

KING COUNTY EARTH DAY EXPO



Learn more about what you can do
to combat global warming

Friday, April 20, 10 a.m.- 2 p.m.

A veggie-powered bus, wriggling worms and a giant salmon named Bert are just some of the attractions at the 4th annual King County Earth Day Expo at Westlake Plaza, Fourth and Pine.

Highlights include:

-  A children's activity corner where preschool-aged children can create crafts designed to promote environmental awareness and learn how worms turn paper and food waste into a landscaping resource.
-  Bert the Salmon, the Puget Sound's environmental mascot.
-  More than 20 booths representing eco-friendly businesses, community organizations and government groups providing examples of green products and services.
-  Greg Rabourn and Doug Rice, the stars of the popular King County TV show, "Yard Talk", will answer gardening and yard care questions. Some questions and answers could be used during an upcoming TV show.
-  Tour a veggie-powered bus! Visitors can tour one of the first Metro Transit buses in King County to run on a mixture of biodiesel fuel and Ultra Low Sulfur Diesel fuel, making it one of the cleanest running buses in the nation.



Visit www.metrokc.gov and search "spring into action" for more information.

Alternative formats and reasonable accommodations are available upon request by contacting Glynnis Vaughan at 206-296-1980 or TTY Relay: 711. TTY users may contact all voice numbers by using TTY Relay: 711.

Spring Into Action!



April through
June 2007



Make every day Earth Day!

From April through June, King County will host several springtime environmental celebrations throughout the region beginning with its annual Earth  Day Expo on April 20.

Keep things clean for salmon



King County provides free cleanup of litter and illegal dumpsites located on public land and waterways throughout the county. Please tell us if you know of any locations that need to be cleaned up. We can help. Call King County Solid Waste at 206-296-7483.

Where does it go when you brush and flush?






Find out how brushing your teeth and washing your hands can help protect our local waters on a wastewater treatment plant tour at King County's plants: South Treatment Plant, in Renton, and the West Point Treatment Plant, next to Seattle's Discovery Park. All children under nine years old must be accompanied by a parent. Tours are free of charge and are available Monday through Saturday. Call 206-296-8286 to schedule a tour.

Just in time for spring cleaning!

Just in time for spring cleaning! The Healthy Home Companion has easy ways to protect your family from hazardous household chemicals. To order, call the local Hazardous Waste Management Program at 206-263-3050.



Five things you can do to combat global warming:

-  **Change a light.** Replacing one regular light bulb with a compact fluorescent light will save 150 pounds of carbon dioxide per year.
-  **Drive less.** Walk, bike, carpool or take metro transit more often. You'll save one pound of carbon dioxide for every mile you don't drive!
-  **Recycle more.** You can save 2,400 pounds of carbon dioxide per year by recycling just half of your waste.
-  **Check your tires.** Keeping your tires inflated properly can improve gas mileage by more than 3%. Every gallon of gasoline saved keeps 20 pounds of carbon dioxide out of the atmosphere!
-  **Plant a tree.** A single tree will absorb one ton of carbon dioxide over its lifetime.

Learn more at Climate.Crisis.net

Family fun at the farm!

Support local King County family farms and take the kids out berry picking! King County has more than 1,000 farms, many specializing in varieties of vegetables and fruits, herbs and flowers.

For more information about U-pick activities and to learn how your family can support King County produce and farmers, visit the Puget Sound Fresh Web site at www.pugetsoundfresh.org.

The Puget Sound Fresh program was created by the King County Agriculture Commission to encourage consumers, wholesalers, retailers and restaurants to seek out and purchase locally-grown products.

This really is "for the birds!"



Come to Marymoor Park to work on the educational and beneficial Audubon Bird Loop Trail. Work hard, enjoy the beauty of nature and help provide good habitat for the variety of birds that depend on this area.

Join the East Lake Washington Audubon Society (ELWAS) the **first Saturday of every month** from **9 a.m. – noon**. To register, or for more information, please e-mail King County Parks Volunteer Program Coordinator at laurie.clinton@metrokc.gov or call at 206-296-4452.

Hit the trail!

