



WaterTalk

Alaska Idaho Oregon Washington

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 10 Bulletin - EPA 910/9-92-043

November 2002



Environmental Priorities Outlined by EPA Region 10

EPA recently announced regional environmental priorities for increased resources and management attention. The priorities will overlay EPA's critical foundational environmental protection work of permitting, grants management, inspections and enforcement, scientific analyses, and so on. The six priorities are:

- ◆ The Coeur d'Alene Basin (Idaho)
- ◆ The Columbia River Basin (Washington, Oregon and Idaho)
- ◆ Oil and Gas (Alaska)
- ◆ Clean-Up of Contaminated Sites
- ◆ Tribal Environmental Health
- ◆ Fine Particulates from Smoke and Diesel Emissions

A 13-page report called **Regional Priorities 2002-2003** describes why these areas of focus are important and what EPA intends to do in order to be successful. Long-term environmental outcomes and short-term actions to achieve those outcomes, as well as the indicators to track progress, have been developed for each priority. The region will use this report as a baseline from which to measure efforts in each of these areas.

For a copy of the report, call EPA's Public Environmental Resource Center at 206/553-1200 or 1-800-424-4372.

Or visit:

[http://yosemite.epa.gov/r10/
extaff.nsf/Reports/
Regional+Priorities](http://yosemite.epa.gov/r10/extaff.nsf/Reports/Regional+Priorities).

In This Issue...



EPA News to update you on agency activities



Tools to clue you in on resources, publications, opportunities, and services



WaterWords to share stories from communities around the Greater Northwest



Spotlight to showcase success stories and environmental stars



Ecosystem to provide news that goes beyond water topics

2002: The Year of Clean Water Celebration and Recommitment

- a note from Elbert Moore, Director of EPA
Office of Ecosystems and Communities



During the past 30 years, I have witnessed a number of fundamental changes in our approaches to implementing the Clean Water Act in Region 10. Three of the most significant changes are:

- From strong and focused technical expertise on “point sources” of pollution to an emphasis on policy and technical expertise for “point and nonpoint sources” of pollution.
- From primary focus on regulatory approaches to control point sources to an emphasis on both regulatory and non-regulatory approaches for all sources.
- From direct delivery of environmental services (issuing and reviewing permits, conducting monitoring studies and preparing reports, conducting environmental assessments of projects, and others) to partnerships with states, Tribes, federal agencies and others.

The central theme is that EPA must continue to work with a number of other agencies and groups to effectively address the remaining water quality problems. For many of these problems, the public policy choice for implementation will likely be non-regulatory approaches to achieve the goals of the Act.

It's well documented and recognized that much progress has been made in controlling point sources of pollution. Much of the work that remains to meet the Act's “fishable and swimmable” goal is associated with nonpoint sources of pollution. These sources are primarily responsible for degrading watershed health and aquatic systems, and must be addressed in a watershed or ecosystem context. Based on my experience with Clean Water Act implementation, it may take another 30 years to successfully address nonpoint sources of pollution.

EPA Region 10 joins with the rest of the nation in celebrating the many significant accomplishments under the Clean Water Act over the past thirty years, and we remain committed to the important work ahead.

Clean Water Act 30-Year Celebrations Continue



Celebrations and activities surrounding the 30 year anniversary of the Clean Water Act continue around the country. Just last month, here in Region 10, scores of EPA employees joined citizen volunteers in monitoring the health of local waterways to recognize Water Monitoring Month.

If you would like to test your local waters, call EPA Region 10 to check out a simple water monitoring kit at 1-800-424-4372 or 206/553-1200. These fairly easy-to-use kits are available for two-week loan.

November and December will focus on the topic of **Drinking Water**. Drinking water in the United States has been called the safest in the world. Even so, there is a lot we can all do to make sure drinking water is safe for everybody. The choices we make in our communities, businesses, and as individuals can help us **Protect Water for Life**.

