



E-News

“Your home for envirostuff”

A publication of news and events affecting the Northwest environmental industry

- FROM THE PRESIDENT -

NEBC has nine new members this month! That's very encouraging and we extend a "welcome" to all the new members from NEBC. Keep in mind that membership in NEBC helps you and your company develop and maintain relationships with current and future teaming members. This is your organization and active participation by the members will continue its success.

The Cascade Chapter Summer Rooftop Mixer on the beautiful balcony of Lane Powell Spears Lubersky on September 9 was a great example of members making the most of their NEBC alliance. Over 60 members made the event a success; demonstrated by the fact that we finally had to close down the bar to get everyone out. The mixer followed a productive NEBC board meeting in the morning and Cascade Chapter meeting in the afternoon. The Board discussed a number of projects, and heard from the Chapter on their activities. One of the most interesting efforts of the Cascade Chapter is the potential creation of an informal brownbag luncheon series with Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) to help develop communications between DEQ and the environmental industry. More information is forthcoming.

I'm looking forward to seeing you October 19 & 20 at the Environmental Conference of Washington (ECW) in Seattle. The addition of The Honorable Governor Locke as the luncheon speaker on Wednesday of the event should prove to be a stimulating supplement to an interesting line-up of topics.

In the meantime, please plan on joining us at the Cascade Chapter luncheon this Thursday, October 7 or at the Olympic Chapter luncheon on Wednesday, November 3.

~ Sean Ragain, GeoEngineers, Inc.
NEBC Board of Directors, President

- SPONSOR HIGHLIGHT -



North Creek Analytical, Inc. is the largest client-focused environmental

and drinking water laboratory network in the Pacific Northwest and Alaska. NCA offers analytical services to Regional, National and International programs, with affiliate laboratories as far way as Bangkok, Thailand and Seoul, South Korea. NCA mobile laboratories assist with emergency response and remote project support. With innovations like Client Web-Access, allowing 24/7 accesses to status and reports, and a multitude of electronic deliverable formats, NCA stands ready to assist you with your environmental chemistry needs. For more information, please call one of our local offices or visit our website at www.ncalabs.com.

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Contact your NEBC staff at 503.227.6361 to learn more about becoming an NEBC Sponsoring Member!

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- FROM THE DIRECTOR -

Well, I walked the Portland marathon on Sunday – I’m a little stiff, but the resulting adrenaline is fabulous! The only disappointing part of this weekend was that my Buckeyes lost to Northwestern (couldn’t believe that one).

The adrenaline rush from the walk will tide me over for the rest of the week - just in time for the October 7 Cascade Chapter luncheon this Thursday – I look forward to meeting many members and putting faces to names. Shortly thereafter, we have the Environmental Conference of Washington (ECW) Oct 19 – 20 in Seattle, which should be an interesting event, and I’m looking forward to learning about a number of member companies there. If you haven’t registered yet for either, I strongly encourage you to do so. We learned today that Washington Governor Gary Locke will be the luncheon speaker at ECW on Wednesday, October 20.

Cara and Linda in the office are doing a terrific job in preparation for all of the activities of the next two months. While I’m sure that many of you have met or spoken with them, I want to let you know how invaluable they’ve been in helping me with the transition. You have a staff who enjoys the work that they perform on your behalf, and that’s a fabulous standard to have.

Lastly, but very importantly, I want to welcome the new member companies, thank renewing members and renewing sponsoring members, as well as encourage current members to continue assisting us with membership development and growth. Remember, this is your organization, its success is due, in large part to the participation and involvement from you, the member. If you have any questions about NEBC or suggestions for activities, please don’t hesitate to contact me.

