

## LRAPA CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

(CAC) Meeting Notes  
March 30, 2021



**LRAPA**  
Lane Regional Air Protection Agency

### VIA - ZOOM

**Attending:** Jim Daniels (Chair), Kathleen Lamberg (Vice-Chair), Kelly Wood, Paul Metzler, Evelina Davidova-Kamis, Terry Richardson, Link Smith, Jeff Carman, Jack Carter

**Absent:** Gery Vander Meer, Shane Ruddell

**Staff:** Merlyn Hough, Travis Knudsen, Debby Wineinger, Robbye Robinson

Call to Order: 12:05 PM

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### Public Participation – None

#### Board Meeting Overview:

- Steve Dietrich – new LRAPA Director, first official day is April 5, 2021.
- Requested CAC applicant Eric Burnett attends the April Board Meeting for introductions.

#### Election of Chair and Vice Chair:

The committee elected Jim Daniels and Kathy Lamberg continue as Chair and Vice Chair.

#### Discussion about committee membership roll – individual term ends that are coming up, inactive member:

Kathy said she would try to get in touch with Gery Vander Meer, his term has expired and LRAPA has not received a renewal application. Kelly Wood's term expires 8/9/21, Kathy Lamberg's term expires 10/27/21. They will have to reapply before the term end dates. Link Smith's expires 4/14/21, he did not think he was going to reapply, due to his retirement in the near future. But he knows people who might want to apply for the fire suppression position. Paul Metzler asked if it was a requirement for someone to be currently employed in the field to be considered. Jim said ideally, but as long as they have the experience and background.

Steve Pelkey has resigned from the committee due to work obligations.

#### Flyer for Outdoor Burning Alternatives - Board Feedback:

The contact information that the board requested for the listed businesses has been added. The revised version will be presented to them at their next meeting.

#### Oakridge-Westfir Redesignation Request and Maintenance Plan, review by Merlyn Hough:

Merlyn reviewed the presentation with the committee.

#### ROUNDTABLE:

##### Everyone wished Merlyn a happy retirement.

**Jeff** – Wanted to mention that Lane County Public Health has been working (consulting) with the public regarding the health issues surrounding J.H. Baxter.

**Kelly** – Update on demolishing the wildish plant building over off of Franklin Boulevard in Glenwood. Its going to be getting really busy at that location over the next few weeks. If there are any concerns or questions about the operation you can contact her.

Adjourned 1:04 PM

Next Meeting April 27, 2021 – VIA ZOOM details will be listed on the agenda.

# Citizen Advisory Committee Application

**Name:** **Robert Eric Burdette**

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Why do you want to become a member of the committee?

I have been interested in air quality issues for several years. This interest of mine began when my family and I were living in a developing country and the U.S. Consulate turned on its public AQI monitor. Living in this developing megacity, I used AQI to inform daily activities (Should I exercise? Should we spend time inside or outside?). Ultimately, concerns over environmental issues led to my family immigrating to the U.S. and settling in Eugene.

In Eugene, I enrolled in the Master of Public Administration (MPA) program at the University of Oregon. My continuing interest in air quality issues led me to intern with LRAPA for approximately five months, and this internship developed into a capstone project for my MPA program.

More recently, in September 2020, the wildfire smoke in Lane County revealed some shortcomings in local jurisdictions' contingency plans for how to respond to air quality events. I would like to be in a position to offer my experience and expertise in air quality issues to assist the committee in making informed decisions and advice to LRAPA to protect the health of Lane County residents in the future.

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Please give a brief description of any experience or training that qualifies you for this position.

-Helped develop a Twitter bot to automatically broadcast AQI numbers and summaries for Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, based on numbers broadcast from the U.S. Consulate there.

-Interned with LRAPA from June to November 2019 and installed Purple Air sensors at a number of locations throughout Lane County. Used preliminary data from these sensors to draft a short report for LRAPA showing the differences between indoor and outdoor air quality at a number of different locations.

-Assisted in coordinating an MPA capstone project at UO to recommend policies on cleaner air shelters for Lane County. Was a group member and was instrumental in coordinating with stakeholders, research, editing, and more.

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Please list the community concerns or topics you would like to see addressed by this committee.

I would love this committee to address the need for increased air quality monitoring in Lane County. Furthermore, I would love the committee to advise and assist with coordinating to develop cleaner air shelters in Lane County.

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Briefly describe your present or past involvement in relevant community groups. Please note that having no previous involvement will not disqualify you for appointment.

I am a former board member for Better Eugene-Springfield Transportation (BEST).

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Are you currently serving on any advisory boards or committees? If so, which ones?