EPA is offering many resources to help us protect our drinking water. For a complete list, see www.epa.gov/safewater/resources. To order these and any other drinking water publications, call EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791. Here is a short list of free resources on this topic:

- **Protect Your Drinking Water**, a brochure focusing on preventing pollution at the source.
- **Protect This Body of Water**, a magnet.
- **Drinking Water from Household Wells**, a 19-page booklet.
- **Protecting America's Public Health**, a 11"x17" landscape showing potential risks to drinking water sources and protective measures (*front*) and detailed explanation (*back*).

EPA Region 10 still has many publications, posters, pins, magnets and other goodies from previous months of celebration. Call 1-800-424-4372 or 206/553-1200 to find out about free materials related to wetlands, fishing, beaches, water conservation, watersheds and water monitoring.

To see how EPA is celebrating the Clean Water Act all year long, check out our website, www.epa.gov/water/yearofcleanwater.

EPA to Propose Discharge Permit for Construction Activity

EPA soon expects to announce a draft general permit covering storm water discharges from construction sites in Alaska, Idaho and Indian Country in the Pacific Northwest.



As required under the Clean Water Act's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) program, storm runoff from construction sites must be adequately managed by the site operator to minimize sediment and other construction chemicals from entering nearby waterways.

All clearing, grading and excavation activities must be conducted using appropriate erosion and sediment control practices, combined with pollution prevention, to reduce polluted runoff from construction activity.

EPA is the NPDES permitting authority in Idaho, Alaska and Indian Country; Washington and Oregon issue similar permits in their jurisdiction. EPA's proposal will be conducted jointly with the other areas of the country where EPA runs the NPDES program.

The upcoming proposal replaces an existing general permit covering construction sites disturbing five or more acres.

The proposal will contain several new elements, including requirements for "small construction sites" disturbing 1-5 acres of land, waivers in certain cases, and significantly revised eligibility requirements. After responding to input gathered from the public comment period, EPA expects to reissue a Construction General Permit by February 2003.

On a related note, EPA Region 10 recently sent a letter to all Tribal Chairs and environmental contacts, inviting interested tribes to consult on the upcoming storm water permit action.

For more information or to learn when the public comment period starts for the draft permit, check the EPA-Region 10 webpage, www.epa.gov/r10earth/stormwater.htm or contact:

Misha Vakoc
EPA Region 10
Storm Water Coordinator
206/553-6650 or
1-800-424-4372 x6650.

Comments Invited on Water Temperature Guidance

You are invited to comment on the second draft of EPA Region 10's **water temperature guidance**. The guidance is intended to be used by states and tribes to establish water quality standards for temperature which will protect salmon, steelhead, bull trout and cutthroat trout.

If the states and tribes adopt standards consistent with the guidance, EPA will be able to expedite the Clean Water Act approval process and the Endangered Species consultation for the standards.

Public meetings will be held Nov. 6 in Lacey, WA; Nov. 7 in Portland, OR; and Nov. 15 in Boise, ID. The guidance can be found on EPA's website at www.epa/r10earth/water.htm.

Or, call EPA's Public Environmental Resource Center at 1-800-424-4372. For more information, contact John Palmer, 206/553-6521 or palmer.john@epa.gov. **Comments are due November 26.**

What's Up with our Nation's Waters?

In honor of the Clean Water Act's 30th anniversary, EPA has re-released the popular **What's Up with our Nation's Waters?** This 24-page booklet, designed for children aged ten to 15, presents key findings of the National Water Quality Inventory in an easy-to-read format. The booklet includes projects for school or fun, a water quiz, a glossary, and resources for more information. View the booklet on-line at www.epa.gov/owow/monitoring/nationswaters/waters.pdf.

Or, request a copy from EPA Region 10 at 206/553-1200 or 1-800-424-4372. (For quantity orders for classroom or other use, please call our national center for environmental publications at 1-800-490-9198 and request 841-F-00-005.)

