



E-News

“Your home for envirostuff”

A publication of news and events affecting the Northwest environmental industry

- FROM THE DIRECTOR -

Many of you will soon receive the new NEBC Membership Directory and Resource Guide. This is the 8th edition of the directory and I want to thank all of our advertisers this year. Without their support the directory would not be possible. Of course most of the directories are distributed regionally to potential NEBC members' customers. We work with partners such as the Association of Washington Business and Associated Oregon Industries to distribute the publication. If you have suggested organizations that we should work with, let us know. Watch for your copy in your membership packet going out this week. Tell us what you think.

Hope to see you all at the April Olympic Chapter luncheon. (For details see the flyer below.)

Happy St. Patrick's Day!

- David W. Welsh

- SPONSOR HIGHLIGHT -

HellerEhrman

A T T O R N E Y S

Heller Ehrman White & McAuliffe LLP

Heller Ehrman is a full-service law firm with one of the largest environmental and land use practices on the West Coast. The diverse client base of our environmental group includes large and small companies engaged in manufacturing, mining, hazardous waste management, real estate and financial services, as well as municipal governments and public ports. Our attorneys are experienced in the many complexities of environmental law and provide counseling, litigation, and administrative and legislative services on the full array of environmental issues facing today's business.

NEW MEMBERS

- Clean Harbors Environmental Services
- McVay Risk Consulting LLC
- Thompson Remediation
- Truchot Environmental Consulting
- Short Cressman & Burgess PLLC
- Waddell & Reed

RENEWING MEMBERS

- Baker Tanks
- Cascade Drilling Inc.
- E & S Environmental Chemistry
- Kennedy/Jenks Consultants
- Materials Testing & Inspection
- Mold Investigations LLC
- Professional Environmental Group
- SLR International Corp
- Teris, LLC

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- GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS -

INSIDE THE WASHINGTON LEGISLATURE

By Jerry Smedes and Linda Dennis, Smedes & Associates

Governor Signs NEBC Priority Bill

Renewing tax incentives for High Technology Research and Development has been a priority for NEBC for the last two years. Viewed by many as being an important component of economic development, these incentives include a sales tax deferral or exemption for construction of new facilities for R&D. More important to many NEBC members, they also provide a credit against Business & Occupation taxes for R&D efforts. This includes proprietary R&D, as well as projects done under contract to create new technologies or adapt existing technologies to other uses or different site conditions. These tax incentives were scheduled to expire this year. However, the Governor has signed legislation that will extend this program for another ten years.

Industry Clusters

Another issue NEBC has been working on for years is to increase the awareness and support for the environmental industry by the State of Washington. Under the current agency structure, the Department of Community, Trade and Economic Development (CTED) has been reluctant to acknowledge our industry as an important sector for economic development and vitality. Several years ago, CTED was directed to look at industry clusters, and consider a more focused approach to helping clusters of related companies to expand markets and improve their strength and competitive position. Legislation was introduced last year directing CTED to adopt this approach. Although CTED omitted the environmental industry in the original proposal, we were able to amend the legislation to include environmental technology as one of the identified industry clusters. The bill was reintroduced this year, and again NEBC had it amended to identify our industry. If the bill passes, NEBC will have an opportunity to make a case to CTED to be more included in the mainstream of CTED's activities and programs.

Ports Consulting

NEBC has been successful in amending a bill that allows port districts to provide limited consulting services. The original bill would have allowed ports to provide these services without limitation. The amended version sets out limitations on the scope of the consulting authority, and requires ports that use this provision to maintain a roster of firms that would be interested in participating in any projects that might arise from the port's efforts. Rather than posing a threat of unfair competition as allowed in the original bill, the legislation would now present potential opportunities for new consulting work by private sector firms. At press time, the bill has passed the House and is awaiting final action by the Senate.

Environmental Industry Day on the Hill

While this has been a "short" legislative session, NEBC has been actively monitoring and working on nearly 50 pieces of proposed legislation that could impact our members. As the session hit its midpoint, several NEBC members committed a day to visiting the Capitol to view the legislative process firsthand. As NEBC's representatives, it was a pleasure for us to host the group. We met with legislative leaders and staff, and had an opportunity to provide them with an in-depth understanding of our membership, diversity, and areas of expertise. The day ended with attending a meeting of the House committee that deals with many of our issues. *Jeremy Mattox, publisher of the Environmental Directory for Washington State, was one of the members who attended. He commented that "The Day on the Hill was yet another excellent NEBC endeavor. My thanks to Karis Alderson for the original idea, David & staff for publicizing and coordinating things, and to Jerry Smedes and Linda Dennis for handling the nuts & bolts in Olympia. ("Nuts" is just an expression, not a disrespectful reference to anyone.)"*