- Susan

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- GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS -

WASHINGTON PERMIT PROCESSES UNDER REVIEW

Jerry Smedes, Smedes & Associates

- “Permit processes are redundant and costly.”
- “Growth management requirements create uncertainty and delays.”
- “The Growth Management Act has specific problems, but all environmental permit processes need to be streamlined.”
- “Some projects have problems, but overall local permitting is working well and improving.”
- “Local governments cannot afford to meet procedural requirements to move permits efficiently.”
- “Permit processes stifle economic vitality.”
- “Permits should be consolidated.”
- “Permit requirements are too uncertain.”
- “Permit requirements are too inflexible.”
- “Environmental protections should not be compromised in the pursuit of streamlining.”
- “Consider greater use of ‘general permits’ for more types of projects.”
- “There is no such thing as ‘Best Available Science;’ this is just a device to control growth and private property.”
- “Staff turnover causes delays in getting permits through.”

These are some of the comments the Washington Legislature has received as it reviews permit processes in Washington. A Senate Resolution passed this spring created a Legislative Task Force to find ways to streamline permit processing. This was a more measured response than some other approaches in proposed legislation that would have taken more drastic steps to change how permits are reviewed and approved. NEBC has been actively involved in this debate for several years. However, within the last year, there has been an increased effort to overturn or greatly simplify permit review processes. NEBC recognizes the importance of improving the efficiency and fairness of permit processes, but has actively opposed measures that would undermine the integrity of environmental regulatory programs.

There is strong pressure in the state for streamlining permits to improve the competitiveness of Washington’s business climate. Some stakeholders would like to see environmental planning and permitting reduced to a minimal level, amounting to little more than a “rubber stamp” for development proposals. Others feel that development is too easy, and more stringent environmental controls and reviews are needed. The outcome of this debate can have significant ramifications for the viability of the environmental industry in Washington.

NEBC will continue to participate in the legislative process and work to maintain a reasonable balance between the need for improving permitting processes and the need to maintain the integrity of essential environmental programs.

The Legislative Task Force on Permitting Processes will be making recommendations to the Legislature in December of this year, and continue its review during 2005. NEBC will monitor these proposals, and other legislation that we expect to see on permit streamlining. With the increasing focus on competitiveness and regulatory reform, it is entirely possible that the upcoming Legislative Session will face proposals that would substantially change the way environmental permits are reviewed and approved.

- INDUSTRY NEWS -

EMPLOYEES WILL BE ASKED TO SHARE A LARGE PORTION OF PREMIUMS OR TAKE A REDUCTION IN BENEFITS

More companies will be asking employees to take a greater share in the cost of their benefits or to take a reduction in the level of benefits offered. Preliminary results of a survey conducted earlier this year, reports that most employers are expecting increases near 13%, while they say they can only afford to pay a little less than 10% more. The difference will have to be absorbed by employees at a time when salaries are not increasing at the same pace.

NEBC members have solutions to these problems. By pooling together with other companies, NEBC members are seeing savings of up to \$100 per employee per month. This savings is for benefits that are the same or better than they currently offer. Ask your employer to take a look at the NEBC benefits as they review the future of your insurance this next year. Contact Tino Versoza with H-C and Associates, our NEBC employee benefits representative, at 800.627.5345.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONFERENCE OF WASHINGTON

The Environmental Conference of Washington is part of the Association of Washington Business' (AWB) ongoing effort to keep companies informed on environmental laws, regulations and policy issues. Serving as Washington state's chamber of commerce, AWB has offered cost-effective, practical and timely information on environmental issues for over 11 years. AWB has partnered with NEBC to bring you the most comprehensive forum in Washington for in-depth discussion of environmental policy, technical and regulatory issues. The conference is organized into three tracks so that you can tailor the program to meet your needs.

Interested in Exhibiting? Reserve your booth on the tradeshow floor of this premier event now! Space is limited and the trade show has sold out the last two years in a row. The tradeshow showcases companies offering advanced environmental technologies and services. This is a great opportunity for you to bring your latest innovations and service offerings in front of decision-makers, product buyers and the regulated community. For more information, please call Cara Bergeson at 503.227.6361 or email at cara@nebc.org.