Pesticides in Schools Website Launched

The multi-agency Urban Pesticides Education Strategy Team recently launched its new **IPM in Schools** website. The site can help Washington schools and licensed day care centers comply with the new pesticide posting, notification and reporting law in Washington. The website helps schools, already facing budget constraints, to move beyond compliance and adopt an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) approach to managing pests by making the information more accessible to pest managers and school administrators. The new website provides Washington-specific information and links users to some of the best web resources.

For information, contact Sharon Collman, EPA, at 206/553-2876 or 1-800-424-4372 x2876. View the website at http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/nonpoint/upest/ipm_program.html.

Help Your Watershed: Poster

A colorful new poster is available free from EPA. Called **Help Your Watershed**, this poster gives kids some simple tips for protecting our waters. For a copy, call EPA at 206/553-1200 or 1-800-424-4372.



Watershed Funding Workshop Set

The Environmental Finance Center and Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board will offer a **Watershed Funding Workshop** in Redmond, Oregon on November 20, 2002. This all-day workshop will provide information on federal, state and private funding sources for watershed enhancement activities in Oregon.

Other workshops originally scheduled for this fall have been postponed and will be rescheduled later this year. Future workshops are tentatively scheduled for Eugene this winter and Baker City next spring. Please visit the EFC website at <http://sspa.boisestate.edu> for more information, or call Amy Williams at 208/426-4990.

Brownfields Grant Proposals Due Soon

It's time to apply for **Brownfields Grants**! These grants provide funding and revitalization opportunities for communities by returning contaminated (or potentially contaminated) properties to reuse. EPA seeks proposals for brownfields cleanup, assessment, and job training grants. Assessment and cleanup grant proposals are due December 16, 2002. Job training grant proposals will be due in January 2003. This is a competitive process for funds to be made available to governments and non-profits in Summer 2003. For details about these grants and how to submit a proposal, visit www.epa.gov/brownfields. For more information or to discuss your potential proposal, contact EPA Region 10's Brownfields Team at 1-800-424-4EPA or email brincefield.timothy@epa.gov, morales.susan@epa.gov, or slater.mike@epa.gov.



Learn About Riparian Areas

Clean water is naturally a priority issue across the Pacific Northwest. Riparian areas are one of the keys to protecting water quality. However, many people do not completely understand the values that riparian areas provide, including keeping our water clean and providing fish and wildlife habitat. A series of educational publications is now available to introduce the functions and values of riparian areas. The bulletins discuss ways to protect streams and riparian areas, and provide resources. Bulletins include:

- *A Homeowner's Guide to Riparian Areas in Western Washington, Western Oregon and Coastal Alaska*
- *A Guide to Riparian Areas in Rangelands*
- *A Developer's Guide to Riparian Areas*
- *A Homeowner's Guide to Riparian Areas - in Eastern Washington, Eastern Oregon and Idaho*
- *A Recreationist's Guide to Riparian Areas*
- *A Landowner's Guide to Riparian Areas - in Western Washington, Western Oregon and Coastal Alaska*
- *A Landowner's Guide to Riparian Areas - in Eastern Washington, Eastern Oregon and Idaho*

These bulletins were produced by the Pacific Northwest Regional Water Quality Program and Cooperative Extension. More information and copies can be found at <http://wawater.wsu.edu>. For a hard copy, call EPA at 206/553-1200 or 1-800-424-4372.

Centers Support Local Governments

EPA has announced that eight organizations from across the nation will serve as Environmental Management Systems **Local Resource Centers**, where local governments can go to make their operations more environmentally friendly. In Region 10, a center is located in Portland, Oregon, at The Zero Waste Alliance, 503/279-9383. For details visit <http://www.epa.gov/ems/> or <http://www.peercenter.net/>.

EPA and September 11

A news article about the EPA response to the World Trade Center disaster recounts the personal reaction and reflections of some of the agency staff who were involved. You can find the article at www.epa.gov/wtc/stories/yerreview.htm

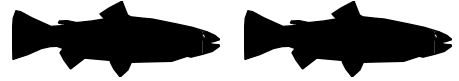
Watershed Initiative Nominations Due

Under an important new **Watershed Initiative**, EPA will select up to 20 watersheds throughout the country for grants to support promising watershed-based efforts toward cleaner water.