BUSINESS REGULATORY CLIMATE SURVEY

Growing the Oregon economy and providing good jobs for all Oregonians is one of Governor Kulongoski's top priorities. In February 2003, Governor Kulongoski issued an executive order directing state agencies that regulate business to streamline their rules and procedures. The goal of the Regulatory Streamlining Initiative is to simplify and improve how our Oregon regulations work without undercutting the protection of citizens and Oregon. Governor Kulongoski is seeking your help in this initiative by soliciting your response to a Business Regulatory Climate Survey. To take this survey, point your web browser to www.streamline.oregon.gov/survey. There are a few questions, but there is a lot of opportunity for individual comments and suggestions. For questions or to learn more about the survey, please contact Patrick Allen, Manager of the Office of Regulatory Streamlining, at Patrick.allen@state.or.us.

- INDUSTRY/ASSOCIATION NEWS -

TWO NEW BENEFITS FOR NEBC MEMBERS

As of January first we have two new programs available that will be available to a larger number of our members! As a small employer you may have considered Life & Disability plans for you and your employees. Typically these are very expensive and have limited benefits. Now as an NEBC member you have access to a Life & Disability plan that allows the same level of coverage as larger companies for less money than you would pay for lower benefits. You must qualify to participate. Call GET-Benefits today for a no hassle, no obligation quote on this exclusive benefit.

For many, dental plans seem to be a waste of money. Limited benefit maximums, premiums that seem to half of the benefit maximum. Or perhaps your company offered dental at one time, but had to drop the coverage for financial reasons. NEBC members now have access to a voluntary dental plan with no waiting periods (except for orthodontia), yes there is orthodontia coverage and there is no maximum benefit limit. Coverage is limited to specific locations in Oregon, Washington and Idaho. Call GET-Benefits today for a no obligation quote!

For more information on these programs, please contact Tino Versoza, GET-Benefits, Inc., at 800.627.5345.

EPA REOPENS THE 2004 NATIONAL BROWNFIELDS ASSESSMENT, REVOLVING LOAN FUND, AND CLEANUP GRANTS COMPETITION

Pursuant to recent budget amendments, EPA reopened the 2004 pool of Brownfield Grants and Loans. EPA expanded the number of Brownfield sites eligible for funding under the EPA Brownfields Assessment, Revolving Loan Fund, and Cleanup Grants program under CERCLA. EPA's 2004 Brownfields funding may now be used at Brownfield sites as long as the recipient of the Brownfield grant or loan qualifies under CERCLA as a bona fide prospective purchaser even if the brownfield property was acquired prior to the enactment of the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act of 2001 (the prior eligibility cutoff). Eligible participants must submit an original proposal, or a request for reconsideration of a proposal by March 9, 2004. For more information, please contact your EPA Regional Brownfields Coordinator.

CALL FOR SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY ARTICLES

NEBC is an advocate for the use of sound science in all policy making. NEBC acts as a regional source of environmental expertise and science for local, state, and federal agencies, policy makers and the public. To that end the NEBC Board of Directors has established a working group to coordinate the collection of issues of interest to membership. The goal is to eventually maintain a collection of sources, including websites, organizations, and/or journals, that could benefit the professional development of NEBC members. The board is currently seeking input from members on which issues are of interest and a list of where individuals are looking for resources related to those topics. Please submit ideas to cara@nebc.org or via fax at 503.222.5050.

ENVIRONMENTAL INDUSTRY SUMMIT 2004

Environmental Business Journal announces the second annual Environmental Industry Summit to be held March 10-12, 2004 at the Coronado Island Marriott Resort near San Diego. The major objective of the Summit is to put 2004's business conditions into a strategic context for senior executives. Holding the Summit in San Diego in March also allows for an early spring for senior executives to network with their colleagues in a casual yet productive retreat. Information on registration and a preliminary agenda are available on EBJ's website at www.ebiusa.com. **Special Offer for NEBC!** The regular registration rate for the Environmental Industry Summit is \$995. If you sign up through NEBC the registration fee is \$795. Please indicate your desire to register directly in response to this email and we will secure the NEBC rate for you.