CALL FOR SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY ARTICLES

NEBC is an advocate for the use of sound science in all policymaking. NEBC acts as a regional source of environmental expertise and science for local, state, and federal agencies, policymakers 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 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.

IDAHO TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT NEWSLETTER

If you are located in Idaho or wish to do business in Idaho, the Idaho Transportation Department publishes a newsletter - "DBE News" that has a wealth of information in it. Along with general information of interest to small businesses, it also lists upcoming Training Opportunities, Invitations to Bid, Current Idaho Transportation Dept Highway Const Projects, Highway Construction Awards, and Bid Openings. To get on the mailing list for newsletter, contact: Liz Healas, Editor DBE News, Idaho Dept of Transportation, EEO Office, DBE Supportive Services, P.O. Box 7129, Boise, ID 83707-1129.

OTHER INDUSTRY EVENTS & MEETINGS

Fifth Annual Northwest Salmonid Recovery Conference hosted by the Northwest Environmental Training Center will be held October 26 - 29, 2004, 8:30 A.M. to 5 P.M. at the Mountaineers Conference Center located at 300 Third Avenue W, Seattle, WA. Conference Description: This conference is dedicated to people working to restore Pacific Northwest salmonid populations. Each session provides practical information, methods, and resources given by regional experts to advance salmon recovery efforts. The goal of the conference is to foster a sense of stewardship and hope by providing current fisheries science and successful solutions for bringing healthy salmonid populations back to Pacific Northwest rivers.

13th Annual Oregon Water Law Conference will be held November 4 –5, 2004, at the Hotel Vintage Plaza, Portland, OR. The conference will focus on the challenges and solutions of Oregon Water Law issues. The program will provide updates on the Klamath Adjudication and the case filed by the Klamath Tribe seeking restoration of the fishery; Litigation challenging the Deschutes Basin mitigation rules; Challenges to federal Columbia River dams under the ESA; and the Court of Appeals decision in the Coos Bay – North Bend Water Board case. New Policy direction will be presented by legislative leaders and Oregon Water Resources Directory Phil Ward. You will learn innovative approaches to municipal water supply development, hydroelectric relicensing, and nuts-and-bolts instruction on handling contested cases. To learn more and to register, please call 800.574.4852 or visit www.theseminargroup.net.

Sixth Annual National Environmental Performance Summit will be held in Washington, DC on November 30 - December 2, 2004. This is the only national conference that brings together key innovators, policymakers, leading experts, and veteran program managers from all levels of government to examine ways to make environmental and natural resource programs more results-oriented. You are invited to join colleagues from across the nation at this timely conference as we explore the latest best practices, lessons learned and cutting edge ideas for measuring and improving the results of environmental and natural resources programs. For more information and to register, please call 703.894.0481.

INTERNATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

The Advocacy Center – The Advocacy Center is not just another government agency. Rather, they are unique, central coordination office marshaling the resources of 19 U.S. government agencies in the Trade Promotion Coordination Committee to ensure that sales of U.S. products and services have the best possible prospects abroad. The Advocacy Center was established in 1993 to promote U.S. exports and help create and retain U.S. jobs by coordinating high-level U.S. government support to large, medium-size, and small companies. U.S. exports and U.S. jobs are generated when these companies source goods and services from the United States. We use advocacy as a means to promote our country's economic well-being by leveling the playing field. To learn more, please visit www.trade.gov/advocacy.

