

# WaterTalk

Alaska

Idaho

Oregon

Washington

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 10 Bulletin - EPA 910/9-92-043

February 2007

This issue of WaterTalk continues our look at the health of Puget Sound and the work underway to care for this estuary at risk.

## Ecosystem Report Shows Puget Sound In Decline



Conditions in Puget Sound:

- Seven million people and growing
- Thousands of tons of toxics
- Hundreds of species and habitats
- One ecosystem

A new report makes it clear that environmental conditions are not improving in Puget Sound. The **Puget Sound Georgia Basin Ecosystems Indicators Report** now gives a glimpse into the health of this

ecosystem. "Indicators" allow us to turn complex data into simple measures that can be tracked over time. Out of nine indicators, four show insufficient progress, and five show conditions are getting worse. A snapshot of the indicators appears below.

*Continued on Page 11*

### Puget Sound Georgia Basin Indicators

- Population Health
- ▣ Urbanization and Forest Change
- Solid Waste and Recycling
- ▣ River, Stream and Lake Quality
- Shellfish
- Air Quality
- ▣ Marine Species at Risk
- ▣ Toxics in Harbor Seals
- ▣ Marine Water Quality

#### Indicator Rating System

- ▣ Conditions Improving
- Insufficient Progress
- ▣ Conditions Worsening

### In This Issue...



*EPA News* to update you on agency activities, pages 1 and 2.



*Tools* to clue you in on resources, publications, opportunities, and services, pages 3-7.



*Spotlight* to showcase success stories and environmental stars, page 8.



*Ecosystem* to provide news that goes beyond water topics, pages 9-10.



*Calendar* to highlight environmental events, page 11.

## *April 22 is Earth Day*

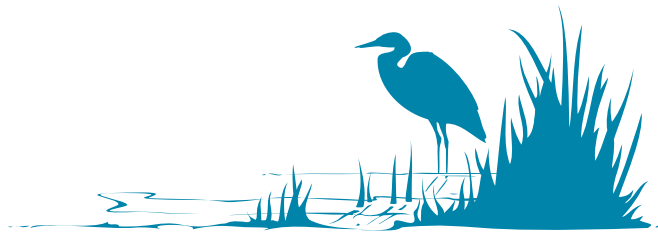
Holidays come in many varieties. Some focus on people, some on significant events, but all are there to remind us of something important. **Earth Day** is no different. It is a day to remind ourselves of our connection to the world around us. It is a day to reflect on the many ways we affect the natural environment.

What will you do this year to celebrate Earth Day? Many people participate in community events like Olympia, Washington's Procession of the Species, an artistic pageant which inspires appreciation for the natural world. Others host a dinner with friends and eco-friendly foods, or simply take the time to learn something new about the environment.

We all do little things every day to lessen our impact on the earth, from recycling to riding the bus. This Earth Day, do something extraordinary and you may discover a new way to change the world for the better. You can learn more about Earth Day online at [www.epa.gov/earthday](http://www.epa.gov/earthday).



## *American Wetlands Month: A Celebration in May*



May is the month we recognize and celebrate the many ways wetlands enrich the environment and the lives of people. The Environmental Protection Agency is proud to partner with other federal, state and local agencies and private organizations celebrating **American Wetlands Month** each May. Events are scheduled across the country to educate and engage Americans who want to better understand the value of one of Earth's most important ecosystems.

Wetlands Month was inaugurated in 1991 by EPA and its partners as a way to educate Americans about the value of wetlands as a natural resource. Wetlands are the link between land and water. They are the places where the flow of water, the cycling of nutrients, and the energy of the sun meet to produce highly productive ecosystems. Wetlands may not be wet year-round. In fact, some of the most important wetlands are seasonally dry transition zones.

Wetlands provide rich habitat for wildlife. They are places in which many animals build nests and raise their young. Migrating birds stop over in wetlands to rest

and to breed among the abundant plant life that flourishes there.

