

# TRASH TALK

February 2025



*A little history on Earth Day...*

In the decades leading up to the first Earth Day, April 22, 1970, Americans were consuming vast amounts of leaded gas through inefficient automobiles, industry spewed smoke and sludge with little fear of consequences from either law or bad press, and air pollution was commonly accepted as the smell of prosperity.

Then appeared Senator Gaylord Nelson, a junior Democratic senator from Wisconsin, who had long been concerned about the deteriorating environment in the United States. In what has come to be a pivotal event in January 1969, he and many others witnessed the ravages of a massive oil spill in Santa Barbara, California and felt called to action. Senator Nelson announced the idea for a teach-in on college campuses to the national media, and persuaded Pete McCloskey, a conservation-minded Republican Congressman, to serve as his co-chair. **Together**, they brought this to the attention of their nation. Senator Nelson recruited Denis Hayes, a young activist, to organize the campus teach-ins and to scale the idea to a broader public, and they choose April 22, a weekday falling between Spring Break and Final Exams, to maximize the greatest student participation. Recognizing its potential to inspire all Americans, Hayes built a national staff of 85 to promote events across our great country and the effort soon broadened to include a wide range of organizations, faith groups, and others. They changed the name to Earth Day, which

**In 1970, the year of America's first Earth Day, the average American produced 3.25 lbs of waste per day, now it's 4.9 lbs.**  
*How can you reduce that number?*

immediately sparked national media attention, and caught on across the country. Earth Day inspired 20 million Americans — at the time, 10% of the total population of the United States — to take to the streets, parks and auditoriums to demonstrate against the impacts of 150 years of industrial development which had left a growing legacy of serious human health impacts. Clearly being an issue of national concern, Earth Day has continued and now in its 55th year continues to call upon individuals, businesses, governments, and the private sector to join hands in safeguarding our planet. Fifty-five years later there is much greater awareness regarding our human impact on the planet. We now have thousands of groups worldwide advocating on environmental issues - 1,900 organizations in the Climate Action network alone who are fighting climate change globally. Earth Day encompasses all environmental impacts as well as human health concerns, but the one we're well versed on is waste. The amount of waste Americans generate continues to increase with the main culprit being consumerism driving huge increases in single use plastics, technology, food and clothing waste. The average American throws away 4.9 pounds of waste EVERY DAY. Not too mention environmental impacts, but much of the waste we're creating has health impacts as well. While this topic is vast, audit what you are tossing and ask yourself how you can lower the average - what are everyday actions you can do? Remember the 3R's to guide you, **Reduce - Reuse - Recycle**

## In the Know

### Compost Giveaway

**April 19th, 9-11am at Thompson's Sanitary**



Thompson's Sanitary Service is giving away **FREE COMPOST**, Saturday April 19th, 9am-11am at our main office, 7450 NE Avery St, Newport, in celebration of Earth Day, while supplies last, **LIMIT ONE PICK-UP LOAD PER HOUSEHOLD.**

The compost is from Pacific Region Compost facility outside of Corvallis, where TSS hauls Newport's curbside Mixed Compostables material and is processed for 70 days into compost.

## Food Waste



**Use these tips to prevent food waste and compost what's left**

- Make a meal plan and only buy what you need
- Understand food dates: Know the difference between "use by" and "best by" dates
- Reuse leftovers in new recipes or freeze for a later date.
- Compost - either curbside or in garden
- Freeze fruits and vegetables to preserve them until you're ready to eat them.
- Cook the right amount: Serve the right portion size for the number of people you're feeding.
- Check your fridge regularly to use food before it goes bad.

### **Tips for your curbside compost cart:**

- Collect Food Waste in a container with a tight-fitting lid in a convenient place in your kitchen.
- 'Layer' yard debris under and on top of food waste to keep cart cleaner and less odors.
- Use baking soda or lime to help absorb liquids and minimize odor.



# Expanded Services for Junk Removal



Thompson's Sanitary is expanding services to make junk removal easier in two new ways!

