



**Kitsap County  
Public Works**  
614 Division Street (MS-26)  
Port Orchard, WA 98366

# Kitsap County announces Earth Day award winners

For release April 11, 2005

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## — NEWS RELEASE —

**Subject:** Kitsap County announces Earth Day award winners  
**Kill Date:** None  
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— PLEASE EMBARGO UNTIL APRIL 11, 2005 —

### PHOTO OPPORTUNITY

Each year Kitsap County recognizes individuals, organizations, and business for their notable contributions to the environment in Kitsap County. This year the Earth Day awards presentation will take place on April 11 at the Board of County Commissioners regular televised meeting at the Kitsap County Courthouse in Port Orchard.

There will be a reception immediately following the presentation in the 3rd floor conference room of the Public Works building across the street from the Courthouse. The press is invited to meet this year's winners.

The winners are as follows:

#### **Outstanding Achievement in Sustainability**

—*Stillwaters Environmental Education Center*

This non-profit organization has a local focus and involves volunteers to provide restoration efforts, native plant installation, trail construction, and an Earth Day Eco-Fest that attracts 600 people. A discussion course, "Choices for Sustainable Living," offers information about how individuals contribute to a healthy, vibrant economy without adversely affecting the environment or resources for the future.

#### **Outstanding Public-Private Partnership Award**

—*Team 3 "Triple Play" of Leadership Kitsap*

Team Triple Play is a committee of this year's Leadership Kitsap group that includes members Melissa Tippets, Terri Washburn, Cameron Teller, Diane Jennings, Randy Crenshaw, and John Hudson. In this innovative program, old athletic shoes of any brand were collected for remanufacture into a resilient recycled-content play surface. Team Triple Play's efforts included soliciting donations of services and materials, creating a website, and partnering with the Navy, community groups, and sixty-six schools and businesses to collect and process shoes throughout Kitsap County. The program ends with a tent event at Kitsap Mall on the weekend of April 22, and they have already collected nearly their entire 10,000-shoe goal. The new play surface will be installed at Silverdale Waterfront Park.

#### **Environmentally Friendly Construction**

—*Walter Galitzki, Sun Path Energy*

Walter Galitzki was instrumental in the development of the Build a Better Kitsap (now Built Green) program of the Home Builders Association of Kitsap County. Since the program was launched in 1997, Walter has ensured that all his new home and remodeling projects have met the three-star level of the Built Green program.

#### **Green Cleaning**

—*Kris Daily and Bill "Mac" McEnerney*

This team from the Custodial Department at Central Kitsap School District is committed to provide a well-managed and safe environment for students, visitors, and staff. A clean out of their buildings resulted in proper management of 1,300 pounds of hazardous products, introduction of non-toxic products into the cleaning routine of schools, and implementation of New Employee Training.

— MORE —



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## **Clean Kitsap Award**

—*Kat Gjovik*

As a volunteer, Kat heads up the Adopt-a-Road program for the City of Bainbridge Island and is a huge part of the Earth Day activities there as well. In addition to recruiting volunteers, Kat provides safety training and incorporates the pollution prevention theme into the litter program. Through her efforts, both litter prevention and Earth Day have become high profile volunteer programs.

## **Outstanding Achievement in Environmental Education**

—*Cindy Mathisen*

Each year this King's West School 4th grade teacher brings a wide variety of experts from agencies throughout Kitsap County to her classroom to teach the students about recycling, worm bins, and water quality. Her class participates in "Salmon in the Classroom" and has regular trips to Chico Creek. For the past three years her students have won recognition in the America Recycles Day Calendar Poster Contest.

## **Excellence in Environmental Leadership**

—*Kathleen O'Brien*

Kathleen founded O'Brien & Company in 1991 to bring the building industry a practical approach to addressing environmental concerns. In 1993, she organized the first green building conference in the Northwest. Since then, Kathleen has become a nationally recognized expert in the field of sustainable design and construction. Recently, she facilitated the development of the Washington Sustainable Schools Protocol and then managed the pilot project. She is also the lead instructor for the Sustainable Advisory Certification Course at Seattle Central Community College, and has developed five green building programs in Washington State, Hawaii, and California.

## **Waste Wi\$e Kitsap Award**

—*Dennis Oost*

Dennis is an employee of the Facilities, Parks and Recreation department, and was the lead on the construction project at the Fairgrounds designed to correct stormwater and erosion problems. His chosen technology of underground drainage and storage of rainwater is projected to save the County an estimated \$500,000 in construction expense over typical surface detention and conveyance systems and can accommodate a 200-year storm with zero site runoff. By eliminating site runoff, most erosion problems have been eliminated and the porous paving system allows water to percolate through grass and gravel, removing most of the auto pollutants.

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