

**King County DNR Green Globe Awards  
Winners Release**

**KING COUNTY NAMES GREEN GLOBE AWARD WINNERS  
Area Businesses Recognized For  
Environmental Stewardship Achievements**

“The crowning achievement of your efforts in environmental stewardship,” said King County Executive Ron Sims to the winners of the county’s Department of Natural Resources’ 1997 Green Globe Awards, “is that you have proven that environmental protection is good business, that sound environmental practices are good for business, and that the environment is everyone’s business.”

The nine Green Globe Award winners and seven Merit Award winners honored today at the special Earth Day breakfast ceremony at the Edgewater Inn are all participants in county Department of Natural Resources (DNR) environmental management and assistance programs. DNR Director Pam Bissonnette pointed out that the award categories reflect the diversity of more than 1,300 businesses participating in DNR programs.

Classic Nursery & Landscape Co., located on Bear Creek in Redmond, was the big winner at the Green Globe Awards ceremony, accepting both the *Leader in Environmental Education* and the *Leader in Wildlife Habitat Protection* awards. Each year, nursery owners Linda and Leon Hussey invite school and youth groups to observe and learn about salmon that run in Bear Creek and about other wildlife that use the area. This past year, 60 groups visited the nursery and learned about salmon in their native habitat. Linda and Leon have also installed trails and an area to hold small group discussions along Bear Creek. They are planning a boardwalk with interpretive signs and computers that explain the salmon’s life cycle and habitat. In partnership with King County, they have helped restore the creek to mimic the hydraulics of the original creek. The owners also teach and encourage their clients to select plant materials and landscape in wildlife-friendly ways, extending the benefits to wildlife far beyond the boundaries of the nursery.

The leadership of Witch Creek’s Noelle Richards garnered this Enumclaw business the Green Globe Award as *Leader in Agricultural Best Management Practices*. Active in the thoroughbred horse-racing industry, Witch Creek serves as a rehabilitation facility for injured track horses. Richards’ efforts to demonstrate the compatibility of raising livestock while maintaining water quality and fish habitat have made her a forerunner in wise land use. She was co-founder of the King County Model Horse Program, which has educated hundreds of people through training sessions and on-site demonstrations of best management practices in pasture and manure management, clean water diversion methods, winter paddocks, mud reduction, gutters and downspouts, cross-fencing and stream-buffer

fencing. Noelle, who works closely with the King Conservation District, allows testing of various best management practices in her business.

Cascade Pest Control in Bellevue, the Green Globe Award winner for ***Leader in Hazardous Waste Reduction***, provides another example of the diversity and leadership efforts demonstrated by program participants. Over the past several years, Cascade owners Kurt and Diana Tretz have integrated such environmental and health protection practices as using barrier methods for pest management in place of pesticides, changing to less toxic products and computerizing the monitoring of chemical use. Kurt helped set industry standards with his efforts to initiate and chair an environmental awareness committee within the State Pest Control Association. Cascade's "statement of environmental commitment" was adopted by the association as a formal policy and published in the nationwide journal, *Pest Control Technology*. The committee also received a grant from the Washington State Department of Ecology to educate the public about household hazardous products.

Showing that even small businesses can make a significant contribution to the environment, Alki Auto Repair in Seattle was selected as the Green Globe Award ***Leader in Market Development for Recycled Products***. The business is one of 10 local repair and service stations that continue to provide re-refined oil for customers after last year's Shift Gears campaign in King County. Committed to long-term protection of the environment, this business coaches customers in environment-friendly auto care.

The Green Globe Award for ***Leader in Water Quality Protection*** was awarded to PSF Industries, Inc., of Seattle. A community partner in the King County Businesses for Clean Water program, PSF hosted model business tours to share approaches for pollution prevention with area business owners and employees. The company, which trains staff in spill prevention and cleanup procedures, designed and fabricated innovative covers for scrap metal storage bins to prevent stormwater pollution.

The Green Globe Award for ***Leader in Biosolids Recycling*** was presented to Star Nursery & Landscaping in memory of Fred Palmer, owner of the Tukwila nursery. Fred, who passed away in 1996, promoted the use and benefits of GroCo biosolids compost (a composted mixture of sawdust and solids from wastewater treatment) throughout the industry and community for 15 years. He worked with the City of Seattle's water conservation demonstration garden at the Center for Urban Horticulture and also taught volunteers of the King County Mountains to Sound Greenway program.

Green Globe Award winner Bruegger's Bagels, Redmond, distinguished itself as a ***Leader in Recycling, Waste Prevention and Use of Recycled Materials***. Bruegger's corporate office mandates recycling at all of its bakeries, practices waste prevention, uses recycled products and extends its environmental practices to its policies on sponsorship, donation and corporate purchasing. A "Waste Free Fridays" participant for the past two years, Bruegger's has offered free drip coffee on Fridays to anyone using a durable mug

instead of a paper cup. The company's quarterly community newsletter, *Bruegger's for Better Neighborhoods*, features articles on Bruegger's latest environmental programs.

As the Green Globe Award ***Leader in Industrial Waste Reduction***, Coca-Cola Bottling Company of Washington, located in Bellevue, proved that environmental efforts can be good for business. Through efficiencies, the company reduced its wastewater discharge from an average of 183,000 gallons a day in 1991 to 20,000 gallons a day in 1996. Some of the efficiencies reduced loss of its product that was previously being discharged with its wastewater. The business also better controlled the pH and reduced the biological oxygen demand of its wastewater.

Merit Award winners were Plateau Farms, Enumclaw, ***Leader in Agricultural Best Management Practices***; Midas Auto Systems Experts franchises owned and operated by Silence Inc., Lynnwood, ***Leader in Hazardous Waste Reduction***; Discovery Gardens, Port Townsend, ***Leader in Market Development for Recycled Products***; D & J Automotive and Electric, Seattle, ***Leader in Water Quality Protection***; Hendrikus Schraven Landscape, Construction and Design, Inc., Issaquah, ***Leader in Biosolids Recycling***; McLendon Hardware, Inc., Renton, ***Leader in Recycling, Waste Prevention and Use of Recycled Materials***; and Ball-Foster Glass Container Company, L.L.C., Seattle, ***Leader in Industrial Waste Reduction***.

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