Nominations for watersheds are due by November 21, 2002. (Nominations must be coordinated with state governors and tribal leaders.)

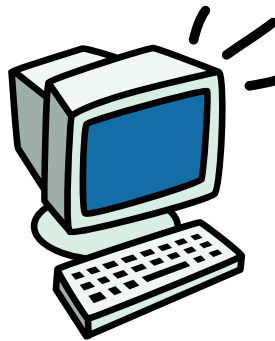
The *Federal Register* announcement and other information about EPA's Watershed Initiative can be found on EPA's website at <http://www.epa.gov/owow/watershed/initiative>.

Clean Water Act Training on Web



EPA has announced completion of the Watershed Academy web-based training module called Introduction to the Clean Water Act. This web-based training module introduces water quality standards, the antidegradation policy, monitoring and assessment, total maximum daily loads, wastewater permitting, nonpoint sources, wetlands regulation, state water quality certification, and the state revolving loan fund. For more information or to access the training go to <http://www.epa.gov/watertrain/>.

New EnviroMapper for Water Version 2.0



EnviroMapper for Water is a web-based Geographic Information System (GIS) application that displays information about bodies of water in the U.S.

This tool allows you to create customized maps that portray surface waters along with a collection of environmental data. EnviroMapper Version 2.0 has a new, improved interface.

It also provides access to more information sources, including water program information (Assessed Waters, Beaches, Sewage No Discharge Zones, Nutrient Stations and Water Quality Stations).

New data layers include Congressional Districts, Watersheds, Federal Lands, Tribal Lands and Ecoregions. Visit <http://www.epa.gov/waters/enviromapper/v2new.html>.



Water Security Software Available

A new software program known as the **Vulnerability Self-Assessment Software Tool (VSAT)** is now available for public wastewater utilities. Funded by EPA and developed by the Association of Metropolitan Sewerage Agencies, this tool can help wastewater utilities analyze how vulnerable they are to both intentional threats and natural disasters.

The VSAT provides a comprehensive, intuitive system for analyzing vulnerability. The software includes reference libraries of both potential threats and countermeasures, and provides a method for managing the information generated by the vulnerability assessments. The free software is available to all public wastewater utilities at <http://www.amsa-cleanwater.org/about/about.cfm>. For technical assistance visit <http://www.VSATusers.net> or call 1-888-340-8830.

To learn more about how EPA is helping to improve the security of our nation's water, visit <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/security>.

National Study of Contaminants in Fish: First Findings

EPA recently released the first-year results of its **National Fish Tissue Study**. The study measured selected persistent, bioaccumulative and toxic chemicals in fish from 500 randomly-selected lakes and reservoirs in the United States. The survey will help to determine normal levels. Those levels will establish a baseline against which to track progress of pollution control activities, and to identify areas where contaminant levels indicate the need for further study. Information about the preliminary results can be found at <http://www.epa.gov/waterscience/fishstudy/>.



Survey Reveals Regional Attitudes on Water Quality

Results are in! Last winter, a team of water quality professionals conducted a regional survey on the public's attitudes towards a range of water quality issues. The team included state Cooperative Extension Programs, Water Research Institutes, and EPA Region 10.

Survey results indicated that the public considers water issues very important. Over 90% of respondents considered clean drinking water, clean rivers and clean groundwater very important. Wetlands, preservation of salmon runs, watershed restoration, and water for recreation were also considered very important for a majority of respondents – but not as important as clean drinking water.

People were most likely to get their water information from television and newspapers. They were less likely to receive water-related information from universities and state agencies. Generally, they do not want to attend traditional workshops to access water information.

People most often cited urban wastes as the major water pollutant in their state. A majority of people have changed how they use water in their homes as part of a water conservation effort.