Wetlands benefit our communities as well. They are valuable because they clean and replenish water supplies and reduce flood risks. In addition, wetlands provide recreational opportunities and aesthetic benefits. They serve as sites for research and education and benefit commercial fishing. To learn about wetlands and ways to celebrate them, visit [www.epa.gov/owow/wetlands/awm/](http://www.epa.gov/owow/wetlands/awm/).

### *EPA Purchases 100 Percent Green Power*



Last year, EPA became the first federal agency to purchase renewable energy, or "**green power**," equivalent to 100 percent of its annual electricity needs. EPA's green power purchases now equal the total annual electricity use at all of its facilities—more than 190 nationwide. EPA's total green power purchases will offset more than 600 million pounds of carbon dioxide annually—equivalent to the amount emitted by nearly 54,000 cars over the course of a year. For more information about EPA's green power purchases, visit [www.epa.gov/greeningepa/greenpower.htm](http://www.epa.gov/greeningepa/greenpower.htm).



## New Book Showcases Environmental Ed Grant Successes

Potential grantees and others may wish to check out the new EPA publication, **Great Grants: Environmental Education Success Stories of EPA Region 10, Book III**. This book showcases regional projects funded under the National Environmental Education Act from 1999 through 2004.

You can download a pdf of the book at <http://yosemite.epa.gov/r10/homepage.nsf/Citizens/Education> – select Success Stories under Funding. Or you can request a free copy from **Region 10's Public Environmental Resource Center** at 206-553-1200 or 1-800-424-4372 or at [epa-seattle@epa.gov](mailto:epa-seattle@epa.gov).

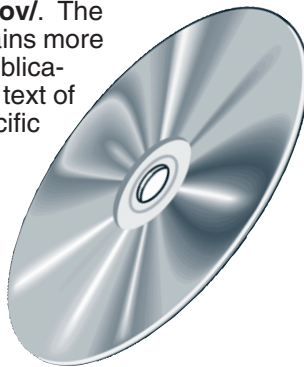
**Great Grants** is a useful resource to assist potential grantees in project design, reduce duplication of efforts, to understand the breadth and depth of EPA's regional environmental education grant program, and for ideas and inspiration. Each grant has a description of its purpose and goals, the education methods used, its results and products, the challenges that the organizers faced, and successes and strengths in educational and environmental terms. You can use the indexes to find specific topics, audiences, and project focus.



For more information, contact **Sally Hanft** at [hanft.sally@epa.gov](mailto:hanft.sally@epa.gov), 206-553-1207, or toll-free at 800-424-4372. Visit EPA's Environmental Education Grant website at [www.epa.gov/enviroed/grants.html](http://www.epa.gov/enviroed/grants.html).

## Environmental Publications Online

EPA's **National Service Center for Environmental Publications** offers digital services through its website at <http://nepis.epa.gov/>. The center's online archive maintains more than 13,000 environmental publications. You can search the full text of documents online, locate specific and related publications, and create PDFs of scanned documents for downloading and printing. You can also order publications in hard copy, CD-ROM, DVD, and video at [www.epa.gov/ncepihom/index.htm](http://www.epa.gov/ncepihom/index.htm) or by calling 800-490-9198.



## Watershed Webcasts: Free Online

The Watershed Academy



EPA's **Watershed Academy** sponsors free monthly Webcasts for watershed practitioners around the globe. During the Webcasts, trainees simultaneously log on to the web and/or participate by phone conference lines in live training conducted by expert instructors. EPA plans to conduct monthly Webcast seminars. Please note that there are a limited number of toll-free phone lines available. Register early to guarantee your spot! For those that are not able to register for a Webcast, a streaming audio version of the training will be made available after the live seminar for the public to listen to and view. Check the current line-up of topics, or find audio versions of past Webcasts, at: [www.epa.gov/watershedwebcasts](http://www.epa.gov/watershedwebcasts).