THE 2ND ANNUAL ECOSS SPRING WINE TASTING EVENT

You are cordially invited to the 2nd Annual ECOSS Wine Tasting Party at E.B. Foote Winery, Wednesday, March 24, 2004 at 5:30 PM. This event is sponsored by the Northwest Environmental Business Council and Anchor Environmental LLC, and with special guests Jean Godden, Seattle City Council, and Jorge Carrasco, New Superintendent of Seattle City Light. This is a fun event will introduce a new Seattle City Councilmember and the City Light Superintendent; helps support our mission of providing environmental education and assistance to businesses and communities in the Puget Sound Region; brings together a wide audience of environmentalists and environmental professionals and agency personnel; features award -winning wines from EB Foote Winery; is catered with delicious food; and will also support the development of Cesar Chavez Park in South Park. We look forward to seeing you at E.B. Foote Winery on March 24th! For more information and to register, please contact Kelly Anne Merry at 206.767.0432 or Kelly@ecoss.org.

GLOBE 2004 INTERNATIONAL TRADE SHOW & CONFERENCE VANCOUVER, CANADA – MARCH 31 – APRIL 2, 2004

GLOBE 2004 is fast approaching! The 8th edition of this biennial conference and trade show on developing the business of the environment will be held March 31–April 2, 2004 in beautiful Vancouver, Canada. The US Department of Commerce has granted Trade Show certification for the event, which recognizes GLOBE's professional capacity in organizing North America's pre-eminent environmental trade fair. This three-day world marketplace for environmental innovation offers outstanding exhibits, visionary conference sessions and prosperous business opportunities. GLOBE 2002 Exhibitors generated over US \$300 million in deals. Nearly 10,000 participants, including 400 exhibitors and 2000 conference delegates from more than 70 countries makes GLOBE 2004 the largest event of its kind in North America. More than 50 conference sessions will feature world-leading experts in the areas of corporate sustainability, energy & climate change, and building better cities. For more information visit www.globe2004.com, call (800) 274-6097 or email info@globe2004.com

BUILDING SMART COMMUNITIES

"Low Impact – High Returns" is the focus of the 2004 BUILT GREEN Conference, planned for April 6 at Pickering Barn in Issaquah. The daylong event, titled "Building Smart Communities," features a guided tour of Puget Sound Energy's BUILT GREEN Idea Home at Issaquah Highlands, a presentation by nationally known builder/developer Bob Brownell on low-impact development, plus a panel discussion, "how to" session and workshop on how to profit from green building. Professionals in design, building and financing home building and remodeling are welcome to attend. To register, call Robin Rogers at Master Builders Association, (425) 451-7920 or builtgreen@mbaks.com. BUILT GREEN is a program of the Master Builders Association of King and Snohomish Counties, in partnership with King County and Snohomish County. BUILT GREEN uses a rating system to incorporate environmentally sound building practices into remodeling and new home construction.

- MEMBER-TO-MEMBER -

EDUCATION

Wetland Science and Delineation hosted by the Northwest Environmental Training Center will be held March 11, 2004, 8:30 A.M. to 5 P.M. (1 Day) at Oregon State Government Building, Conference Room 140, 800 NE Oregon Street, Portland, OR. This course is intended for environmental professionals seeking an improved understanding of wetland science regulation, and delineation. During the morning lecture, the instructors will discuss wetland functions, science, and policy. We will visit a local wetland in the afternoon where participants will gain hands-on experience identifying wetland vegetation types, soil types, and using wetland survey methodologies. For more information and to register, please visit http://www.nwetc.org/FILES/bio-401_03-04_portland.pdf

ArcView and Environmental Applications of GIS hosted by the Northwest Environmental Training Center will be held March 23-25, 2004 8:30 A.M. to 4 P.M. (1 Day) at Evergreen State College, Lab 2 Building – CAL Lab, 2700 Evergreen Parkway, Olympia, WA. This 3-day hands on class will introduce participants to the environmental applications of ESRI's ArcView 8 software. Beginning with a discussion of general concepts and vocabulary, the course will move into teaching basic ArcView functionality. Each participant will have their own computer workstation to create, edit, display and analyze real world environmental data during numerous hands on exercises. On the third day, participants will be given an opportunity to become more proficient with their skills by applying their knowledge to more complex and in depth projects. For more information and to register, please call 206.762.1976.

Northwest Sustainability Conference hosted by the Northwest Environmental Education Council will be held May 1 & 2, 2004. This conference is an opportunity to learn about recent developments in sustainability practices. Sessions will be presented by professionals and community organizers who have dedicated their lives towards working for a more sustainable future. The goal of the conference is to provide practical information, methods and resources to empower attendees to live their lives and practice their work more sustainably. To learn more and to register, please visit http://www.nwetc.org/sust-400_05-04_seattle.htm or call 206.762.1976.