Put the spring back in your step by taking the whole family on an outdoor adventure along the beautiful Snoqualmie Valley Trail. Map out your walking or biking adventure to include the following spots that feature interpretive signage about the watershed and salmon-inspired art: McCormick Park in Duvall; the Tolt River and Griffin Creek bridges in Carnation; and Meadowbrook Slough in Snoqualmie (near the Mt. Si Golf Course).

For more information, go to <http://dnr.metrokc.gov/snoqualmie/> or call 206-296-1959.



Green choices, healthy communities: choose EnviroStars-certified businesses!

Over 600 businesses, such as car repair shops, dentists, dry cleaners, and landscapers, display the blue earth EnviroStar decal in their window to show that they have been certified by a local government program for environmentally responsible practices and reducing hazardous wastes. When you support these businesses, you reinforce their efforts to protect our natural resources and encourage other businesses to do the same. For a complete listing of EnviroStars-certified businesses, see www.envirostars.org or call for a Green Business Directory at 1-877-220-STAR (7827).

Pesticide free yard care: Good for salmon and kids!

Northwest Natural Yard Days: April 15-May 15, 2007



During Northwest Natural Yard Days, a partnership of local retailers and nurseries, King County, City of Seattle and Washington State Department of Ecology, you can receive discounts on natural yard care products. These products will be discounted as much as 25 percent. Featured products include electric mulching mowers, push reel mowers, weed pullers, bagged compost, organic fertilizer, soaker hoses, water wands, less toxic slug bait, snail bait and moss control, bagged bark mulch and insecticidal soap.

Northwest Natural Yard Days encourages homeowners in King County to practice five steps to natural yard care.

1. Build healthy soil
2. Plant right for your site
3. Practice smart watering
4. Think twice before using pesticides
5. Practice natural lawn care

For more information, please call the Natural Lawn and Garden Hotline at 206-633-0224 or visit www.metrokc.gov/dnrp/swd/.

COME HELP

Volunteer to work in King County parks, natural lands, and nurseries and help build backcountry trails. Help restore stream and wetland buffer habitats for fish and wildlife and improve water quality: Saturdays, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., or do trail work from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. If you have a group that wants to work during the week or on a weekend, call us to arrange an event. To sign-up and get directions, or for more information, call Tina Miller at 206-296-2990 or e-mail at tina.miller@metrokc.gov.

MARCH

24 Help maintain restoration projects at Red Town Meadow Restoration on Cougar Mt., Newcastle

APRIL

3-7 Trail Work - Grand Ridge Park

10-14 Trail Work - Green River Natural Area - O'Grady

14 Pot up trees at the King County Greenhouse and Nursery, Maple Valley

21 Help maintain restoration projects at Tolt-MacDonald Park along the Green River

28 Help maintain restoration projects at Red Town Meadow Restoration on Cougar Mt., Newcastle



HAVE FUN

King County Parks "Your Big Backyard" is pulling out all the stops to bring you must-see entertainment events and activities.

Here are a few King County Parks events occurring April through July. For more information call 206-296-8687.

APRIL

25 Dedication of the Reflexology Paths at King County's Marymoor Park. www.metrokc.gov/parks/reflexology/

JUNE

1 Group Health Friday Night Racing Series begins at the Group Health Velodrome in Marymoor Park. www.metrokc.gov/parks/marymoor/velodrome.html

MAY

5 Help maintain restoration projects at Green River Natural Area - at Metzler Park in Auburn

12 Pot up trees at the King County Greenhouse and Nursery, Maple Valley

26 Help maintain restoration projects at Red /Town Meadow Restoration on Cougar Mt., Newcastle

JUNE

2 Help maintain restoration projects at Green River Natural Area - at Auburn Narrows

9 Pot up trees at the King County Greenhouse and Nursery, Maple Valley

16 Help maintain restoration projects at Log Cabin Natural Area along Issaquah Creek, Issaquah

23 Help maintain restoration projects at Red Town Meadow Restoration on Cougar Mt., Newcastle

JUNE

8-15 Starbucks Ultimate Park Makeover of King County's White Center Heights Park- help us build a park in 7 days! www.metrokc.gov/parks/wch/

JULY

18-22 King County Fair www.metrokc.gov/parks/fair/

cut out calendar and post!

