



E-News

“The Environment is our Business”

A publication of news and events affecting the Northwest environmental industry

-FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR -

First of all, I want to welcome aboard Sue Moir as our new Program Manager. Sue has extensive experience in the non-profit sector, including marketing, recruitment, event planning, volunteer management, and business management for a variety of non-profits including Albertina Kerr Centers (human services agency), the Oregon Glass Guild, Tualatin Riverkeepers, and Independent Electrical Contractors of Oregon. Sue is a strong addition to our team and I am sure that you will enjoy working with her.

On January 31st, the NEBC Board of Directors met for a full-day strategic planning retreat. The session included an assessment of the current environment for our industry and the challenges facing our members. The outcome was a set of strategies and initiatives focusing on enhancing member value, expanding our influence and impact, growing membership, and strengthening internal operations. You will be seeing the results of these initiatives in the months ahead. Meanwhile:

- ◆ NEBC co-sponsored a program with the Pacific Northwest Intl. Section of the Air & Waste Management Association that reviewed the environmental regulatory landscape for 2006. We are now working with them on a technical workshop covering mercury issues. This is tentatively scheduled for May, in Portland, and may be repeated in Washington.
- ◆ We are working with the Citizens Advisory Group of the Portland Harbor Superfund project to hold a workshop on technology options for treating contaminated soil. The outcome is also directly relevant to the Duwamish River Superfund Site in Washington.
- ◆ We are partnering with the Wildlife Habitat Council on their Restoring Greenspace conference in Seattle on May 3-4 (see details under the Industry Events section).
- ◆ Our legislative lobbyist in Washington, Jerry Smedes, has been actively immersed in the current session (See Legislative Briefing below.) Also, several members took advantage of our invitation to attend the legislative briefing and reception sponsored by AWB in Olympia. In Oregon, members have begun discussing our position on extension of the Pollution Control Tax Credit.

Special Thanks to all our Sponsoring Members!

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

As I make contact with our external partners – government agencies, universities, media, other non-profits – I find a strong interest in the work that NEBC is doing, and an eagerness to partner with us as “the voice of the environmental industry.” Finally, for our friends out of the Portland area, we have a new toll free number you can use – 800-985-NEBC (6322)

Robert Grott

SPECIAL NOTICES

Call for conference topics and presenters. Work is beginning on selecting the workshop topics and presenters for two major conferences co-sponsored by NEBC, and members frequently ask how they can become presenters. **Here is how:** prepare a short paragraph description of the session topic, along with suggested presenter(s) with name, organization, title, and contact info; along with your name, organization, and contact info:

- ◆ For the Northwest Environmental Summit (NWES), Tacoma, Oct. 18-19: send to sue@nebc.org by **February 17**.
- ◆ For the Northwest Environmental Conference (NVEC), Portland, Dec. 7-8: go to the conference website www.nvec.org and see instructions on the "Agenda" page by **March 15**.

Last call. Globe 2006, Washington International Trade Fair Pavilion. If you are interested in exhibiting at Globe 2006 in Vancouver, BC you can get an inexpensive booth by joining the WSITF Pavilion. Act now. See details under the Other Industry Events section.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

March 1, Olympic Chapter Luncheon, 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m., McCormick & Schmick's Harborside (Seattle, WA).

March 9, Cascade Chapter Pub Mixer, 5:30-7:30 p.m., Portland Brewing Co. (NW Portland).

October 18-19, Northwest Environmental Summit (NWES), Tacoma. The dates have been set and NEBC will be working closely with AWB to make this year's conference a great success.

December 7 & 8, Northwest Environmental Conference (NVEC), Portland.

LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING

At the Olympic Chapter luncheon meeting in February, our speaker Jerry Smedes of Smedes & Associates, reported on several issues being introduced at this year's short session of the Washington Legislature that are of interest to NEBC members. First, HB 3103 – "State Employee Opinions" could negatively impact NEBC members if passed. The bill is aimed at protecting an employee that disagrees with the actions of their agency, and who speaks out against the agency and its decisions. The issue here is unintended consequences that could upset established regulatory and permitting processes. On the energy front, there is significant interest to support alternative energy sources with new emphasis on biofuels such as biodiesel and ethanol. The Governor's land use agenda addresses changes in the Growth Management Act (GMA) to make the process more timely and predictable for local governments and permit applications. As to the issue of global warming, there is a move by both Democrats and Republicans in sponsoring bills that deal with sequestration of carbon and looking at ways to address this problem.