## WaterTalk Skipped an Issue:

Did it seem like this edition of **WaterTalk** was a long time coming? That's because we skipped an issue. We will now resume our regular quarterly publication schedule. Watch for **WaterTalk** each February, May, August, and November. Questions? Call Editor **Andrea Lindsay** at 206-553-1896 or toll free 800-424-4372.

## Article Covers Wetlands, Watersheds



The Center for Watershed Protection has released the second article in the Wetlands and Watersheds Article Series: **Using Local Watershed Plans to Protect Wetlands**. This series is made possible through a cooperative agreement with EPA. The articles are aimed at local natural resource managers and land planners. The articles provide guidance to local com-

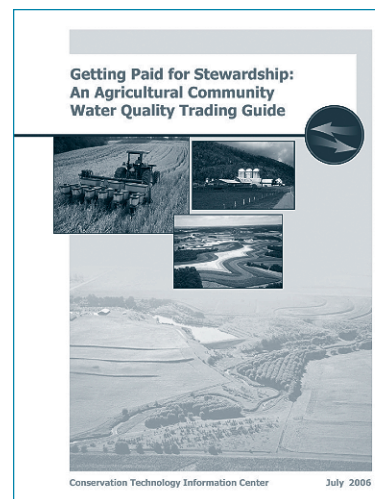
munities on how to integrate wetlands into larger watershed protection efforts. Article 2 presents detailed methods for integrating wetland management into the local watershed planning process. This article and others in the series can be downloaded at [www.cwp.org/wetlands/index.htm](http://www.cwp.org/wetlands/index.htm).

### EPA Center Offers Environmental Resources



Looking for environmental resources? Check out EPA's **Public Environmental Resource Center**. The resource center offers free publications, videos/DVDs for loan, grant information, and referrals for technical assistance. The center also serves as a clearinghouse for environmental education information. Citizens in the Region 10 states of Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, and Washington are invited to utilize this service. Access resources or learn more at **206-553-1200** or **800-424-4372**.

### New Guide Shows Incentives for Agriculture Water Quality Trading



By selling the amounts of nutrients or sediment reduced by conservation practices, agricultural producers are finding opportunities to get paid for stewardship activities. A new manual, **Getting Paid for Stewardship: An Agricultural Community Water Quality Trading Guide**, helps interested partners get started. The guide has information for

producers who want to develop a trading program in their watershed, provides a basic understanding of trading, and includes contact information.

Produced under an EPA agreement with the Conservation Technology Information Center, the guide is intended for agriculture advisers and/or technical service providers. The document can be found on the web at [www.epa.gov/OWOW/watershed/trading.htm](http://www.epa.gov/OWOW/watershed/trading.htm).

## Test Your Water Efficiency Sense

Which activity uses less water: a five-minute shower or a full bath? How can you test whether your toilet has a leak? How much of the earth's water is available for human use? The answers may surprise you as you take EPA's interactive quiz, **Test Your WaterSense**. The quiz was created by EPA's WaterSense program and provides an entertaining way for both adults and children to learn more about why it is important to save water and how to be more water efficient in your home.

To take the quiz, players must get the water-efficiency hero Hydro through a maze while avoiding water-wasting monsters such as Sogosaurus and Drainiac. As Hydro, players must answer questions along the way that test their knowledge of water-using behaviors and water-saving opportunities. Questions deal with water use in the kitchen, bathroom, laundry room, and yard.

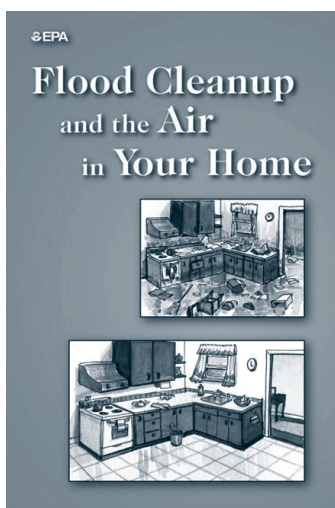
WaterSense is a voluntary public-private partnership program sponsored by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Its mission is to protect the future of our nation's water supply by enhancing the market for water-efficient products and services. Saving water is easy—many products are already available for use, and it doesn't require changing the way most of us live or do business. By choosing products labeled through the WaterSense program, you know you'll be saving water for future generations.