- 1) Rent our 5' x 10' 9,999 pound tandem axle dump trailer (the trailer itself weighs 3,040 pounds) at \$109/day for self-haul. When you dump at Thompson's Transfer Station in Agate Beach, you'll receive a discount (\$40) for your first minimum dump fee. Call our office at 541-265-7249 or email [info@thompsonsanitary.com](mailto:info@thompsonsanitary.com) to schedule your trailer rental.
- 2) Schedule a junk removal on our free mobile app (also on the front page of our website) with new lower pricing listed up front for curbside junk items.

**Schedule a Bulky Item Collection**

Calendar Wizard Bulky Pickup Pay Bill Need help?

Your Address

Schedule a Bulky Item Collection

What would you like collected?

No more than 10 items per booking. All prices for items are for curbside pickup. If you have junk removal that requires additional assistance, please check other item and send with photo and description.

- Air Conditioner (\$20.00 per item)
- BBQ (\$20.00 per item)
- Boxspring Queen/King (\$25.00 per item)
- Boxspring Single/Full (\$25.00 per item)
- Chair Stuffed (\$25.00 per item)
- Couch (\$25.00 per item)
- Dishwasher (\$20.00 per item)
- Dryer (\$20.00 per item)
- Freezer (\$36.50 per item)
- Hide-a-bed (\$35.00 per item)
- Mattress Queen/King (\$35.00 per item)
- Mattress Single/Full (\$25.00 per item)
- Recliner (\$25.00 per item)
- Refrigerator (\$36.50 per item)
- Scrap Metal (\$20.00 per item)
- Stove/Oven (\$20.00 per item)
- Table Large (\$25.00 per item)
- Table Small/Medium (\$25.00 per item)
- Toilet (\$25.00 per item)
- Washer (\$20.00 per item)
- Water Heater (\$20.00 per item)
- Wood Debris small pile (\$25.00 per item)
- Other Items

**1. Scan this QR code with your mobile camera**

**2. Click on the link that takes you to the app store**

**3. Download TSS**

**4. Enter your service address**

**5. Schedule junk removal**

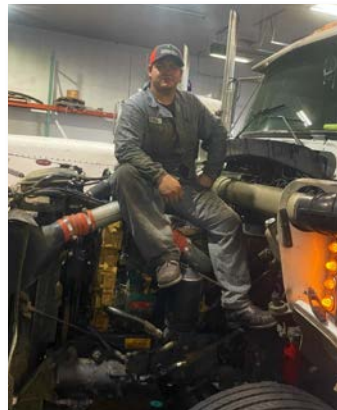


# EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT: Rey Castaneda

Rey Castaneda started at Thompson's Sanitary in August of 2023 as an assistant mechanic with a love of problem solving and teaching himself new techniques any way he could get them - online tutorials, manuals, books, etc. He has now moved into our lead diesel mechanic role and is working alongside and tutoring assistant mechanics in the shop at TSS. Rey's passion started with the inner-workings of engines and has led him to become adept at hydraulics and electrical as well, all of which are critical to the operation of waste trucks and their mechanical arms that pick up, on average, 300 carts a day.



Rey with co-worker Zac Fierro at our Holiday Party "Ugly Christmas Sweater" contest!



Rey in his "happy place" working on an engine. This summer Rey volunteered at the OSU Hatfield Repair Fair on July 20 helping to repair items the community brought to be fixed. His interest is piqued in fixing "anything" and enjoyed the challenges folks brought to him. Besides fixing things in his spare time, you'll also find him fishing our local waters.

Rey has had varied work experiences of which he's built upon into his current role. Learning new skills at each of his positions - a contractor, long haul driver who drove from the Pacific to the Atlantic Ocean and back on his routes, and a car mechanic leading to his current role in diesel mechanics. Rey has embraced our core values at Thompson's and enjoys his work environment. He says "the overall culture, management team, and co-workers are what he enjoys about work every day," and adds "he likes that the owners are a real part of the community." Rey has brought so much to our Thompson's team and we value his integrity and desire to fix for the long term with a "fix it right" attitude.



Rey volunteering at the OSU Hatfield Repair Fair last July