Snohomish County recognized for its use of green building practices

The Master Builders Association’s Built Green program awarded Snohomish County the 2007 Green Hammer Award for its outstanding support of the Built Green program over the last year. The Built Green program is an environmentally friendly building program designed to assist homebuyers in finding homes that not only protect the environment but the health of residents.

“This award is a reflection of our commitment to encourage sustainable development practices within our community,” says Executive Reardon.

The Green Hammer Award was presented to Snohomish County on March 13 at the Built Green Conference. The Snohomish County Sustainable Development Taskforce was established in 2002 to encourage the adoption of green building practices throughout the county.

The taskforce has met significant success in promoting development that has a low impact on the site, creates less storm water run off, produces less waste, and is energy efficient. Snohomish County continues this important partnership and support of the Built Green program through promotion of environmentally sound practices.

More information on the Built Green program

continued
Concerned about growth and development in your area?

On April 11, County Executive Aaron Reardon will officially kickoff a major project to update and revise Snohomish County’s Unified Development Code (UDC), the regulations that govern all land use, zoning and development activities in unincorporated areas of the county.

UDC Update Project Kickoff Event  
Wednesday, April 11, 7:00pm – 8:30pm  
Snohomish County Campus, Admin. East, Meeting Room 1  
3000 Rockefeller Avenue, Everett

“Join us as we work to ensure that tomorrow’s neighborhoods provide the quality of life that has made Snohomish County the best place to live, work and raise a family,” says Executive Reardon.

- Hear how the County is approaching this major update
- Give us ideas for improving development regulations
- Learn how you can be involved

More information:  www.snoco.org and search “UDC Update”

Snohomish County participates in alternative commute campaign

Snohomish County is participating in the statewide Wheel Options program designed by the Washington State Ridesharing Organization. The program is designed to ease traffic congestion and help improve air quality by encouraging people to try a commute other than the drive-alone option.

continued
“Wheels Options is an effective, rewarding program that benefits our entire community and encourages people to make a conscious decision to commute sensibly,” says Executive Reardon.

Commuters who participate can enter a prize drawing by trying an alternative commute a minimum of 2 days. They can ride a bus, vanpool, carpool, or bicycle to and from work, walk, or use combination of the options.

Participants help reduce the number of vehicles on the road and prevent the release of vehicle emissions, but they can also benefit personally by keeping the extra miles off their odometers, saving money, or using commuting time to relax or read while someone else drives.

Last year, 874 Snohomish County employees participated in the campaign. This translates to 6,756 fewer pounds of carbon monoxide released into the air and 122,836 fewer miles driven.

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**Everett’s leaders step to a new beat**

On Saturday, March 17 Executive Reardon and other prominent Snohomish County figures will put their best foot forward to raise money for the Dorothy Jayne Foundation, the Everett YMCA and the Imagine Children’s Museum. Each competitor has been paired up with a professional dancer to bring you “Dance Your Passion.”

“Preparing for this competition is one of the most physically and mentally challenging tasks I have ever taken on,” says Reardon. “I look forward to the competition and the opportunity to contribute to a wonderful cause.”

Reardon, along with his wife Kate, Everett Mayor Ray Stephanson, Everett City Councilman Mark Olson and the other participants have been practicing their precise, complicated routines for months. The culmination of their dedication, hard work, sweat, and maybe a few tears will pay off at Saturday’s event at the Dorothy Jayne Studio.

More information about this event
Thank you very much for taking the time to read my electronic newsletter.

If you would like to send me your comments and feedback, or if you would like to unsubscribe, simply reply to this message.

You may also contact me directly by phone at 425.388.3460.