The WaterSense quiz can be found at [www.epa.gov/watersense/water/test.htm](http://www.epa.gov/watersense/water/test.htm). Learn more about the WaterSense program at [www.epa.gov/watersense/](http://www.epa.gov/watersense/).

### Online Booklet:

## Cleaning Up After Floods



During a flood cleanup, the indoor air quality in your home or office may appear to be the least of your problems. However, failure to remove contaminated materials and to reduce moisture and humidity can present serious long-term health risks. Standing water and wet materials are a breeding ground for microorganisms, such as viruses, bacteria, and mold. They can cause disease, trigger allergic reactions, and continue to damage materials long after the flood.

Here is a resource which might be useful given the recent heavy rains in the Northwest: a new EPA booklet called **Flood Cleanup and the Air in Your Home**. The booklet, along with a flood cleanup poster, is now available on EPA's website. Materials are available in English and Spanish. The booklet covers how to clean up your home after a flood, and how to avoid indoor air quality problems. Topics include respirator use and portable generators. Visit [www.epa.gov/iaq/flood/](http://www.epa.gov/iaq/flood/).



## Help for Small Drinking Water Utilities

A handbook is available called ***Total Coliform Rule: A Handbook for Small Noncommunity Water Systems Serving Less than 3,300 persons, Part of the Simple Tools for Effective Performance***. This handbook will help owners and operators of small drinking water systems, technical assistance providers, and state drinking water personnel understand the Total Coliform Rule under the Safe Drinking Water Act. Small public noncommunity water systems often have constraints not faced by larger systems. Financing limits, shortages of skilled personnel, and physical isolation are among the problems facing small utilities. EPA has developed this handbook to help enhance system capacity for infrastructure sustainability. This document and other tools to help small water systems are on EPA's website at [www.epa.gov/safewater/smallsys/ssinfo.htm](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/smallsys/ssinfo.htm).



## Case Studies Highlight Tribe Water Standards Programs

Four case studies have been published which highlight the accomplishments of four tribes that have adopted EPA-approved water quality standards. The tribes include the Hoopa Valley Tribe, the Sokaogon Chippewa Community, the Hualapai Tribe, and the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Flat-

head Indian Reservation. These case studies give background information on the tribes, describe the steps the tribes took to develop EPA-approved water quality standards, and discuss how water quality standards have benefited the tribes. The cases studies are available at: [www.epa.gov/waterscience/tribes/video.htm](http://www.epa.gov/waterscience/tribes/video.htm).

## Website to Visit: EPA's Regional Tribal Program



Tribes and others interested in EPA Region 10's Tribal program may wish to visit this website: <http://yosemite.epa.gov/r10/tribal.nsf>. Here you will find EPA's Tribal Newsletter, information about Tribal grants, details about the program, resources, and contact information.

## Five-Star Restoration Grants Due March 9



Applications for the **Five-Star Restoration Matching Grants Program** are now being solicited. This grants program provides modest financial assistance on a competitive basis to support community-based wetland, riparian, and coastal habitat restoration projects. The

focus is on projects that foster local natural resource stewardship through education, outreach, and training activities. Projects must involve diverse partnerships of ideally five organizations that contribute funding, land, technical assistance, workforce support, and/or other in-kind services.