RENEWING MEMBERS

Clean Environmental Concepts, Inc.
Environmental Management Services, Inc.
Environmental Quality Management, Inc.
Materials Testing & Inspection, Inc.
NVL Laboratories, Inc.
PBS Engineering & Environmental

NEW MEMBERS

Gradient Corporation

In 1998, NEBC took the lead in passing tax incentives for environmental remediation. The program expired two years ago and we are working to restore it. It is an uphill battle, but other business interests have joined the initiative. Finally, we have acted to block a bill that would impose licensing requirements for "soil scientists." The bill was first proposed last year and the sponsors were instructed to work with NEBC and respond to our concerns over duplicative licensing. While there may be positive aspects to the bill, they neglected to work with us and so this bill will likely see no action this year.

SPONSOR HIGHLIGHT

Pacific Northwest National Laboratory

Operated by Battelle for the
U.S. Department of Energy

From local to global, the complex interactions between human activities and their effects on the environment play a pivotal role in energy, environmental, and economic security. Pacific Northwest National Laboratory's (PNNL) environmental and nuclear expertise is helping governments, federal agencies, and stakeholders select the best solutions for environmental problems. Their expertise includes nuclear and radiochemical process science and engineering, science and technology to support cleanup, and worker safety and health.

– INDUSTRY NEWS –

2006 Regulatory & Compliance Reminders - New Independent Contractor Qualifications Effective January 1, 2006 a new **OREGON** law took effect changing the definition of an independent contractor. Under the new law an independent contractor is a person who provides services for remuneration and who: is free from discretion and control over the means and manner of providing the services, is customarily engaged in an independently established business, is licensed under particular statutes, and is responsible for obtaining other licenses or certificates necessary to provide the services.

OSHA Posting Reminder Employers are required to prepare and post by February 1 and until April 30 of each year, the Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA) form 300A Summary of Work-Related Injuries and Illnesses.

OTHER INDUSTRY EVENTS & MEETINGS

February 27-28. Harvesting Clean Energy, Spokane. Charting the way to rural economic development through clean energy production. The Harvesting Clean Energy Conference is the region's premiere event for agriculture and energy innovators to explore opportunities and build partnerships to scale up clean energy production in the rural Northwest. Drawing on top-notch speakers, sessions will provide insight into the nuts-and-bolts of how agriculture producers and rural communities can profitably diversify into clean energy production and other bio-product markets. From feasibility assessment to project design, financing, and marketing.
<http://harvestcleanenergy.org/index.html>

March 1-3. Environmental Industry Summit 2006, San Diego, CA. Join 130+ executives for this three-day event where you will learn the most up-to-date environmental industry trends and interact with key business leaders. Sessions include:

- State-of-Industry Reports (Consulting, Labs, Water, Remediation, etc.)
- Leadership Perspectives from EBJ Award Winners
- Andy Paterson's "View from the Capitol" and "The Power of Pork"
- Energy Policy Update; Impacts of Climate Change
- Half-Day Workshop on M&A Wednesday morning 9am-12.
- Networking Events: Reception, Banquet, Golf, Whale Watching and more...

Held at the Coronado Island Marriott Resort, San Diego, CA. Participation and hotel accommodations will be limited, so reserve your seat as soon as possible. <http://www.ebiusa.com/Summit2006> NEBC has negotiated a \$200 discount for members. Questions? Call Grant Ferrier (619-295-7685 x15) or email (gferrier@ebiusa.com).

March 10-11, Northwest Sustainability Conference, Seattle. This conference is an opportunity to learn about recent developments in sustainability practices, especially those in the Pacific Northwest. Over 40 professionals and community leaders who have dedicated their lives to working for a more sustainable future will lead sessions. Speeches, workshops and films will cover topics including Simpler Living, Clean Energy, Eating for Sustainability, Waste Reduction, Green Building to name a few. 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 sustainable. http://www.nweec.org/sust-400_03-06_seattle.htm

March 29-31. Globe 2006, Vancouver, BC. Business leaders, policy makers, and solutions providers from around the world will come together at GLOBE 2006 to discuss the most recent developments in the business of the environment and find innovative solutions to global environmental challenges. At the GLOBE 2006 Trade Fair, more than 400 exhibitors from North America, Europe and Asia are expected to display a broad range of environmental and energy technologies, services and solutions to 10,000 participants from around the world. The GLOBE 2006 Trade Fair will also highlight innovations in critical and emerging sub-sectors, including two exciting showcases that will feature the most recent advances in Transportation Technologies and Sustainable Construction. For further details, visit the website at www.globe2006.com. **Washington businesses can exhibit at a discount as part of the Washington State International Trade Fair Pavilion. Contact the WSITF office at 206-368-2118 or rk.cheung@thetradefair.org (but act soon).**

