

# Eugene Friends Meeting Earthcare Support Group Newsletter

July 24, 2021

## Report on the Plastics Recycling Take-

**Back:** The good news is that Mary Ann and I did turn in **2-1/4 barrels of plastics to be recycled, and we did it with a bike trailer!** And we learned a lot about how to do it better next time.

However, I would not call this a complete success. We have another full barrel of plastics at the Meeting House that did not get recycled because:

-Even with explicit instructions, folks are not able to resist "wishful recycling". We were both given things that were not on the lists (like a whole bag of prescription pill bottles), and we both spent too much time cleaning and removing labels from other people's plastics.

-Even though we asked folks not to, we had anonymous donations of plastics at the Meeting House. We found bags left in a pile on the floor that we didn't have time to sort, and things put into the barrels that were not clean.

-Also, cleaning plastics properly takes an advanced degree. For example, the new Nancy's yogurt containers have a shrink-wrap label that is very hard to see or remove (but they will take them back directly at the factory).

### Plastics recycling questions:

1. Cims is willing to sort and clean the barrel full of rejects, but does anyone want to offer to help him?
2. Who wants to host the collecting next time, if we do this again? (Mary Ann and I are done for now).
3. Does anyone want to take the training that will enable us to deliver plastics directly to the site?

**A Discipline of Hope** is "a repeated decision to be present to the goodness of reality regardless of all the reasons for despair".

**Something that gives me hope:** *On July 13th it appeared that Senate Democrats had agreed on a \$3.5-trillion spending bill to supplement the bipartisan infrastructure pact, which will direct funds to fight climate change. If that holds it's good news (though we'll still be trailing the European Union, which on the same day announced the first steps toward an ambitious fifty-five-per-cent cut in carbon emissions by 2030).*

### Facing Adversity: Choosing Earth, Choosing Life

is a 70-minute documentary (recommended by Quaker Earthcare Witness) that explores the speed, depth and magnitude of our growing planetary crisis, and the opportunity we have to meet this crisis consciously. The film examines key challenges (climate change, inequities, species extinction, overconsumption, etc.) and also stories of transformation and inspiring resilience.

**Some members of the EFM Earthcare Support Group will meet on zoom to discuss the video on Thursday, July 29, at 7 p.m. If you would like to get the zoom link for the discussion, drop me an email.**

**Earthcare Support Meeting:** Monday, August 2, at 7 p.m. Please join us every other month on the first Monday, at 7 p.m., by zoom, to share our ideas for creative actions and celebrate our successes. If you want the link, let me know! Cynthia Black (541-344-3082, cynblack55@gmail.com). We might try to meet in-person once in a while, too, at a different time, if all of our out-of-town members can make it into town!

## Tell Biden: Stop Line 3 Pipeline



You are probably aware that there is a massive pipeline project underway in northern Minnesota that violates Indigenous rights. President Biden has the power to stop this project. He can review the permits granted by Trump and halt Line 3 construction immediately.

**From a [Sierra Club article](#), July 24:** *The Indigenous-led struggle against the Line 3 pipeline is at a critical point. ... Enbridge has been racing to get this dirty tar sands pipeline built. Our leaders must act now to prevent oil from ever flowing through it. We need to stop building new fossil fuel infrastructure of any kind if we hope to get off the path toward climate catastrophe, and Line 3 is an especially problematic project because ... Every day it would carry 760,000 barrels of some of the world's dirtiest oil through critical waterways, pristine wild rice lakes, and Anishinaabeg treaty territories.*

**Action:** Please sign [this petition](#) calling on Joe Biden to #StopLine3 immediately and invoke a climate test for all pipelines.

**My Earthcare Intentions this month** (from Carol Giantonio): *"One intention is to donate to a reputable non-profit that is helping people in Third World countries get access to clean water. Another intention is to get involved with beach cleanups on a regular basis. My big success last week was making my own yogurt in our old crock pot, thereby eliminating two large plastic containers, plus saving some money. What a great feeling!"*

**Beach & Riverside Cleanup, Saturday, September 25th, 2021!** These annual clean-up days are organized by [SOLVE](#), and they draw volunteers from all over the state. SOLVE's mission is to bring Oregonians together to improve our environment and build a legacy of stewardship. Beach cleanups are essential for reducing the harmful effects of plastic pollution and other marine debris. I remember taking my kids to clean the beach in Florence with Eugene Friends, when they were young, and having lunch at Charlie and Jeanne Kimball's home. Wouldn't it be great to go as a Quaker team and clean a beach together?

**Eugene Friends Meeting Earthcare Support Group Newsletter** is distributed monthly or bi-monthly, and will include:

1. Reports of positive earthcare related steps we have taken or intend to take. These can be small or large, anything at all related to caring for the earth.
2. Information on topics of interest, such as plastics recycling and oceans. Send me any links or information you have researched, with the sources listed.
3. Links and dates for upcoming earthcare action events.

**Next publication date: August 14, 2021.** Please send news and information that relates to earthcare to Cynthia Black, editor, [cynblack55@gmail.com](mailto:cynblack55@gmail.com).