The 50-question survey, randomly mailed to 1,780 residents in the region, achieved a 50% return rate. A summary presentation may be found on the web at www.epa.gov/r10earth (click on index, click on W for Water Issues Survey).

To learn more, contact Marilyn Freeman, Cooperative Extension Liaison to EPA, at 206/553-0038 or freeman.marilyn@epa.gov.

Inventory Shows Little Change In Nation's Water Quality

EPA has released the **National Water Quality Inventory: 2000 Report**. The inventory is based on findings reported by the states, territories, jurisdictions and Tribes in 2000. States assessed 19% of the nation's 3.7 million total stream miles, 43% of its 40.6 million acres of lakes, ponds and reservoirs, and 36% of its 87,300 estuary square miles for this report. EPA reports that 39% of assessed stream miles, 45% of assessed lake acres, and 51% of assessed estuary square miles in the nation were found to be impaired for one or more uses. The percentage of assessed stream and estuary waters found to be impaired has increased somewhat from the last report in 1998. However, that difference is more likely due to changes in assessment approaches than actual water quality changes.

Streams: Of the nearly 700,000 of assessed stream miles, 39% or 269,258 stream miles were found to be impaired for one or more uses. Pathogens (such as fecal bacteria) and siltation were cited as leading causes of stream impairment. Major sources of these and other stressors in assessed streams include runoff from agricultural land and hydrologic modifications such as dam building, dredging and channel straightening.

Lakes: In the nation's 17.3 million assessed lake acres, 45% or 7.7 million acres were found to be impaired for one or more uses. Nutrients, metals (primarily mercury) and siltation were the top three causes of impairment. Major sources of these and other stressors in assessed lakes include runoff from agricultural land, hydrologic modifications, and runoff from urban areas and storm sewer discharges.

Estuaries: About 31,000 square miles of estuaries were assessed. Of these, 51%, or 15,676 square miles, were found to be impaired for one or more uses. Metals

(primarily mercury), pesticides and oxygen-demanding substances were reported as the top three causes of impairment in assessed estuary square miles. Major sources of these and other stressors in assessed estuaries include municipal sewage treatment plants, runoff from urban areas and storm sewer discharges, and industrial discharges.

EPA is working to improve identification and cleanup of waters through the Clean Water Act Section 303(d) program. This program calls for participation of the public in the identification of impaired waters and in the development of pollution 'budgets' used to restore the health of those waters. EPA is also developing a national monitoring strategy to improve water quality assessment and reporting and ensure that state water quality findings are comprehensive and comparable among states and over time.

The National Water Quality Inventory: 2000 Report is available on the web at www.epa.gov/305b/2000report.

Idaho Nonpoint Source Projects Underway Thanks to State Revolving Funds

More than \$2.6 million in **Clean Water State Revolving Funds** is now at work in Idaho on non-point source pollution cleanup projects. The Idaho Department of Environmental Quality recently signed a loan agreement with the Idaho Soil Conservation Commission.

This is an important development in water quality control. In the past, Idaho non-point source projects were not eligible for State Revolving Fund loan money despite the fact that most of Idaho's water pollution comes from non-point sources. The Soil Conservation Commission has now, in turn, signed loans with five Soil & Water Conservation Districts (SWCD).

Each of the five loans will support projects aimed at reducing agricultural nonpoint source pollution. Following is a listing of those projects:

- The Minidoka SWCD will receive a loan of \$500,000 to help Minidoka County farmers convert from surface irrigation to sprinkler application.

- The Weiser SWCD will receive a loan of \$872,000 to implement agricultural Best Management Practices (BMPs) in a nitrate priority area along the Weiser River in Washington County.
- The Clearwater Basin Direct Seed/No Till Project, serving Lewis, NezPerce, Idaho and Latah Counties, will receive a loan of \$300,000 to apply conservation tillage agricultural BMPs.
- The Ada SWCD will receive a loan of \$59,000 to implement agricultural BMPs, improving water quality in Mill Slough and helping to meet the Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) requirements of the valley stretch of the Boise River.
- The Franklin SWCD will receive a loan of \$942,000 to convert the Preston Mink Creek Irrigation Canal to a pressurized pipeline.