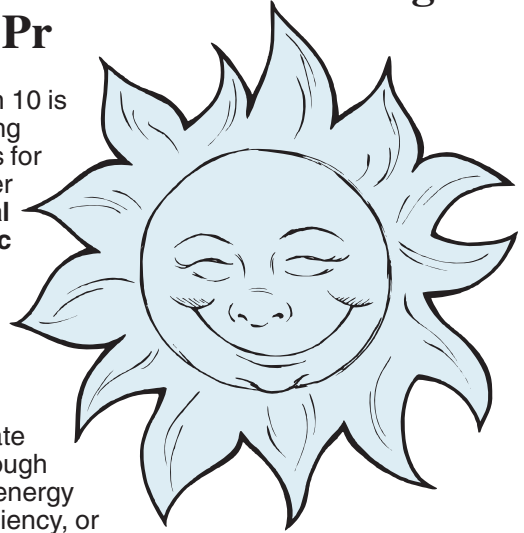
Awards are between \$5,000 and \$20,000. Projects must include a strong on-the-ground habitat restoration component. They must also include a strong training, education, community stewardship and/or outreach component. Projects involving only research, monitoring, or planning are not eligible. Applicants must demonstrate that measurable benefits are expected to result from the project. Projects may be a part of a larger restoration effort but must be ready to complete within a one-year time-frame upon receipt of funding.

The Five-Star grant program is open to any public or private entity. EPA is one of many partners in this grant program. **Applications must be postmarked by March 9, 2007.** Learn more at [www.nfwf.org/programs/5star-rfp.cfm](http://www.nfwf.org/programs/5star-rfp.cfm).

## EPA Solicits Climate Change Grant Pr

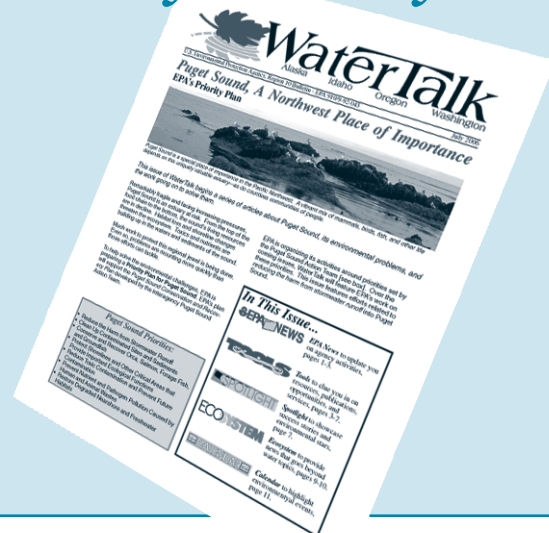
EPA Region 10 is now soliciting applications for grants under its **Regional Geographic Initiative** program.

Projects should be aimed at addressing global climate change through renewable energy energy efficiency, or carbon sequestration. Specifically, proposed projects should use integrated, collaborative, or community-based approaches to reduce greenhouse gas emissions or prevent pollution by: 1) promoting the availability of renewable energy; 2) promoting the efficient use of existing energy sources; or 3) sequestering carbon. EPA may award about four grants at up to \$100,000 each. Applicants are encouraged to consider projects that incorporate smaller grants to community-based groups. Applications are due **March 9, 2007**. To learn more about this grant opportunity, visit [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov). The funding number for this program is EPA-R10-RGI-2007. For questions, contact **Karl Arne**, EPA, at 206-553-2576 or 800-424-4372 x 2576.



## Get WaterTalk Electronically: So Easy!

Still haven't signed up for the **WaterTalk list-serv**? Simply go to [www.epa.gov/region10](http://www.epa.gov/region10), click on **Index** and **W** for **WaterTalk**. Then sign up for the Region 10 Water News Listserv. Send an e-mail asking to be removed from the hard-copy mailing list to [lindsay.andrea@epa.gov](mailto:lindsay.andrea@epa.gov). Each quarter, you will get an e-mail telling you when the new **WaterTalk** issue is ready, and linking you to its location on the Web. Once in a while, you will get other water-related news from EPA.



# Energy Star: *Making Business More Green*

Do you know a business owner that wants to make his or her business more green? Becoming an ENERGY STAR partner is a great way to get greener and save money, all at once. Businesses are interested in increasing profits, and energy costs are generally 30% of most overall operational budgets.

ENERGY STAR is an EPA program helping businesses and individuals protect the environment through energy efficiency. It is totally voluntary and has helped cut energy costs for participating businesses. ENERGY STAR Showcase Building Partners annually save 30% of their operational budget.