- MEMBER-TO-MEMBER -

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Med-Tox Northwest is currently seeking Full-time and Part-time Industrial Hygienist and Technician. Med-Tox Northwest is an environmental consulting firm located in Auburn, Washington. We have extensive experience in asbestos, lead, mold and/or PCB surveys; abatement design and management; hazardous materials sampling; remediation design and management; environmental site assessments; laboratory analysis; X-ray fluorescence (XRF) spectrometer analysis for lead-based paint; hazardous materials certification training; AutoCAD, Version 12 to 14 for remediation drawings; and qualitative and quantitative fit testing for personal respirators. Med-Tox Northwest provides a wide range of these services for various federal, state, and local government facilities, as well as schools, commercial, industrial, and residential sites throughout the western United States. Training Certifications Preferred: AHERA Building Inspector, AHERA Designer, EPA Lead Inspector, EPA Risk Assessor, Washington State Asbestos Worker or Supervisor, NIOSH 582e, 40 Hour Hazardous Waste Training, 80 Hour Hazardous Waste Training, First Aid Training. Applicants must be proficient with Word, Excel, and Outlook. Please forward your resume to medtoxnw@msn.com or mail it to Med-Tox Northwest, 2020 "A" Street Southeast, Suite 102, Auburn, Washington 98002.



The Cascade Chapter presents:

How Deep is Your Channel?

A Discussion of the Columbia River Channel Deepening

Speakers:

Dave Hunt, Executive Director, Columbia River Channel Coalition

Dianne Perry, Senior Project Manager for the Port of Portland, Columbia River Channel Improvement for Oregon & Washington

Presenters will address aspects of the Channel Deepening including history and current status.

Thursday, October 7, 2004

11:30 AM – 1:00 PM

5th Avenue Suites Downtown
506 SW Washington
Portland, Oregon

\$35.00 each for NEBC & Guests
\$48.00 each for Non-NEBC Members

• Menu Selections •

Meat Entrée: Citrus & Spice Spit Roasted Chicken with Buttermilk Mashed Potatoes

Veggie Entrée: Seasonal Vegetarian Pasta

Pre-registration recommended, timely meal not guaranteed without reservation. Walk-ins will be charged a \$5.00 service fee. Cancellations accepted until 12:00 Noon, October 4, 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 Total: \$ _____

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Please Note: NEBC is a 501(c)(6), therefore contributions are not deductible as charitable, however they may be taken as standard business expenses.

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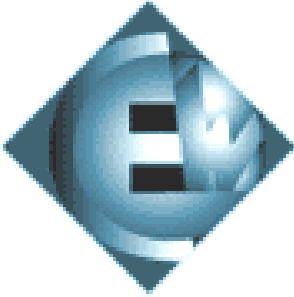
If you are interested in sponsoring this event or others, please contact your NEBC office at 503.227.6361 or email cara@nebc.org.

Environmental Conference of Washington

The forum for current and emerging environmental management and policy issues

Washington State Convention & Trade Center

October 19 & 20, 2004



The Environmental Conference of Washington is part of the Association of Washington Business' (AWB) ongoing effort to keep companies informed on environmental laws, regulations and policy issues. Serving as Washington state's chamber of commerce, AWB has offered cost-effective, practical and timely information on environmental issues for over 11 years. AWB has partnered with NEBC to bring you the most comprehensive forum in Washington for in-depth discussion of environmental policy, technical and regulatory issues. The conference is organized into three tracks so that you can tailor the program to meet your needs.

Interested in Exhibiting?

Reserve your booth on the tradeshow floor of this premier event now! Space is limited and the trade show has sold out the last two years in a row. The tradeshow showcases companies offering advanced environmental technologies and services. This is a great opportunity for you to bring your latest innovations and service offerings in front of decision-makers, product buyers and the regulated community. For more information, please call Cara Bergeson at 503.227.6361 or email at cara@nebc.org.



**The Olympic Chapter presents: Getting Back to Business
with the New Washington Legislature**

Speakers:

Jerry Smedes, Smedes & Associates & Linda Dennis, Smedes & Associates

The Capitol Building will be opened up again in 2005 after being closed for two years for repairs. But what will the Legislature look like in 2005? Who will control the House and Senate, and who will live in the Governors Mansion? What are the implications of this election for environmental businesses in Washington? On the day after the general election, we may not know all of the answers to these questions, but NEBC will take a look at the results to the extent they are available. More importantly, we will begin to look at the governmental and legislative issues that will affect environmental businesses. Budgets, agency leadership, environmental policy, tax issues, permit streamlining and other issues will all have a great deal to do with the viability of the environmental industry in Washington. Jerry Smedes and Linda Dennis have been representing the environmental industry in Olympia since 1993. Members are encouraged to attend this luncheon to hear about important issues the Legislature will be facing next year, and to discuss what NEBC can do to improve the outlook for environmental businesses.

