and sanitation services (2017 the housed still produce 78% of sites cleaned up)
- A lot of items we find are related to people's need to survive
- Occasionally, RID Patrol crews find construction debris and other items that have been illegally dumped near camp sites
- We find that the more people practice "low impact camping" the less likely they are to be swept



RID Patrol's New Approach

- Collect better data to be more informed about materials
- Conduct better engagement to be more informed about people we serve (housed and unhoused)
- We want to transition from being completely complaint-based reactive program to including proactive techniques that help us spend resources efficiently
- Develop pilot programs with community stakeholders
- Focus on 2/1 solutions without reinventing the wheel



RID Patrol's Pilots and Partnerships

- Needle hot spot cleanups with City of Portland (Spring 2018)
- Working with Multnomah County and City of Portland on sharps disposal boxes
- Union Pacific Sullivan's Gulch Cleanup once a quarter
- Work Transition Program: POIC and Constructing Hope
- Trash bag Collection Pilot: WashCo, MultCo, Clackamas,
 HOPE Team, JOIN, Central City Concern
- Video Project Outside the Frame









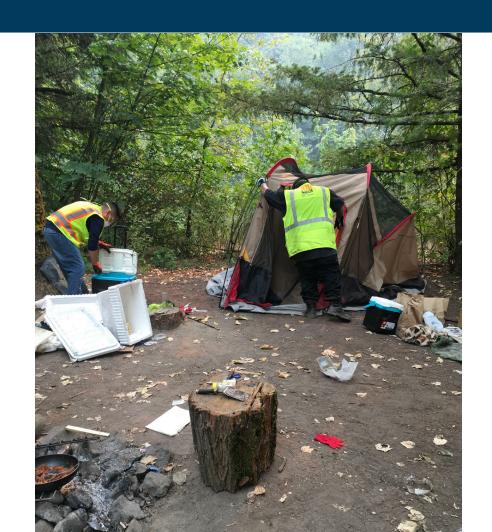




RID Supports Regional Solutions

 On average, a camp posting and cleanup on Metro property costs about \$3,500

 JOIN can transition someone in to stable housing for \$2,500





Rob Nathan Solid Waste Community Engagement Specialist (503)797-1691

rob.nathan@oregonmetro.gov



Arts and events
Garbage and recycling
Land and transportation
Oregon Zoo
Parks and nature

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Katie Lindsay, Homeless/Urban Camping Impact Reduction Program

Katherine Lindsay, MSW, QMHP, CADCI

All opinions are my own and are not endorsed by my employers.

Homelessness and Urban Camping Impact Reduction Program

 GOAL: Reduce the impacts of unsanctioned camping throughout the City via consistent and humane management of the public space.

FY 2017 - 2018

HUCIRP processed 25,460 reports of campsites, coordinated 3,122 campsite cleanups for a total cost of \$1,576,575

CITY OF PORTLAND – HUCIRP Disposal Data

- 1,301 tons of garbage (campsite/CS) FY 17–18
- 6 tons of garbage/day removed from RVs
- 8,400 gallons of human waste removed
- 346,793 improperly discarded hypodermic syringes removed

PSU RESEARCH - BUDGET ANALYSIS

Research done in partnership with Kaytee Evans, MSW

- Rise in local street homelessness
- Increased public livability concerns
- Understand scope of local efforts to address livability
- Opportunities for investment

Visible costs included public monies specifically budgeted for and/or coded as expenditures related to the mitigation of issues arising from street homelessness

- HUCIRP Reporting
- Cost Centers

Invisible costs included personnel hours across City bureaus dedicated to responses to street homelessness

Survey tool distributed to City employees

PSU Research DATA

- Only 2.94% of all City staff participated in study
- Only 10.77% of respondents reported cost center
- Monthly hours: 7,946 (re-allocated personnel time)
- Monthly cost to City: \$298,036
- Estimated annual cost of personnel hours: \$3,576,438