*Becoming an ENERGY STAR partner is a great way to get greener and save money, all at once.*

Many consumers already recognize the ENERGY STAR logo from their major appliances. That logo is often a factor in their buying decisions.

EPA Region 10 has extended the program to include buildings. EPA forms partnerships with businesses, encouraging their success in reducing energy costs and offering a strong recognition program. EPA provides bench-marks and tools; they provide light bulbs and other supplies, for example. The logo is awarded after a drop in energy usage.

Current ENERGY STAR partners include large companies, multiple municipalities, hospitals, restaurants, and school districts. To learn more or for partnership opportunities, call **Terra Paley**, EPA Region 10 Partnership Development Coordinator, at **206-553-8293**, or [paley.terra@epa.gov](mailto:paley.terra@epa.gov). Or, visit [www.energystar.gov](http://www.energystar.gov).

## ECOSYSTEM

# Website Covers Climate Change

Want to learn more about climate change? Looking for ways to reduce greenhouse gas emissions? Visit EPA's updated **Climate Change Website: [www.epa.gov/climatechange](http://www.epa.gov/climatechange)**. The website has five main sections:

- **Science:** Explains current scientific understanding of the causes of past, present and future climate change.
- **U.S. Climate Policy:** Summarizes the current U.S. policy and describes programs being implemented at EPA and elsewhere.
- **Greenhouse Gas Emissions:** Provides information and data on U.S. and international emissions, and projections of future emission levels.
- **Health and Environmental Effects:** Provides an overview of how climate change may affect human health, different sectors of society, various regions, and the natural environment.
- **What You Can Do:** Describes actions that individuals and organizations can take. It includes a Personal Emissions Calculator ([www.epa.gov/climatechange/emissions/ind\\_calculator.html](http://www.epa.gov/climatechange/emissions/ind_calculator.html)). With this tool, you can estimate the greenhouse gas emissions produced through the course of your daily activities and then identify ways to reduce your "carbon footprint."





# Invasive Species: The Work Goes On

This edition of WaterTalk continues our regular feature on the important topic of invasive species. These species are harmful plants or animals that are not native to the ecosystem, and which cause economic harm or harm to human health or the environment. Invasive species have been called one of the main environmental threats of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. This issue, we give you just a snapshot of the range of work under way to tackle this issue. For details, contact **Joan Cabreza**, EPA, at **206-553-7369** or **800-424-4372**, or **cabreza.joan@epa.gov**.



## New Spartina Brochure:



A new brochure, **Invasive Spartina in Puget Sound**, and a companion laminated beach card, **Identifying Spartina in Puget Sound: a Field Guide**, show the four invasive species and five additional species that are often confused with *Spartina*. The brochure was developed by People for Puget Sound with support from EPA and others. The brochure is online at [www.pugetsound.org/index/pubs](http://www.pugetsound.org/index/pubs). Or, contact [koconnell@pugetsound.org](mailto:koconnell@pugetsound.org) for a printed copy, or to

find out about beach identification cards.

## Roadside Weeds Video Available:

The US Forest Service video called **Dangerous Travelers - Controlling Invasive Plants Along America's Roadways** is now available on DVD. To request a free copy, call the Forest Service at **909-599-1267 x 235**.

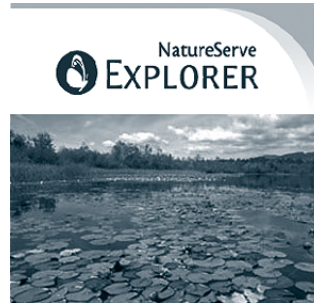
## EPA Grant Award: Oregon Rapid Response Plan:

EPA Region 10 has awarded a \$30,000 Regional Geographic Initiative grant to The Nature Conservancy. The funds will be used to develop a three-region pilot **Early Detection and Rapid Response Program in Oregon**. The project will use existing group networks and volunteers to establish a long-term framework to address new invasions at a project scale, and eventually at the state level. To get involved or for more information, contact **Mandy Tu** at [imtu@tnc.org](mailto:imtu@tnc.org).