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If you are interested in sponsoring this event or others, please contact your NEBC office at 503.227.6361 or email car@nebc.org.

**Wednesday, November 3, 2004
11:30 AM – 1:00 PM**

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

\$35.00 each for NEBC & Guests
\$48.00 each for Non-NEBC Members

• Menu Selections •

Meat Entrée: Smoked Salmon Ravioli with Dill Cilantro Pesto
Veggie Entrée: Roasted Vegetable Cannelloni with Ricotta Cheese

Pre-registration recommended, timely meal not guaranteed without reservation. Walk-ins will be charged a \$5.00 service fee. Cancellations accepted until 12:00 Noon, October 4, 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 Total: \$ _____

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

Signature: _____

Please Note: NEBC is a 501(c)(6), therefore contributions are not deductible as charitable, however they may be taken as standard business expenses.

Northwest Environmental Conference

A Forum for Practical Environmental Management



The Northwest Environmental Conference (NWEC) is the largest, most comprehensive environmental conference and tradeshow in the Pacific Northwest. NWEC's goal is to provide low-cost environmental management training to a broad range of environmental professionals.

The 2004 Conference continues more than 16 years of tradition of providing a forum to Help environmental professionals in the Pacific Northwest achieve environmental Excellence. The conference includes:

- NWEC tradeshow presented by the NEBC
- A pre-conference HAZWOPER training opportunity
- Table Talks - open discussions on hot environmental topics over breakfast

This year's conference will feature more interactive sessions, case studies, roundtable discussions facilitated breakfast table topic discussions, and plenty of networking opportunities. The conference sessions are divided into four tracks that address the needs of a diverse audience:

Tracks:

Environmental 101 – provides basic information to help businesses operate within compliance guidelines

Advanced Technical – provides practical advice on the latest technologies and techniques to improve environmental performance

Advanced Leadership and Management – highlights leading innovations in environmental management and ideas for operating “beyond compliance”

Roundtable – offers stimulating discussions on hot environmental topics

www.nwec.org

Interested in Exhibiting?

There is only one booth left. Reserve your booth on the tradeshow floor of this premier event now! The tradeshow showcases companies offering advanced environmental technologies and services. This is a great opportunity for you to bring your latest innovations and service offerings in front of decision-makers, product buyers and the regulated community. For more information, please call Cara Bergeson at 503.227.6361 or email at cara@nebc.org.

November 16 & 17, 2004

DoubleTree Jantzen Beach Hotel
Portland, Oregon

Presented by:

Associated Oregon Industries

Oregon Department of
Environmental Quality

Washington Department
of Ecology

Northwest Environmental
Business Council

- NEBC 2004 EVENTS CALENDAR -

October			
7	Cascade Chapter Luncheon – Topic: Channel Deepening	11:30 AM – 1:00 PM	Fifth Avenue Suites – Portland, OR
19 -20	Environmental Conference of Washington	All Day	Washington State Convention & Trade Center – Seattle, WA
November			
3	Olympic Chapter Luncheon – Topic: Legislative Update	11:30 AM – 1:00 PM	McCormick & Schmick’s Harborside – Seattle, WA
15	HAZWOPER Training	All Day	Double Tree Jantzen Beach – Portland, OR
16 - 17	Northwest Environmental Conference	All Day	DoubleTree Jantzen Beach – Portland, OR

***Events are subject change.**

- NEBC CONTACT INFORMATION -

www.nebc.org

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