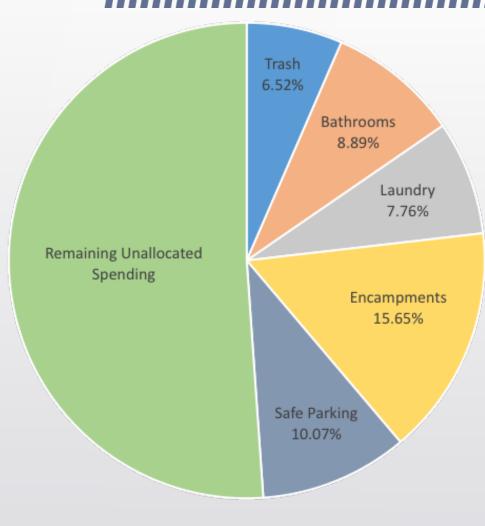
Survey Data: Narrative Feedback



"In January 2017, the ECC was activated for four days to respond to the cold weather. Again, those indoors were largely unaffected while those outside were in life-threatening danger. Four people died, and the statistics which I can send along if anyone is interested on the hypothermia increase in County hospitals during that time period are staggering.

I estimate the costs for the ECC itself were \$53,279 (14 hours per day, 15 people, average salary program coordinator)."

-Portland Bureau of Emergency Management Employee



Approaches used in other municipalities

• Waste pickup: \$233,356

Mobile restroom trailers: \$317,906

Mobile laundry services: \$277,592

Learning from Seattle (2016):

- City contributed \$559,600 towards three sanctioned encampments with case management services, serving 467 people
- City's safe parking programs cost \$360,000 annually and serve 50 individuals and 30 families transitioning into housing

WHAT TO CONSIDER?

1,300 tons of garbage collected by City crews

Participatory Waste Management Programs

6 tons of garbage/day removed from RVs

Safe Parking Options with access to recycling

8,400 gallons of human waste removed

Mobile restrooms

Port-A-Potties

Access to existing infrastructure (parks bathrooms)

346,793 improperly discarded hypodermic syringes removed

Syringe Droboxes - *This project currently being led by Multnomah County

Safe Injection Sites



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Erin Browne, Multnomah County Health Department



Syringe Exchange in Multnomah County

- Started in the late 1980's to prevent the spread of HIV
- Started in Portland by Outside In in 1989 and in 1992 by MCHD
- MCHD and Outside In collaboratively operate 6 sites







Service Offered

Syringe Exchange + 1-for-1 exchange +

Overdose Response Training and Naloxone Distribution

Harm Reduction Clinic

Addictions Benefits Coordinator

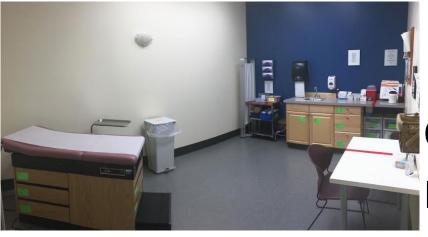


Where are Multnomah County services located?

All locations located on the East Side

Two locations operate out of a van.





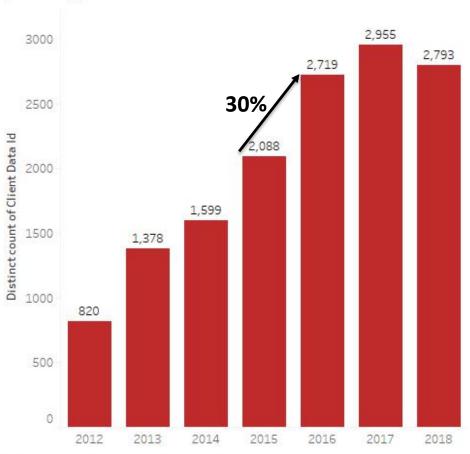
One location based at our Harm Reduction Clinic.



Demand for services keeps increasing!



