

Dear Participants of the Sustainable Oregon Schools Initiative:

The following is an update of project progress, followed with a listing of some upcoming events.

### **Documents and Website**

We have been working hard to further define the SOS Initiative, while also putting the funding plan together. There is now a project web site, [www.zerowaste.org/schools](http://www.zerowaste.org/schools). A number of descriptive documents can be found there, and a summarized document list appears at the bottom of the “Highlights” page. These include:

- [Sustainable Oregon Schools Summary](#) (PDF 288K)
- [School Sustainability Topics Listing Draft](#) (PDF 68K)
- [Endorsement Form](#) (PDF 184K)
- [Founders' Circle flyer](#) (PDF 352K)
- [Participation Form](#) (PDF 224K)

Take a look and let us know what you think. We welcome comments that will help make the project even better. We have just added a “Related Events” page, so let us know about any upcoming events that would be appropriate to include. Then, keep checking back, as we are adding to the site all the time.

### **Funding**

The funding is of course key to moving forward. Recent contributions have come from the Ecoworks Foundation and the Oregon Department of Education. We have also just introduced the SOS Founders Circle, which will recognize early project funders, and which is the beginning of a long-term sponsorship program. If you know of an organization that would like to help move Oregon’s schools toward sustainability, please let them know about this project and the SOS Founders Circle! Details and an invitation are available on the project website. We are also in the process of obtaining foundation grants for much of the project funding.

### **SOS Initiative Steering Committee**

Those that were appointed by Bill Bradbury to help guide the project and to select a project steering committee have met several times. This group, which will become the executive team of the steering committee includes David Van’t Hof, Danny Santos, both from the Governor’s office, Bill Blosser from the Sustainability Board and Ed Dennis from the Department of Education, as well as ZWA staff.

It has been decided to invite some steering committee members and to accept self-nominations also, so that everyone, who might be interested, has an opportunity to be considered. If you might like to nominate yourself to serve on the SOS Initiative steering committee, please contact us for more details.

### **Project Plan**

Generally the project plan is:

Phase 1, Engagement: Now through October ‘05

Seek project funding, engage stakeholders to become participants by submitting a participation form, Create the SOS website (after phase 1 funding is complete).

Phase 2, Resource Development, November ‘05 – October ‘06

Begin with Kick-off Workshop to bring all participants together. Form topic teams and create tools and resources. Hold first annual Sustainable Oregon Schools Conference.

Phase 3, Education, Outreach, Implementation, November '06 – October '08  
Market the tools and resources, support interested schools and districts with their use and implementation. Continue annual Sustainable Oregon Schools Conference.

### **Related Events**

This information, posted on the project website, is provided as a service. Listing on this page does not necessarily imply endorsement by the Zero Waste Alliance or the Oregon Sustainable Schools Initiative.

1. Environmental Education Association of Oregon conference, June 23-25, 2005  
Location: Washington State University, Vancouver, WA  
Details are available at <http://www.eeaw.org/conference/2005/index.html>
2. Bioenergy for Community and Economic Development, July 13th and 14th, 2005  
Location: The Riverhouse Hotel, Bend, Oregon

A Broad Survey (Day 1) of Bioenergy Technologies and Opportunities, and a focused Forum (Day 2) on Small-Scale Heating Systems for Schools and Other Public Buildings.

- Day 1 "Bioenergy 101" is a broad survey and discussion of bioenergy in all its forms. This session is intended for economic development professionals, policy makers, planners, and anyone else who is interested in learning about biomass and biofuels.

- Day 2 "Fuels for Schools and Beyond" is a detailed forum on the technical and financial aspects of using woody biomass to heat rural schools and other public and commercial facilities, including "how to's" and case studies.

Details and registration, please visit: <http://www.coic.org/base/bioenergy.htm>

3. Traditional Foods, Diets and Lifestyles, Aug 5-8, 2005  
Location: Ocean Shores, Washington,  
Details are available at <http://www.traditionalfoodsdietslifestyles.com>.

If you have questions or comments, contact Lori Stole, [lstole@zerowaste.org](mailto:lstole@zerowaste.org), 503-591-1454

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