April 2-6. SAGEEP, Seattle. Environmental and Engineering Geophysical Society is pleased to announce the theme, **Geophysical Applications for Environmental & Engineering Hazards – Advances & Constraints** for this year's SAGEEP being held at the DoubleTree Hotel in Seattle, Washington. This theme will give rise to quite a range of topics for the over 150 oral and poster presentations, numerous in-depth workshops, prepared short courses, technical presentations, and field trips. For more information and to register, please visit www.eegs.org.

May 3-4, Restoring Greenspace: Ecological Reuse of Contaminated Properties in EPA Region 10, Seattle. The Wildlife Habitat Council is partnering with EPA, NEBC, and other organizations for this Northwest conference. Wildlife Habitat Council (WHC) works with its member companies and conservation groups on voluntarily enhancing properties for wildlife habitat benefits and promotes the inclusion of ecological enhancements as part of site restoration. For more information and to register, visit www.wildlifehc.org/events/restoringgreenspace.cfm

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Pacific Groundwater Group is seeking an Hydrogeologist with 0-5 years experience. Projects range from regional hydrologic characterizations to water supply development projects to remedial investigations of contaminated sites. Qualifications and experience: Masters degree in geology, hydrology or closely-related field with focus on groundwater; strong writing ability; thorough knowledge of groundwater theory and well hydraulics; theoretical and applied understanding of groundwater flow and contaminant transport modeling; background in aqueous geochemistry, isotopes, and environmental geochemistry; ability to discern what is important, to observe important details, to integrate details into a global understanding, and to communicate that information; good organizational skills. Please send a resume (email only preferred) to: Janet Knox, **Pacific Groundwater Group** 2377 Eastlake Ave. East, Seattle, WA 98102 Janet@pgwg.com P: (206) 329-0141 F: (206) 329-6968.

Port Blakely Communities is recruiting for two positions in the near future. Position one is an administrative position that handles permitting support and coordination, office organization and general office support. The second position is for office support, coordinating with the engineering and architectural consultants and with the City of Issaquah on design work. Please contact Erin Chamberlain, Design & Permitting Coordinator, **Port Blakely Communities** at 206-225-2338 ext 1338 or echamberlain@portblakely.com for more information.