Updated 11/8/2018 11:45:33 AM

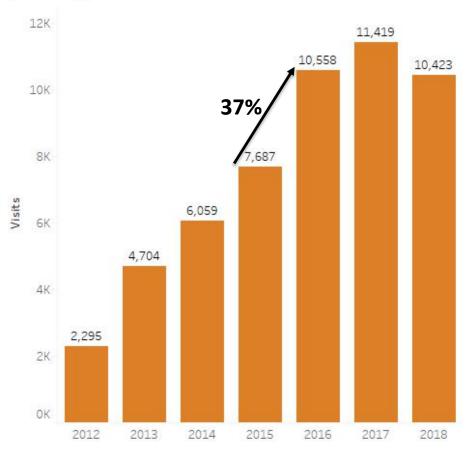


Distinct count of Client Data Id for each Visit year. The marks are labeled by distinct count of Client Data Id. The data is filtered on Site and Agency. The Site filter keeps 11 of 11 members. The Agency filter keeps MC.



Demand for services keeps increasing!

Visits Updated 11/8/2018 11:45:33 AM



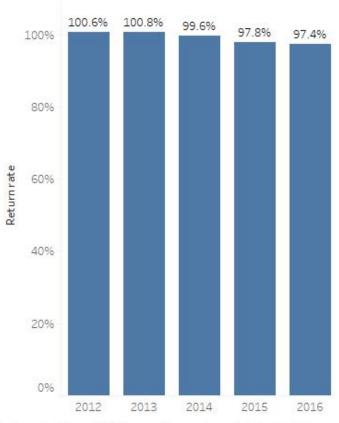
Sum of Visits for each Visit year. The marks are labeled by sum of Visits. The data is filtered on Site and Agency, The Site filter keeps 11 of 11 members. The Agency filter keeps MC.



Return Rate Decreasing



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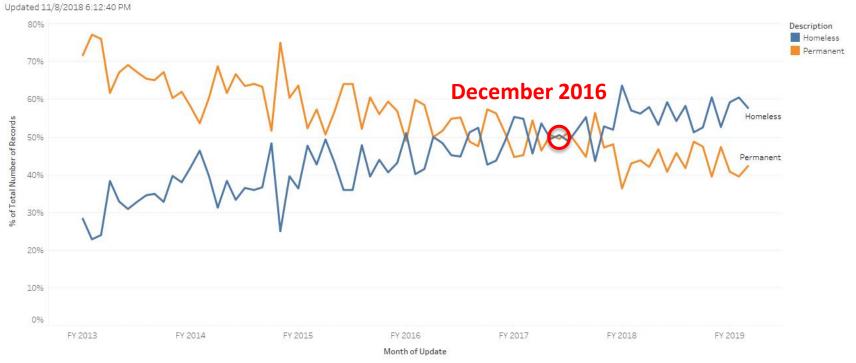


Return rate for each Visit year. The marks are labeled by Return rate. The data is filtered on Site and Agency. The Site filter keeps 11 of 11 members. The Agency filter keeps MC. The view is filtered on Visit year, which keeps 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015 and 2016.



And stable housing was decreasing





The trend of % of Total Number of Records for Update Month. Color shows details about Description. The marks are labeled by Description. The data is filtered on Agency and Site. The Agency filter keeps MC. The Site filter keeps 10 of 10 members. The view is filtered on Description and Exclusions (Description, MONTH (Update)). The Description filter excludes Temp/unstable. The Exclusions (Description, MONTH (Update)) filter keeps 226 members.

Note: this chart is in Fiscal Year



What to do? What to do?











Increased Messaging

How many syringes fit in your container?









1 quart = 80 syringes

How many syringes fit in your FULL container?