## EPA Grant Award: WA Biodiversity Action Plan:

EPA Region 10 has awarded \$35,000 to the Nature Mapping Foundation to develop a stewardship program for the Pierce County Biodiversity Network. Several agencies are working together on ecoregional assessments. The assessments will identify landscapes important for conserving biodiversity. The pilot project will be located in Washington's Lower White River area. Workshops will educate the community on the field inventory results, identify stressors to habitat and wildlife, outline ways to reduce those stresses, and produce an action plan. This process will become a template for outreach in other areas.

## NatureServe Explorer Assesses Invasives:



U.S. Invasive Plant Assessments are now on the NatureServe Explorer at <http://www.natureserve.org/explorer/>. You'll find assessments for 452 non-native plants of the U.S., searchable by name, location, invasive impact rank (I-Rank), or a combination of these criteria. To search for I-Rank assessments, click on "Search the database for species" or use the green "Search" button and choose to search for Plants and Animals.

## Website Combats Invasives:

The Global Invasive Species Database is a source for free, authoritative information. It contains information on a range of invasive species, their causes and consequences, and gives information on prevention and management. Visit the site at [www.issg.org/database](http://www.issg.org/database).

## Beneficial Landscaping:

# *Native Plant Salvage Has Taken Root*

When efforts to prevent the loss of native habitats have been exhausted and the bulldozers are scheduled to roll, there is yet another way to make a difference – native plant salvage! A growing number of local native plant salvage operations have sprouted, offering hope for homeless plants. Salvage programs are generally sponsored by County and/or University Cooperative Extension programs, but the majority of the work is done by volunteers. It is a year round effort, but to ensure plant survival, most plant salvage work is conducted in fall, winter, and early spring.

There is always plenty to do. Salvage programs must locate salvage sites, secure landowner permission, organize volunteers, and establish holding facilities/nurseries for the salvaged plants. They also locate restoration sites, construct websites for outreach and communication, conduct workshops, and more.

The benefits are numerous too! Our lovely native flora, from forests to prairies, are given a new lease on life; wildlife habitat is restored; streams are buffered; water-conserving natural landscapes are established; knowledge and appreciation of our native flora is enhanced; and, yes, friends are made. An added bonus is that the salvage program may allow the volunteers to take home some of the salvaged plants.

If this sounds good to you, cast off the winter blahs and join in! In your state, search the internet for “native plant salvage,” contact your state’s Native Plant Society, or contact your local Cooperative Extension Service office. If there are no salvage programs in your state, why not help to start one? We are aware of these established programs and Native Plant Societies in PNW states and Alaska:

### **Thurston County Extension Native Plant Salvage Project**

Contact: **Erica Guttman**, 360-754-3588,  
extension 110

<http://thurston.wsu.edu/NPS.htm>  
[www.nativeplantsalvage.org](http://www.nativeplantsalvage.org)

### **Pierce County Native Plant Salvage**

Contact: **Anna Thurston**, Contract Facilitator,  
253-566-3342

[www.ssstewardship.org/](http://www.ssstewardship.org/)

### **King County Native Plant Salvage**

Contact: **Greg Rabourn**, 206-296-1923  
<http://dnr.metrokc.gov/wlr/PI/salvage.htm>

### **Snohomish County Native Plant Program**

Contact: **Scott Moore**, Native Plant Steward,  
425-388-6462

[http://www1.co.snohomish.wa.us/Departments/  
Public\\_Works/Divisions/SWM/Work\\_Areas/  
Outreach/Native\\_Plants/](http://www1.co.snohomish.wa.us/Departments/Public_Works/Divisions/SWM/Work_Areas/Outreach/Native_Plants/)

### **Alaska Native Plant Society**

<http://aknps.org/>

### **Idaho Native Plant Society**

[www.idahonativeplants.org/Default.aspx](http://www.idahonativeplants.org/Default.aspx)

### **Native Plant Society of Oregon**

[www.npsoregon.org/](http://www.npsoregon.org/)

### **Washington Native Plant Society**

[www.wnps.org/](http://www.wnps.org/)



For more information about this and other topics in Beneficial Landscaping, contact **Elaine Somers** at 206-553-2966, 800-424-4372, or [somers.elaine@epa.gov](mailto:somers.elaine@epa.gov). Or, visit our website at [www.epa.gov/r10earth/bl.htm](http://www.epa.gov/r10earth/bl.htm).