For information about the State Revolving Fund program, contact

Michelle Tucker, EPA at
206/553-1414 or
1-800-424-4372 or e-mail
tucker.michelle@epa.gov.

For details about the Idaho loans, contact

David Coburn, Idaho
Conservation Commission
208/332-8653, or e-mail
dcoburn@agri.state.id.us.

Cashmere Middle School Students Prove that Solar is a SNAP!

Todd Gibson's 8th grade science class at Cashmere Middle School learned some important lessons recently as they stripped wire for the school's brand new solar array. The 600 watt photovoltaic (PV) unit, donated by EPA employees, will produce electricity and send it back into the grid. Students will measure the amount of energy produced, and the Chelan County PUD will pay them for it.



The array will help teachers to instruct students about renewable energy technologies and how the energy grid works. Moreover, students will soon be able to link their production information together with schools across the region to become part of a virtual power station. School solar arrays are up and running in Seattle and Vancouver, Washington.

Chelan County's green power program called **SNAP** will pay the school nearly 2 cents a kWh for power generated and will add to that a percentage of the money generated from their green power purchasers. The Cashmere system could generate between \$600 and \$630 each year.

Cashmere Middle School is the first school in the County to put up a PV array and pledges to use their profits to assist a next school to participate. Mike Nelson, of the WSU Energy Extension Office who led the school's solar workshop, has put together many such systems and is hopeful that this "solar breeder" type of effort will catch on.

In Seattle, 225 EPA employees donated personal funds to buy the array. Carolyn Gangmark, of the EPA, offered that "A huge percentage of our employees signed up to do this. I think that they did it because they're incredibly committed to the environment and because they wanted to do something concrete about climate change."

For more information, contact Carolyn Gangmark at 206/553-4072 or 1-800-424-4372, or e-mail gangmark.carolyn@epa.gov.



Change a Light to Make a Difference

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is challenging Americans to change a light in their homes to illustrate the impact of a consumer's energy choice and the benefits of using energy-efficient light bulbs and fixtures. Choosing a more energy-efficient lamp can save money and help the environment.

"Change starts with simple everyday actions," said EPA Administrator Christie Whitman. "ENERGY STAR puts the power of change in the hands of all Americans. If everyone across the country changed just one room in their home to ENERGY STAR lighting, we could keep one trillion pounds of greenhouse gases out of the air."

Through December, EPA is partnering with more than 140 manufacturers, retailers, state governments and utilities throughout the United States to make finding and buying energy efficient lighting easier. Promotions include special offers and rebates from major retail chains and regional utility companies to help consumers save on compact fluorescent light bulbs, fixtures and ceiling fans with lighting. Nationwide promotions and in-store lighting workshops will be held through a national home improvement chain. Local events where customers can exchange older technology halogen floor lamps for discounts on more energy-efficient ones will also take place.

A typical household spends about \$90 a year, or 10 percent of its annual electricity bill, on lighting. ENERGY STAR labeled light bulbs, fixtures and ceiling fans with lighting help the environment and benefit consumers with greater energy savings and fewer bulb changes. Only 10 percent of a standard bulb's energy is converted into visible light, while the other 90 percent is wasted as heat. By comparison, today's compact fluorescent light only wastes 30 percent of its energy as heat. There are more than 40 types of ENERGY STAR qualified bulbs which last at least 6000 hours while using 75 percent less energy without sacrificing quality.

ENERGY STAR is a voluntary program managed by EPA and the U.S. Department of Energy. The ENERGY STAR label allows consumers to easily identify energy-efficient appliances, electronics, office equipment, lighting, heating and cooling equipment, buildings and homes. For more information about ENERGY STAR and how you can help by changing a light, visit <http://www.energystar.gov> or call 1-888-STAR-YES.