30 Oz. Laundry Container = 80 Needles



2 Liter (67.6 Oz.)
Plastic Soda Bottle =

150 Needles



1 Gallon (128 Oz.) Milk Container = 250 Needles



Oz.) Sani-Cloth Wipes

Container (160 Wipes) =

150 Needles



40 Oz. Laundry Container = 90 Needles



1 Liter (33.8 Oz.)
Plastic Soda Bottle =

70 Needles



20 Oz. Plastic Gatorade Bottle = 40 Needles



Soda Bottle =



Increased Messaging

Monthly Health Topic - April 2018

Ins and Outs of Exchange

Needle exchange is a safe, legal, non-judgemental place for people who inject drugs to get syringes, supplies and support.

All the services at exchange are free and confidential!

Bring used syringes and exchange them for new ones! Ask about getting sharps containers to safely store used needles until you bring them to exchange (see options on back).

Remember: <u>don't break off needle points</u>, and try to also return syringe caps to exchange.

Is syringe exchange legal? - YES!

In Oregon, it is legal for a person over 18 years old to buy syringes without a prescription. Possession of new syringes/needles is exempted from the Oregon drug paraphernalia law (ORS.475.525).

Safer Injection Supplies Available at Exchange

- Sharps Containers
- Cookers and Cottons
- Alcohol Wipes and Benzalkonium Chloride Towelettes
- Bandages, Gauze and Tape
- Ties (Tourniquets)

Other Services Offered at Exchange

- Safer injection, wound care and vein health information
- HIV and Hep C information, testing and support resources
- Naloxone (Narcan) kits and overdose response training

Connect to Services at Exchange

- Methadone, Suboxone, inpatient & outpatient treatment options
- Health care and mental health services
- ◆ Oregon Health Plan (OHP) or other Insurance support
- ◆ Food / Housing / Clothing assistance

NEX staff have more information and resources.

Reusable Container Holds about 10 Syringes

(Limit of 5 per person at each exchange. These are good to give out to friends you are exchanging for!)



1 Quart Container Full = 80 syringes

(Only given out at 82nd exchange, for people exchanging 80 or less)





1 Gallon Container Full = 300 syringes



2 Gallon Container Full = 550 syringes





You can also use any rigid plastic container with a cap



30 Oz. Laundry Container = 80 Needles



2 Liter (67.6 Oz.)
Plastic Soda Bottle =

150 Needles

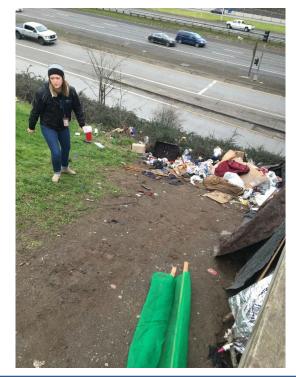


1 Gallon (128 Oz.) Milk Container = 250 Needles



Increased Outreach

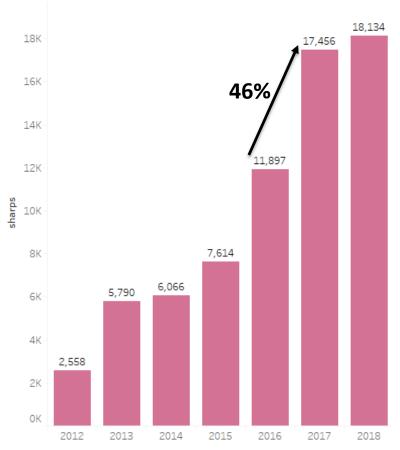
- Messaging to housed and unhoused community
- Consistently provided outreach in:
 - Montavilla
 - East and West Waterfront
 - Parkrose





Sharps Container Distribution





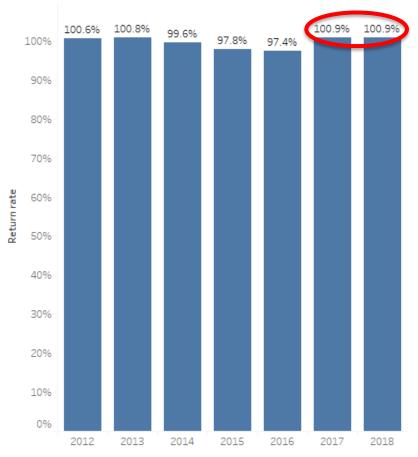
Sum of sharps for each Visit year. The marks are labeled by sum of sharps. The data is filtered on Site and Agency. The Site filter keeps 11 of 11 members. The Agency filter keeps MC.