- NEBC 2006 EVENTS CALENDAR -

March			
1	Olympic Chapter Committee Meeting	10:00 AM – 11:00 PM	McCormick & Schmick's Harborside – Seattle, WA
1	Olympic Chapter Luncheon – Topic: WSDOT Projects	11:30 AM – 1:00 PM	McCormick & Schmick's Harborside – Seattle, WA
9	Cascade Chapter Committee Meeting	4:00 PM – 5:15 PM	Pyramid Brewing – Portland, OR
9	Cascade Chapter Pub Mixer	5:30 PM – 7:00 PM	Pyramid Brewing – Portland, OR
April			
5	Olympic Chapter Committee Meeting	10:00 AM – 11:30 PM	AGC – Seattle, WA
5	Olympic Chapter Luncheon – Topic: TBD	11:30 AM – 1:00 PM	McCormick & Schmick's Harborside – Seattle, WA
13	Cascade Chapter Committee Meeting	9:30 AM – 11:00 AM	TBD
13	Cascade Chapter Luncheon – Topic: Bonding and Insurance Considerations	11:30 AM – 1:00 PM	TBD
May			
3	Olympic Chapter Luncheon – Topic: TBD	11:30 AM – 1:00 PM	McCormick & Schmick's Harborside – Seattle, WA
11	Cascade Chapter Luncheon – Topic: Stormwater and Source Controls	11:30 AM – 1:00 PM	TBD
24	Board of Directors Meeting	11:30 AM – 4:00 PM	Preston Gates & Ellis – Seattle, WA
24	Olympic Chapter Mariners Night	5:00 PM – Game over	Safeco Field - Seattle, WA
June			
8	Cascade Chapter Committee Meeting	9:30 AM – 11:00 AM	TBD
8	Cascade Chapter Luncheon – Topic: New Challenges with Energy Facilities Sighting	11:30 AM – 1:00 AM	TBD
22	Olympic Chapter Golf Tournament	7:30 AM – 1:00 PM	Harbour Pointe Golf Club – Mukilteo, WA
July			
TBD	Board of Directors Meeting	12:00 PM – 4:30 PM	Hart Crowser – Seattle, WA
TBD	Olympic Chapter Rooftop Mixer	5:00 PM – 7:00 PM	Hart Crowser – Seattle, WA
20	Cascade Chapter Golf Tournament	7:30 AM – 1:00 PM	Langdon Farms Golf Course – Aurora, OR
September			
6	Olympic Chapter Committee Meeting	10:00 AM – 11:30 PM	AGC – Seattle, WA
6	Olympic Chapter Luncheon – Topic: TBD	11:30 AM – 1:00 PM	McCormick & Schmick's Harborside – Seattle, WA
TBD	Board of Directors Meeting	TBD	Lane Powell – Portland, OR
TBD	Cascade Chapter Summer Mixer	5:30 PM – 7:00 PM	Lane Powell – Portland, OR
October			
12	Cascade Chapter Committee Meeting	9:30 AM – 11:00 AM	TBD
12	Cascade Chapter Luncheon – Topic: Effective use of Perspective Purchase Agreements in Redeveloping Brownfields	11:30 AM – 1:00 PM	TBD
18 - 19	Northwest Environmental Summit & Trade Show	All Day	Tacoma Convention Center – Tacoma, WA
November			
1	Olympic Chapter Committee Meeting	10:00 AM – 11:30 PM	AGC – Seattle, WA
1	Olympic Chapter Luncheon – Topic: TBD	11:30 AM – 1:00 PM	McCormick & Schmick's Harborside – Seattle, WA
9	Cascade Chapter Luncheon – Topic: Brainstorming the Pollution Control Tax Credit	11:30 AM – 1:00 PM	TBD
December			
6	Hazwoper Training	8:00 AM – 5:00 PM	Red Lion Hotel on the River – Portland, OR
7 - 8	Northwest Environmental Conference & Trade Show	All Day	Red Lion Hotel on the River – Portland, OR
7	Board of Directors Meeting	TBD	Red Lion Hotel on the River – Portland, OR

*Event dates and topics subject to change.

MEMBER DISCOUNTS

Associated Technologies Council. NEBC has partnered with the Associated Technologies Council (ATC) in order to allow you to participate in their employee benefits program. ATC provides employee benefits to companies in Computer Technology, Bioscience, Telecommunications and now Environmental Sciences. Because ATC is able to pool firms together across a wide spectrum of desirable industries, they are able to provide medical benefits up to 20% below what you are probably paying now. In addition, there are benefits available like, paperless enrollment, single invoice billing and COBRA administration all provided at no cost to you. Contact Tino Versoza, NEBC Benefits Representative (503) 626-9135 or email: tino@get-benefits.com for a free no obligation benefits analysis.

Financial Planning Services with Waddell & Reed. NEBC members receive at 20% discount on financial planning services provided by Waddell & Reed, a national financial planning firm founded in 1937. Planning services include retirement planning, wealth management, tax-efficient investing, education funding, estate protection, and succession planning for closely-held businesses. Other business services include retirement plans and financial education workshops. Contact Karen Einberger, Financial Advisor, Waddell & Reed, 206.283.6661 or keinberger@wradvisors.com.

Sustainable Industries Journal (SIJ). The NEBC member discount for the Sustainable Industries Journal is better than imagined – it's still a \$10 discount, but the new annual subscription rate is only \$39, that means that NEBC members can receive this new publication for only \$29/year! For more information look to: <http://www.sijournal.com/>

Oregon Insider. NEBC members may take advantage of a \$150 introductory rate for the first year (24 issues), a savings of \$95 off their regular base rate. In addition, NEBC members will enjoy an ongoing subscription rate of \$195 per year, which represents an ongoing savings of \$50 per year. To redeem your discount please contact Oregon Insider by calling David Light at 541.343.8504 or by email at epi@rio.com.

Northwest Environmental Training Center. NEBC has partnered with NWETC to offer our member companies an exceptional opportunity to provide continuing education to its employees at a 20% discount off the published rate on all of NWETC's technical training workshops, conferences, and seminars. For more information, visit their website <http://www.nwetc.org/> or contact Erick McWayne at 206-762-1976.

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