**The Olympic Chapter presents
“Environmental Services: A Client’s Perspective”**

Speakers:
Erik Hagen, City of Auburn
Jim Parvey, City of Tacoma
(Additional speakers have been invited)

This luncheon offers opportunities to hear from clients on: what they look for in environmental expertise; how they handle contracts with our industry; and when they are going to need environmental services in the future.

Wednesday, April 7, 2004
11:30 AM – 1:00 PM

McCormick & Schmick’s Harborside on Lake Union
1200 Westlake Avenue, Seattle, WA

\$30.00 each for NEBC & Guests
\$45.00 each for Non-NEBC Members

◆ Menu Selections ◆

Meat Entrée: Breast of Chicken in Marsala Cream with Local Wild Mushrooms
Veggie Entrée: Penne Pasta with Roasted Red Peppers, Artichoke Hearts, Capers, Olives and Tomatoes

Pre-registration Recommended, timely meal not guaranteed without reservation. Walk-ins will be charged a \$5.00 service fee. Cancellations accepted until 12:00 PM, February 27, after which no-shows will be charged.

For more information contact NEBC at (888) 609-NEBC or visit our website at www.nebc.org. To attend, fax completed form with payment to (503) 222-5050 - OR – checks can be mailed with this form to: NEBC, PO Box 672, Portland, OR 97207.

Company: _____
 Phone: _____ Fax: _____ Email: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Attendees (please circle entrée selection, see menu above):
 _____ Entrée Selection: Meat / Veggie
 _____ Entrée Selection: Meat / Veggie
 _____ Entrée Selection: Meat / Veggie

Payment Type: Check Visa MasterCard (We appreciate checks as form of payment!)

Total: \$ _____

Card #: _____ - _____ - _____ Exp. Date: ____/____

Credit Card Verification #: _____

Signature: _____

Please Note: Because NEBC is a 501 C (6), contributions to the organization are not deductible as charitable contributions.
Olympic Chapter Luncheon - April

*Special Thanks to our
Event Sponsors!*

HellerEhrman
ATTORNEYS
Heller Ehrman White & McAuliffe LLP

If you are interested in sponsoring this or other NEBC events, please contact your NEBC staff at 503.227.6361 or cara@nebc.org

- NEBC 2003 EVENTS CALENDAR -

March			
3	Olympic Chapter Luncheon – Topic: Wastewater	11:30 AM – 1:00 PM	McCormick & Schmick's Harborside – Seattle, WA
4	Cascade Chapter Pub Mixer	5:30 AM – 7:00 PM	Portland Brewing – Portland, OR
April			
7	Olympic Chapter Luncheon – Topic: Environmental Services: A Client's Perspective	11:30 AM – 1:00 PM	McCormick & Schmick's Harborside – Seattle, WA
15	Cascade Chapter Luncheon – Topic: Industrial Lands	11:30 AM – 1:00 PM	Fifth Avenue Suites – Portland, OR
May			
5	Olympic Chapter Luncheon – Topic: TBD	11:30 AM – 1:00 PM	McCormick & Schmick's Harborside – Seattle, WA
7	Olympic Chapter Mariners Night	TBD	Safeco Field - Seattle, WA
21	Cascade Chapter Luncheon – Topic: Healthy Forest Imitative	11:30 AM – 1:00 PM	Hilton Downtown – Portland, OR
June			
17	Cascade Chapter Luncheon – Topic: TBD	11:30 AM – 1:00 PM	Fifth Avenue Suites – Portland, OR
24	Olympic Chapter Golf Tournament	7:30 AM – 1:00 PM	Harbour Pointe Golf Club – Mukilteo, WA
July			
15	Olympic Chapter Rooftop Mixer	TBD	Hart Crowser – Seattle, WA
22	Cascade Chapter Golf Tournament	7:30 AM – 1:00 PM	Langdon Farms Golf Course – Aurora, OR
September			
1	Olympic Chapter Luncheon – Topic: TBD	11:30 AM – 1:00 PM	McCormick & Schmick's Harborside – Seattle, WA
TBD	Cascade Chapter Summer Mixer	TBD	TBD – Portland, OR
October			
7	Cascade Chapter Luncheon – Topic: TBD	11:30 AM – 1:00 PM	Fifth Avenue Suites – Portland, OR
18 -20	Environmental Conference of Washington	All Day	Washington State Convention & Trade Center – Seattle, WA
November			
3	Olympic Chapter Luncheon – Topic: TBD	11:30 AM – 1:00 PM	McCormick & Schmick's Harborside – Seattle, WA
15 - 17	Northwest Environmental Conference	All Day	DoubleTree Jantzen Beach – Portland, OR

*Events are subject change.

- NEBC CONTACT INFORMATION -

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