

### What are Public Participation Grants?

Public Participation Grants (PPG) fund not-for-profit public interest groups to involve and educate Washington citizens about environmental issues in Washington State. There are two types of PPG projects:

- **Contaminated Site Projects** encourage people to become involved in the investigation and cleanup of contaminated sites. Examples include community oversight of the Hanford, Duwamish River, and Spokane River cleanups.
- **Waste Management Projects** encourage citizen involvement in eliminating and reducing waste and toxics. Examples include providing information on recycling and sustainability to low-income communities, informing homeowners about the dangers of pesticides and hazardous household products, and creating an educational campaign to help keep toxics out of Puget Sound.

### How much grant money is available?

The Department of Ecology (Ecology) expects the PPG Program will receive approximately \$1.8 million for the upcoming two-year cycle. PPG can fund up to \$120,000 for a project. There is no requirement for matching funds.

All work on the project must occur between July 1, 2011 and June 30, 2013. This is a competitive award. If Ecology selects your organization for an award, you may receive all or part of the amount you requested.

### What are Ecology's PPG priorities for 2011-13?

Some specific high-priority projects Ecology is working on are:

- Protecting and restoring Puget Sound.
- Involving the public in the investigation and cleanup of contaminated sites.
- Reducing toxic threats in the home and environment.
- Carrying out the state's Solid and Hazardous Waste Management Plan (Beyond Waste Plan)  
[www.ecy.wa.gov/beyondwaste](http://www.ecy.wa.gov/beyondwaste).

#### WHY IT MATTERS

Public Participation Grants help Washington residents:

- Identify the causes, sources, and effects of pollution.
- Become aware of how their activities affect the environment.
- Adopt responsible practices in their homes, schools, and businesses to prevent, reduce, or clean up pollution.
- Encourage the practical and responsible reuse of materials currently going to disposal sites as waste.
- Provide informed feedback during public comment periods on site cleanup plans.

#### Special accommodations:

If you need this publication in an alternate format, call Waste 2 Resources at 360-407-6900. Persons with hearing loss, call 711 for Washington Relay Service. Persons with a speech disability, call 877-833-6341.

Ecology continues to place a priority on projects that give diverse community groups a chance to learn about and help solve the state's environmental problems. These diverse groups include those who are economically disadvantaged or do not speak English as their first language.

### **What project costs can I pay with grant money?**

The PPG Program reimburses for project-related administrative costs, learning tools, educational outreach, and public activities such as meetings and workshops. See the 2011-13 PPG Guidelines for a list of eligible and ineligible costs at <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/biblio/0807023.html>

### **Who can apply for a Public Participation Grant?**

Grants are available to federally registered 501(c) status not-for-profit public interest groups, public-interest organizations, and groups of three or more unrelated individuals. All projects must provide substantial and measurable public benefit that improves public participation through education and outreach. Projects must have well-defined activities that show positive behavior change related to the problem. Organizations applying as federally recognized not-for-profits must also register with the Washington Secretary of State's Office in order for Ecology to consider their application.

If your group has a project proposal, you can download the revised grant guidelines and updated application from our website at <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/swfa/grants/ppg.html>. Ecology will post the PPG 2011-13 Guidelines and application no later than October 28, 2010. **Apply only with the PPG 2011-13 Funding Application. Ecology will not consider funding any applications submitted on the 2009-11 Grant Application Form or the 2010-11 Supplemental Funding Application Form.**

### **When are applications due?**

The application period for the 2011-13 funding cycle runs from Monday, **November 1, 2010**, through Thursday, **January 6, 2011**. Organizations and individuals on the Public Participation Grants mailing list receive notice by mail when the application period opens. Applications are due at the Department of Ecology Headquarters building by **5 p.m. on Thursday, January 6, 2011**. The Headquarters building is at 300 Desmond Drive SE, Lacey, WA 98503. The mailing address is PO Box 47600, Olympia, WA 98504-7600. **Postmarks do not qualify.** If you want to discuss your project, request a copy of the PPG Guidelines, get on the PPG mailing list, or ask questions about the program, please call 360-407-6061 or 360-407-6707.