BENEFICIAL **LANDSCAPING**

Clopyralid Herbicide: A Word to the Wise

Trouble in compost has surfaced due to the use of the herbicide Clopyralid.

Clopyralid has been used for residential weed control and for control of broad leaf weeds in agriculture. Unfortunately, Clopyralid survives composting, which results in herbicidal residues in compost. Farmers and gardeners alike are bemoaning the effects to crops and vegetable gardens. Treated residential grass clippings, and treated agricultural products, such as wheat straw used for animal bedding, are among the sources of contamination in compost.

Clopyralid has been found in composting facilities in Oregon, Washington and California, in many cases at levels expected to cause harm to sensitive plants. These findings have led to restrictions on the residential uses of Clopyralid in Washington and California, and EPA has proposed similar restrictions on its residential use nationwide. The agricultural uses of Clopyralid are not affected by

these restrictions, because wheat growers in particular would like to maintain their option to use Clopyralid for managing weeds.

Consequently, it is important to be aware that the use of straw and the management of straw waste may require additional limitations and/or actions to prevent it from directly affecting sensitive plants and from entering composting facilities. Gardeners who are interested in composting soiled animal bedding and applying the compost to their gardens will want to be aware of this situation.

Lessons learned? It is not likely that we will ever know all of the ramifications of using chemical fertilizers, herbicides and pesticides. Fostering healthy soil conditions and having diverse plantings, which enable a host of beneficial organisms to work for you, is a safer alternative, and it is fundamental to beneficial landscaping and gardening.

For detailed information about Clopyralid in compost, visit the Seattle Public Utilities website at: <http://www.cityofseattle.net/util/clopyralid/>. For more information about beneficial landscaping, contact Elaine Somers at 206/553-2966, somers.elaine@epa.gov, or visit our website at www.epa.gov/r10earth/bl.htm.

November

7-9: Discovering and Defining Environmental Education in Alaska, Anchorage, AK. Alaska Natural Resource and Outdoor Education Association, 907/376-2561, www.anroe.org/2002conference.htm.

14, 16, 23: Salmon Short Course for volunteers, King County, WA. WSU Cooperative Extension, 206/205-3171.

19-20: Agriculture and Water Quality in the Pacific Northwest, Yakima, WA, 509/465-5055, 360/786-5445 x7911, or www.agwaterqualitynw.org.

20: Low Impact Development in West Puget Sound, Port Townsend, WA. Puget Sound Action Team, 1-800-54-Sound, or 360/407-7300.

20: Watershed Funding Workshop, Redmond, OR. Environmental Finance Center, <http://sspa.boisestate.edu>, 208/426-4990.

20: Wastewater Security Training: Reducing Vulnerability to Man-Made Threats and Natural Disasters--Computer Webcast. EPA and Water Environment Federation, www.wef.org, 1-800-848-APWA.

20-22: Listen to the Ripples: Working Together for Watershed Communities, Redmond, OR. Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board, www.oweb.state.or.us/.

21-22: Wetlands in Washington, Seattle, WA. Law Seminars International, 206/621-1938, 1-800-854-8009, or www.lawseminars.com.

December

5-6: Government Takings, Seattle, WA. Law Seminars International, 206/621-1938, 1-800-854-8009, or www.lawseminars.com.





WaterTalk is published each February, May, August, and November by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 10. *WaterTalk* seeks to be a useful tool for those who protect water resources and ecosystems in communities of the Greater Pacific Northwest, by providing practical resources and relevant agency news.

You are invited to contribute items for publication. Submittal deadline is the 15th day of the month before publication. *WaterTalk* articles can be used in other publications. Please give credit to *WaterTalk*.

For mailing changes, or to contact the editor, call Andrea Lindsay at 206/553-1896 or 1-800-424-4EPA x1896, or email lindsay.andrea@epa.gov.

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In This Issue

Water News

**Year of Clean Water
Celebrations**

Tools and Resources

Water Study Results

Events