Increased Return Rate

Return rate

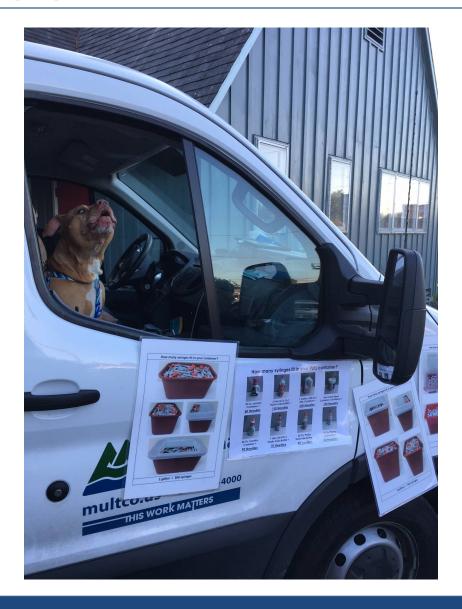
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Return rate for each Visit year. The marks are labeled by Return rate. The data is filtered on Site and Agency. The Site filter keeps 11 of 11 members. The Agency filter keeps MC.



Effective Messaging Works!!







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Jesse White, Rapid Response BioClean

Rapid Response Bio Clean

Un-attended death and bio-hazard removal

About The Company

We provide chemical and biological cleanup services in and around the Portland, Oregon area. We are committed to providing our customers with a service that is both discreet and thorough while also being sensitive to the impact that incidents of trauma can have on those connected to it. We also specialize in the cleanup of other incidents that are not related to traumatic events, such as hoarding, disinfecting and deodorizing of spaces, and animal waste.

Our Services:

- Suicide Cleanup
- ♦ Homicide Cleanup
- Unattended Death
- Vehicle AccidentCleanup
- Animal Waste
- Hoarding and Gross Filth
- Fingerprint Dust Removal
- ♦ Industrial Accidents

- Blood, Body, and Tissue Cleanup
- Infectious Disease
 Decontamination
- RV Dismantling
- ♦ Grey Water Removal
- ♦ Maintenance
- Illegal CampsiteRemoval
- Property Storage
- ♦ And many more...

Our Mission

At Rapid Response Bio Clean, it is our belief that no one should have to experience the overwhelming and unimaginable task of dealing with the physical remnants of a tragic incident either at home, at the office or even your vehicle.

At its core, the job we perform is the cleanup, removal, and disinfecting of biological and chemical materials from a contaminated property and restoring it to its pre-incident state. We also feel that we perform a service to those individuals related to the tragic event or accident by allowing them the chance to begin the healing process knowing their property will be returned to its previous state.