## ***Puget Sound Ecosystem Indicators***

The Puget Sound Georgia Basin ecosystem is one of the most ecologically diverse in North America, containing a wide range of internationally significant species and habitats. This ecosystem is home to 200 fish species, 26 kinds of marine mammals, 100 sea bird species, marine invertebrates and plants by the thousands – and countless communities of people.

This regional jewel is a place of rare biological diversity and high economic value. The health and productivity of the Puget Sound Georgia Basin ecosystem is a cornerstone of the region's quality of life and vibrant economy. Salmon fisheries, sport fishing, shellfish production, sustainable natural resource production, tourism, and other endeavors rely on a healthy environment. However, this uniquely valuable estuary faces increasing pressures.

For each indicator in the report, there are several sections that address the actions currently underway to help solve the problems. There are also practical tips, including websites and telephone numbers, so you have options with respect to daily activities like inventory purchasing, driving, energy use, gardening, cleaning your home, and influencing public policy.

This work is a collaborative effort, including federal, state, provincial, and local partners from the United States and Canada. To learn more about the indicators and to explore how you can help protect our ecosystem, visit [www.epa.gov/region10/psgb](http://www.epa.gov/region10/psgb).

***Visit WaterTalk online at***  
***[www.epa.gov/r10earth/watertalk.htm](http://www.epa.gov/r10earth/watertalk.htm)***



# CALENDAR

## **February**

### **February 12-16:**

Alaska Forum on the Environment, Anchorage, AK. <http://akforum.com>.

### **February 21:**

Marine Shoreline Development Workshop, Seattle, WA, Law Seminars International, [www.lawseminars.com](http://www.lawseminars.com), 800-854-8009.

## **March**

### **March 13:**

Built Green Conference, Everett, WA, [www.builtgreen.net/conference.html](http://www.builtgreen.net/conference.html).

### **March 26-29:**

2007 Georgia Basin Puget Sound Research Conference, Vancouver, B.C., [www.engr.washington.edu/epp/psgb](http://www.engr.washington.edu/epp/psgb), 360-725-5464.

## **April**

### **April 15:**

Deadline for contributions to the May issue of WaterTalk. Andrea Lindsay, Editor, 206-553-1896, 800-424-4372, [lindsay.andrea@epa.gov](mailto:lindsay.andrea@epa.gov).

### **April 15-22:**

National Environmental Education Week, [www.eeweek.org](http://www.eeweek.org).

### **April 22:**

Earth Day

### **April 29 - May 5:**

Native Plant Appreciation Week, Washington, [www.wnps.org](http://www.wnps.org).

## **May**

### **May 1 - 31:**

American Wetlands Month, [www.epa.gov/owow/wetlands/awm/](http://www.epa.gov/owow/wetlands/awm/).

### **May 6-12:**

National Drinking Water Week, [www.awwa.org/advocacy/dww](http://www.awwa.org/advocacy/dww).

### **May 18-22:**

River Network National River Rally, Columbia River Gorge, WA, [www.rivernetwork.org](http://www.rivernetwork.org).



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# WaterTalk

Alaska Idaho Oregon Washington

*WaterTalk* is published quarterly by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 10. *WaterTalk* seeks to be a useful tool for those who protect water resources and ecosystems in communities of the Greater Pacific Northwest, by providing practical resources and relevant agency news.

You are invited to contribute items for publication. Submittal deadline is the 15th day of the month before publication.

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