



S.E.E.K. Newsletter

Sharing Environmental Education Knowledge

Winter 2009

S.E.E.K. newsletter is published by the Solid Waste Division and Surface and Stormwater Management Program of Kitsap County Public Works

Contact us:
Kitsap One
(360) 337-5777



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On the Horizon

Our goal is to find ways to teach students the importance of conserving resources while giving teachers the support and materials needed to integrate environmental education into classroom curriculum through presentations, hands-on activities, and field trips.

FREE Classroom Presentations:

Kitsap County Public Works has educators available to teach a variety of lessons on environmental issues to local K-12 schools. Below are examples of two:

Thumbs Up, Thumbs Down (Grades 3-6)

Through this matching game students discover activities we do that affect the quality of our water and how we can do things differently to minimize our impact. Includes information on watersheds and a great visual of the cumulative impacts of pollution. This activity can be a great supplement to a watershed or ecosystem unit or science kit. 50 minutes. To schedule this lesson, contact Pat Kirschbaum, 360-307-4278 or pkirschbaum@co.kitsap.wa.us.

For more lessons about stormwater and water pollution, go to <http://www.kitsapgov.com/sswm/outreach.htm> and click on Water Related Classroom Presentations.

"Closing the Loop" (Grades 3-6)

What do the three chasing arrows mean? Students will learn what the recycling symbol stands for and the importance of closing the recycling loop. Activities include a recycling relay race, a puzzle, and examining products made from items we recycle. This lesson would be a great extension to your recycling unit. To schedule this lesson, contact Jo Meints, 360-337-4278, or jmeints@co.kitsap.wa.us.

For more lessons about composting, recycling, hazardous waste, and solid waste management, go to http://www.kitsapgov.com/sw/re_presentationsk6.htm

Teacher Workshop August 18-19 at Island Lake Community Center

Open the Door to Environmental Education is a workshop offered each summer by Kitsap County Public Works and Kitsap PUD. Teachers learn about local resources, participate in classroom activities, and brainstorm with other teachers to incorporate environmental awareness and activities into their classrooms. Clock hours and SPU credit is available. Contact Pat Kirschbaum, pkirschbaum@co.kitsap.wa.us, 360-307-4278 to be included on this years workshop mailing list.

The Water Festival is Back for 2009

★ new date and location

Water Festival is a day for 4th graders from schools around Kitsap County to come together and learn about water. Students attend three 25-minute classroom presentations, a 40-minute assembly program and explore exhibits.

When: May 5, 2009

Where: Kitsap County Fairgrounds

Check with your school district's curriculum office for information. Still have questions?

Contact Debbie Thomas, Kitsap PUD, 360-626-7723 or dthomas@kpud.org.



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Adopting a “Waste Free Lunch” lifestyle

(Information adapted from <http://wastefreelunches.org/>)

One way to reduce the amount of garbage that goes to the landfill is to adopt a “waste free lunch” lifestyle. Challenge your students to one week of waste free lunches. Here are some tips to help:

- Pack lunches in reusable lunch bags or boxes instead of paper lunch bags.
- Use reusable utensils instead of disposable.
- Store sandwiches in a reusable wrap, bag or container instead of disposable plastic wraps or sandwich bags.
- Put drinks and other liquids in reusable containers like a thermos, or a recyclable container such as a can or glass bottle instead of juice boxes or pouches.
- Buy bulk snacks and pack them in reusable containers, instead of individually wrapped ones. Buying in bulk is a cost savings as well.
- Use cloth napkins instead of paper.
- Pack whole fruits and vegetables instead of individually wrapped ones.



National Public Works Week May 17-23, 2009



National Public Works Week (NPWW) is a celebration of the tens of thousands of men and women in North America who provide and maintain the infrastructure and services collectively known as public works. Here in Kitsap County, we celebrate by inviting classes from local schools to the Public Works Annex for a tour and educational presentations about public works. Students see real-world application of math, science, and communication and gain an appreciation of the services provided by public works crews.

If you would like to receive more information about this opportunity please contact Kitsap One (360) 337-5777 or k1@co.kitsap.wa.us. When dates and times have been confirmed we will send information and a participation application.

America Recycles Day Poster Winners

At the regular televised meeting on November 10, the Kitsap County Board of Commissioners honored 12 local students who won the annual America Recycles Day poster contest. The theme, “It All Comes Back To You”, emphasizes that to close the recycling loop you must buy products made from the items you’ve recycled. (See Lesson Highlight “Closing the Loop”) The winning posters will appear, one each month, in the Kitsap Sun continuing through October 2009. In addition, all 360 entries can be viewed on the Kitsap Sun’s online poster gallery. (<http://gallery.kitsapsun.com/main.php>)

This year’s winners are:

- Olivia Erickson, King’s West Academy, Grade 3
- Lindsay Hood, King’s West Academy, Grade 6
- Aidan Hurley, View Ridge Elementary School, Grade 2
- Lina Fowler, View Ridge Elementary School, Grade 3
- Sabrina Williams, Clear Creek Elementary School, Grade 6
- Riley Surma-Abrams, Sylvan Way Christian School, Grade 4
- Ann Cabacungan, Hidden Creek Elementary School, Grade K
- Cassie Wilcher, Poulsbo Elementary School, Grade 5
- Megan Anderson-Fagan, Sylvan Way Christian School, Grade 4
- Fletcher Morrow, Sylvan Way Christian School, Grade 5
- Grace Mei-Xing Smith, King’s West Academy, Grade 4
- Deon Dibley, Silverdale Elementary School, Grade 5



Earth Day Awards

Celebrating the 39th annual Earth Day, April 22nd, 2009, Kitsap County hosts “Earth Day Awards”. You may nominate yourself, another person, an organization or a group to receive an Earth Day Award. Watch for details on award categories by visiting the Kitsap County website, beginning mid February, <http://www.kitsapgov.com/sw/>.