Examples of our Services

In Relation to the Homelessness and Urban Camping Impact Reduction Program

Columbia Slough Trail







Columbia Slough Trail: After



N Portland Structure and Debris Field







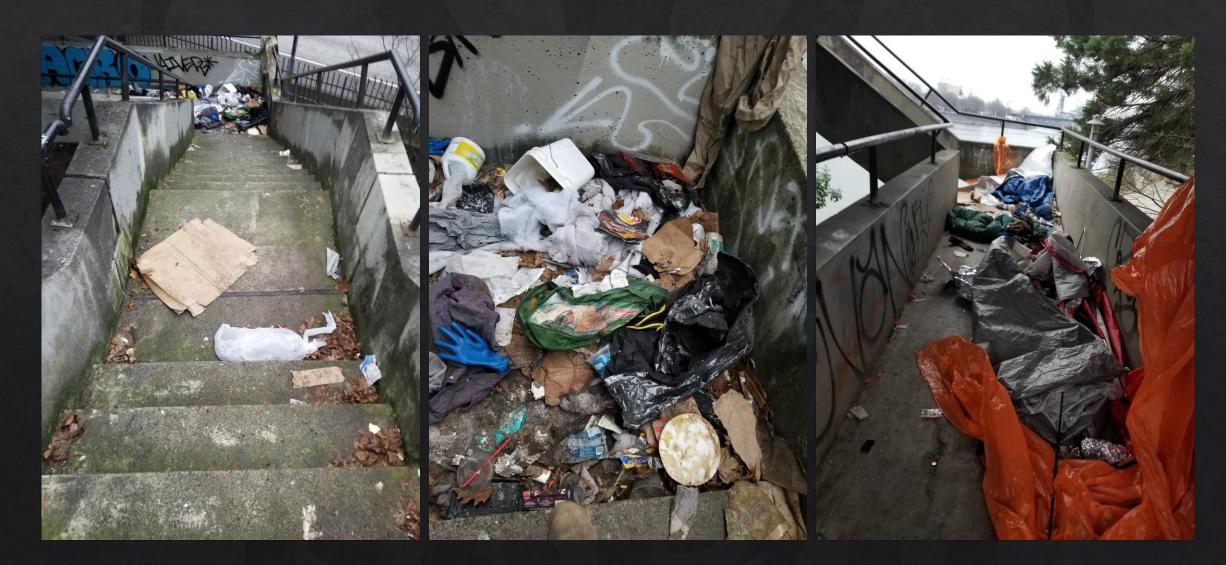
N Portland Structure and Debris Field: After







Morrison Bridge Walkway



Morrison Bridge Walkway: After

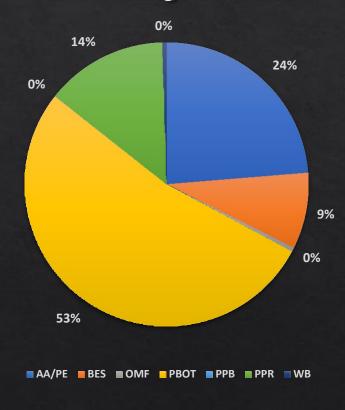






Fiscal Year '17-'18

Total Percentage Per Bureau



Number of Cleanups/Amount Spent





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Joel Schoening, Oregon Beverage Recycling Cooperative



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Shannon Singleton, JOIN



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Laura Tokarski, Trash for Peace



Taylor Cass Talbot, WIEGO

Inclusive Waste Management Association

Portland, 2018









Global Alliance of Waste Pickers

Inclusive Waste Management Association

Portland, 2018

Trash for Peace: www.trashforpeace.org

<u>Mission:</u> To provide hands-on, creative experiences that encourage resilient communities.



Sustainability Education Program:

- After-school program (hands-on learning)
- Adult Education (Community Based Master Recycler Program)
- Community Nights and Resident Social Hours (workshops and partnerships)

Encouraging creative, community-based ways to reduce waste

- Collaborating to improve recycling with multi-family housing through hands-on education, engagement and innovative projects
- Connecting residents to the Inclusive Waste Management Association

The Binners Project

Vancouver BC Canada

- Binner: can and bottle collector
- Event waste management and recycling
- "Back of House" waste segregation services at multi-family housing
- Can/bottle pick-up services
- Coffee Cup Revolution: waste pickers as stakeholders advocating for progressive waste policy



Inclusive Waste Management Association Portland, Oregon

- Autonomous association under 501c3 Trash for Peace
- Low-barrier work opportunities and greater economic inclusion within the waste sector
- Creative outreach and advocacy opportunities
- Provide a platform for serving as stakeholders in the sector
- Aiming to start monthly organizing meetings in January, 2019



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Kathleen GuillozeT, Natural Areas Stewardship



AOR Fall Forum

11/12/2018

BEF is a 501(c)3 nonprofit that seeks to address critical water and climate challenges in North America by developing, testing, and promoting new and entrepreneurial initiatives and programs that equitably restore healthy rivers and streams and support a stable climate.