Yes, I am currently an advisor for Better Eugene-Springfield Transportation (BEST).

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This committee meets over the noon hour once a month. Are you available during this time?

I believe I can make time for this meeting once a month.

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*This publication provides information on non-burning disposal alternatives for natural vegetation in Lane County.*

## Alternatives to Burning Yard and Garden Debris

### Why should residents consider using alternatives to burning?

Burning natural vegetation emits harmful smoke particles and chemicals that can damage the lungs. As rural areas become more populated, more people are impacted by smoke from burning. Alternatives to burning yard debris are more available and accepted.



Yard and garden debris may be recycled, repurposed, or composted in all areas of Lane County year-round with no permit or paperwork needed. However, due to the hazardous smoke and potential for igniting structure fires and wildfires, open burning is prohibited in most cities in Lane County. In areas where open burning is allowed, Lane County limits open burning to certain months of the year. For fire guidelines within Lane County contact Lane Regional Air Protection Agency at 541-736-1056 or through the LRAPA website. <https://www.lrapa.org/177/Outdoor-Burning-Program>.



### What is yard and garden debris?

Yard and garden debris consist of garden trimmings, fallen trees and tree debris (including trunks, twigs, limbs, and branches), grass clippings, leaves, needles, and other similar debris that originate from the property. Not all yard debris can be burned, but all can be recycled.

### How can yard and garden material be managed?

For owners of partially or fully developed land, there are several alternatives to open burning available.

#### Grasscycling

For lawns and fields, the option to leave the lawn clippings in place (as opposed to collecting the clippings) has several benefits. First, the clippings act as a natural fertilizer. By leaving the clippings the

nutrients contained in the clippings (the nutrients required to grow grass) are retained in the area of the lawn and not removed. This may be accomplished simply by removing the bag/catcher, or other lawn clipping collection container, and letting the clippings fall where they are cut. Alternatively, you can also use a mulching mower designed to produce finer, less noticeable clippings that are meant to be left on the lawn or field.

#### Chipping and mulching

Individuals can use a chipper or mulcher to dispose of unwanted woody plants, bushes, and small trees. Wood chips and mulch may be spread around areas under trees, covering walk-ways, or around garden beds to prevent weeds, reduce mud, and help the ground retain moisture.



#### Composting

Yard debris, garden waste, and kitchen waste may be composted. Composting is a scalable option that can be done on the level of a single-family home or a multi-acre property. Composting transforms what would otherwise be waste materials into a rich soil amendment that can be used for any number of applications from home lawns and gardens to multi-acre farms and orchards.



#### Repurposing and Reusing

Fallen trees and large pieces of scrap wood may be useful. With some creativity, these waste materials may be used to create borders for walkways, driveways, or other areas of properties. Trees may be used to create tiered or raised garden beds, fences, benches, or other useful objects from fallen or recently cut trees. Reaching out to the community directly or through social media and internet-based classifieds may help connect property owners with people looking for wood waste for other projects.

## Where Can I Compost or Recycle Yard Debris in Lane County?

Below are some of the resources available! List is not all inclusive.



**Action Drop Box (Lane Forest Products)**  
541-345-9085  
<https://laneforest.com/secure-storage/>



**Apex**  
541-607-2042  
<https://heyapex.com/residential/>



**Coburg Sanitary Service Inc. (Beginning May 2021)**  
541-683-5929  
<https://www.coburgsanitary.com/>



**Cottage Grove Annual Tree Branch Pickup**  
541-942-3349  
<https://tinyurl.com/56fpraz5>



**City of Florence**  
541-997-3437  
**Monthly yard debris drop off: Check website for drop off schedule**  
<https://www.ci.florence.or.us/publicworks/2021-yard-debris-disposal-days>



**City of Junction City**  
541-998-3125  
<https://tinyurl.com/hbjvd34h>



**Lane County Waste Management**  
(Transfer Stations in Cottage Grove, Glenwood, and Florence)  
541-682-4119  
<https://www.lanecounty.org/waste>



**City of Oakridge**  
541-782-2258  
<https://www.ci.oakridge.or.us/community/page/yard-waste-disposal>



**Republic Services**  
(Delivers large containers in Junction City)  
541- 928-255  
<https://www.republicservices.com/>



**Rexus Recycling**  
541-342-1835  
<https://rexius.com/pages/retail-sales-yard-and-yard-debris-recycling-center>



**Royal Refuse**  
541-688-5622  
<https://royalrefuse.com/trash-service/>



**Sanipac, Inc.**  
541-736-3600  
<https://www.sanipac.com/home/>