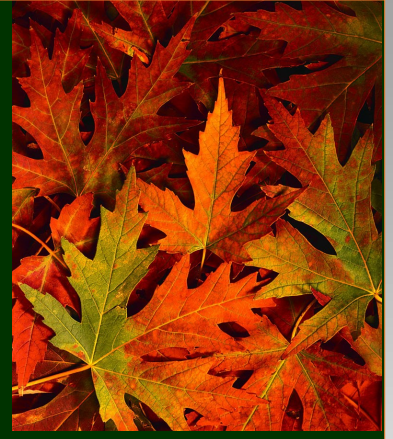


2014 Mid-Valley Green Awards Winner
Honoring Environmental Efforts
Small Sustainable Business of the Year:
Santiam Valley Ranch

March 1, 2014, Salem Convention Center



Learn More:

<http://www.midvalleygreenawards.org/>

<http://www.co.marion.or.us/PW/ES/wastereduction/earthwise/GreenAwards.htm>

<http://fselc.org/>



2014 winners

Large sustainable business of the year: Salem-Keizer Transit

Small sustainable business of the year: Santiam Valley Ranch

Individual recycler of the year: Deputy Ben McGowan of the Marion
County Jail

Business recycler of the year: Department of Corrections

Service of the year: Minto Island Growers

Green Apple Award: Laurie Aguirre

EarthWISE business of the year: Cascade Baking Company

Lifetime Achievement Award: Jon Yoder





From Statesman-Journal, March 1, 2014

"Check out this great article."

Mid-Valley Green Awards honor environmental efforts

Amid green balloons, silent auctions and the gently wafting music of a string quartet, community members gathered Saturday night at the Salem Convention Center for the fifth annual Mid-Valley Green...

View the complete article at <http://www.statesmanjournal.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/201403020312/GREEN/303020081>

	The Earth WISE Bulletin <small>The Sustainable Business Bulletin</small>	Marion County <hr/> Volume 4, Issue 2 Spring 2014
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Mid-Valley Green Award winners announced

By Beth Casper

March 1—The Friends of Straub Environmental Learning Center,

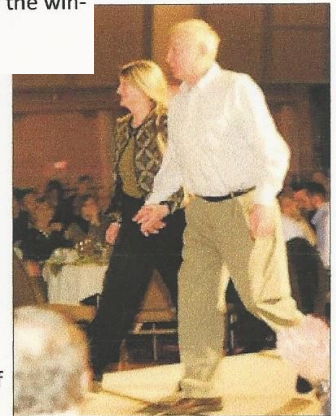
Marion County Public Works Environmental Services and Capitol Subaru presented the winners of the fifth annual Mid-Willamette Valley Green Awards.

The 2014 Green Award winners were chosen from a pool of businesses, individuals and organizations nominated for outstanding sustainability efforts. All of the nominees are making great strides in practices that ensure cleaner air, water, habitat and livability.

However, the winners represent all-around best efforts, and their work proves that the Mid-Willamette Valley is fertile ground for green efforts. The following is a list of the winners from each category:

Sustainable Small Business of the Year: Santiam Valley Ranch

Santiam Valley Ranch is a 150-acre farm with fish, wildlife and waterfowl, sheep for meat and wool, and leased land for sweet corn and beans. The owners recycle everything and shun garbage service in favor of three visits to the transfer station a year. The farm has a 20-kilowatt wind turbine and a 20.4 kilowatt solar system. Ninety-nine acres of the property are being converted into wetland prairie, eight acres have been converted into wetland woodlands, and 18 acres are in the process of being certified organic. In raising warm-water fish for pond stocking, the owners recycle 95 percent of the water, and future plans include geothermal resources for heating the water.



Kathy Bridges and Ken Dunder approach the stage to receive award for Santiam Valley Ranch



Santiam Valley Ranch installed a 20kW wind turbine and two photovoltaic systems totaling 20.4 kW, with total maximum capacity of 40.4 kW.

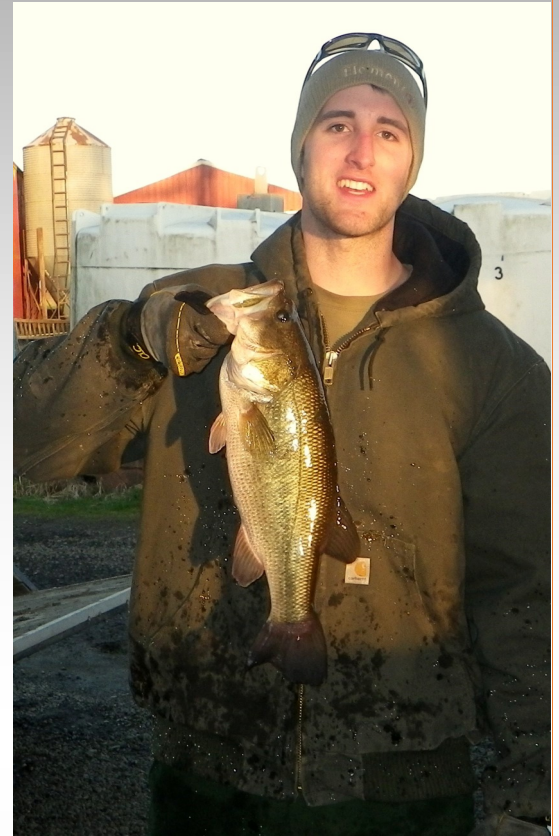


On the 150 acre farm, we maintain approximately 35 acres in ponds for production of fish. Within this area, we protect native wetland species, including *Wapato*, and provide habitat for Western pond turtle and nesting sites for a myriad of waterfowl species, including American bittern, Green heron and Virginia rail.



Working with adjoining landowners, 99 acres were converted by easement to USDA Natural Resource Conservation Services' wetland restoration program. A total of 400 acres will be converted to wetland prairie, dominated by Tufted hairgrass (of which only 1% remains in the Willamette Valley). Target species include Western meadowlark and threatened species, including the Streaked horn lark, which is nesting on site.





Ken developed the system to recycle water used for fish production and for holding tanks, using biofilters, ozone and ultraviolet systems.

Luke manages the fish business.

Wind turbine cast shadows on one of 19 ponds on the property.





House has solar system under contract with SolarCity (4.8 kW). Most of our own food is raised in the greenhouse and outdoor garden by Phil Wessel, who lives on the farm. Kathy and son, Andy, hold lambs with photovoltaic system on barn in the background.



Both Kathy and Ken are graduates of the 2013 Master Recycler Program, offered by Marion County Public Works-Environmental Services.