Kathleen "Kas" Guillozet, PhD
Director, Willamette Watersheds Program
kguillozet@b-e-f.org

Let me rephrase: Absent any changes, by 2050 Earth will be a couple degrees hotter overall. Sea levels will be a foot higher. Now, 2050 seems as impossibly for

Climate refugees are coming to the Pacific

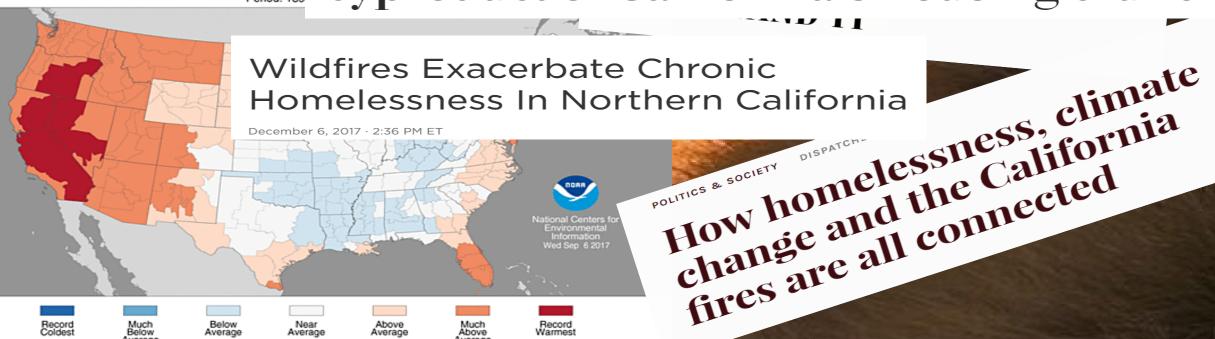
Northwest

by Knute Berger / September 15, 2014 Average

National

Hepatitis A outbreak among homeless a byproduct of California's housing crunch

SCIENCE 12.28.17 07:00 AL



FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH RESILIENCY:

INDIVIDUAL

- Receives social support
- Feels social connectedness
- Has self-determination
- Maintains positive mental outlook

COMMUNITY

- Knowledgeable and healthy
- Organized
- Has infrastructure and services
- Has economic opportunity
- Can manage natural assets
- Is connected



How can we shift from scarcity to sufficiency?

In scarcity mode, the brain's attention to an immediate problem overloads its bandwidth leaving no cognitive bandwidth for executive control functions, which, if chronic, leads to long-term harmful effects.



Our approach: Believing in people and nurturing place

- We are working to pilot two programs in 2019: (young adult and adult) that offer flexible short term employment opportunities for unhoused people to tend/clean natural resource areas.
- The pilot will help us determine program best practices and educate the community, agencies and potential investors.
- The program will strengthen social networks, provide mentorship to the participants, promote social service awareness, and educate the public and natural resource managers.



Our approach: Grassroots to Treetops

Co-develop idea with unhoused community members and advocacy groups

Collaborating with Portland Business Alliance Leadership Impact Team

Timeline:

2016-2018: Concept development

2018: Pilot preparation

2019: Pilot

2020: Spread

Partners:

P:ear

JOIN

Right 2 Survive

Trauma Informed Oregon (PSU)

BEF



Outcome/Impact	Metric
Measurable reduction in police nuisance calls in target neighborhoods	Baseline needed Reduction of calls over time
Community awareness	not a metric, but is there opportunity to "market" Website traffic, surveys, etc
Volume of Waste removed	Bags of trash, weight, etc
Habitat tended/stewarded	Acres
Water Quality	#water quality swales tended, #streams proximate to clean ups
Days of employment	Days/hours/number of people per day/shift
Repeat productive time of participant	% that return to work # Days/hours that return to work
Skill building	# paired with services or agencies
Safety	Zero injuries
Pride in environment	ADKAR survey
Relationship building and services	# transition to accessing services
Quality of life improvements, access to services	Qualitative, other measures TBD Increase in awareness of services available
Trainings offered in Trauma informed care	# People, # agencies and non-profits participating Quantify value of training - what is the purpose-behavior perception changes ADKAR survey
Rejuvenating and peaceful for participants	Survey? Participant behavior



