



ECOSS wire

January 2010



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Looking forward...

...But not until we take the proper amount of time to look back on everything we accomplished in 2009. The Vietnamese Healthy Nail Salons program enjoyed great success, educating workers in over 100 nail salons about reducing chemical exposure in the workplace and fostering a sustainable work environment. Our Stormwater program delivered 346 spill response kits to businesses in Seattle and King County, helping to reduce further contamination of Puget Sound. Our Green Business Team worked with over 50 immigrant-owned businesses to implement water-saving practices, saving them a total of 966,193 gallons of water - which translates to a savings of over \$16,000 in utilities.

So what's next? ECOSS plans to unveil some new programs this year, host more community events, and continue to be part of the ever-growing voice for a healthy environment in our community.

Where we'll be in the community

ECOSS has signed on as a partner and co-sponsor of two conferences in the early spring: 2010 Managing Stormwater in Washington Conference on March 4th and the Go Green Conference on April 21st.

The one-day "2010 Managing Stormwater in Washington Conference" will discuss the ever-changing compliance landscape and how companies can implement cost-effective prevention and control practices that save money in the long run and better protect the environment.

"GoGreen '10" is a one-day sustainability conference to educate and inspire business owners to become more sustainable. Providing solutions-focused content and panel discussions led by experts in their field, participants representing businesses of all sizes will find ways to weave sustainability practices into their business.

And don't forget: January 26th is Environmental Lobby Day! Join the Environmental Priorities Coalition, a network of 25 environmental groups in the state, as they discuss important environmental issues with their congressional leaders in Olympia. Their priorities this year include the Safe Baby Bottle Act, Working for Clean Water, and Sustain Environmental Protections in the Budget.

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In gratitude

From foundations to sponsors to volunteers to members, you showed your support for ECOSS in big ways last year. Thank you to all of our [2009 supporters](#)

More information, including how to register for Lobby Day (you have to register by Friday!), is available on our [events page](#).

New project at ECOSS: Carbon reduction for small businesses

Funding from the Boeing Company will support a new outreach project to help small, local businesses assess and reduce their carbon footprint. The project will incorporate ECOSS' usual suite of services, including solid and hazardous waste management, resource conservation and stormwater pollution prevention. But the project will also identify opportunities for businesses to reduce carbon and save money.

ECOSS will partner with the City of Seattle's Office of Sustainability and the Cascade Bicycle Club. The City will provide access to its carbon footprinting tool, which evaluates and estimates a business' carbon impact by measuring areas such as energy use, materials, operations and shipping. The Cascade Bicycle Club will provide training and information to help address one of the greatest contributors to small businesses' carbon footprint: employee commuting. Through a series of workshops designed specifically for small businesses, experts from Cascade will discuss how to incorporate employee bike commuting. Doing so will lead to a healthier workforce, a reduced carbon footprint and potential financial savings for the business and its staff.

ECOSS is excited to partner with the City of Seattle and Cascade Bicycle Club on this project. Together, we look forward to helping our clients navigate the challenges of measuring and mitigating their carbon impact. If you have questions about the project or would like to be contacted about an on-site assessment or one of the bike commute workshops, please email Aldan Shank at aldan@ecoss.org, or call the ECOSS office at (206) 767-0432.

ECOSS Partner Highlight - Second Use Building Materials

Did you go to our Annual Benefit and see our spectacular decorations? Yup, those were generously donated to us for use that evening from these guys. Additionally, they have always supported ECOSS through membership contributions and auction donations. This year we are so happy to have them partner with us for our upcoming membership drive! Second Use has been reclaiming building materials for reuse in the Puget Sound region since 1994, diverting them from the landfill and providing the community with affordable, charming assets for their homes. Read their story, browse their inventory, and then [go check 'em out](#).

Join us as we work together to build a cleaner, safer, and healthier Puget Sound.

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