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Rob Nathan, Trash Bag Pilot



- Past year engaging law enforcement, community health/outreach workers, and people underhoused (e.g. camps, RVs, and cars)
- October, we launched this pilot as a direct response to what we have been hearing from our regional stakeholders
- The goal of the pilot is to provide a proactive disposal option for people experiencing homelessness



USE THIS BAG FOR TRASH ONLY

- Place your trash in the bag for disposal. **Do not** use for personal belongings.
- Leave these trash bags and other large items for disposal in plain sight, on public property for pickup.
- **Do not** put needles in this bag. Please keep in a container.

To request a pickup at no charge call Metro at 503-234-3000 and tell the operator the location or report online at www.oregonmetro.gov/ridpatrol





Our Partners:

- > JOIN
- Clackamas County
 Human Services
- Multnomah County Sheriff's Office
- Washington CountyHousing and SupportiveServices Network



Data Collection:

- Tonnage
- Number of bags
- Location
- Waste types

- Date reported
- Reporting method
- Date cleaned up
- Personal items
- Partner affiliation



Evaluation and Timeline:

- Success is informed by our partners and the people they serve
- Track stories of success and data that informs our suspicion that this proactive approach decreases livability concerns

PHASE 1:
PRELIMINARY PLANNING
September 2018

PHASE 2: PILOT LAUNCH October 2018 to April 2019 PHASE 3: EVALUATION & REPORTING May 2019





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Patt Opdycke, Neighbors Helping Neighbors



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Haven Wheelock, Safer Spaces

Considerations to reduce drug-related litter

Haven Wheelock
Association of Oregon Recyclers
Nov 13th 2018

Why people leave needles

- Fear of Arrest
- Shame and Stigma
- Genuine Accident



What are the risks?

- Fear of syringes in the community
- How to properly dispose of found syringes





Policies to encourage safer syringe disposal

- De-criminalizing syringes
- Increasing syringe exchange in areas with more syringes



Safer Consumption Spaces

 A place where people can bring their previously obtained drugs and use under the supervision of trained staff.







Questions?

Haven Wheelock

Outside In

havenw@outsidein.org



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Melissa Johnston, Sleep Safely Project



Blanket Drive & Outreach Program

Melissa Johnston, Volunteer

Program Beginning: 2014

Seeking Shelter





Blanket Drive & Outreach Campaign





Blanket Drive & Outreach Campaign

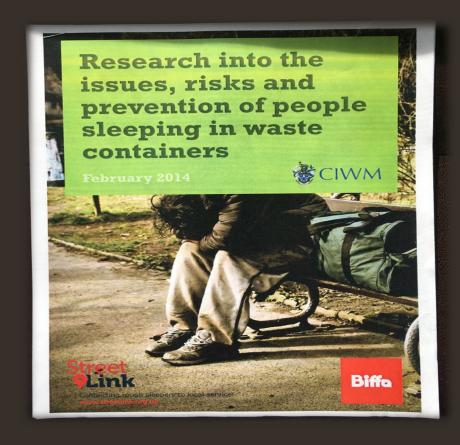


Blanket Drive & Outreach Campaign





More Research





Biffa, UK Study

SWANA Safety Monday Tip Sheet

Future Ideas

- Outreach Tags, plastic bag (plarn) mats
- Continue education
 - Drivers, solid waste outreach, social services, people sleeping on street
- Waste Generator education
 - Businesses/Apartments/Schools
- Cameras inside trucks
- Utility Companies
- Policy
 - safer dumpster design/locations

Dumpsters are Deathtraps

What will we do about it?



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