

Snohomish County Executive **AARON REARDON**



Priorities in Action  **Latest News & Upcoming Events**

County launches year-long effort to reduce waste stream

Snohomish County employees have taken on the “Recycle More! Recycle Right!” challenge, an effort to reduce the county’s internal waste stream by 30 percent.

Snohomish County’s employee recycling program has been in place for many years. However, a recent assessment of the existing program showed room for improvement. Assessments showed a significant amount of paper, cans, bottles, and other recyclable materials being wasted in the trash instead of being recycled.

The county plans to achieve the 30-percent recycling goal through increased employee education and awareness about recycling, trainings for employees and janitorial staff, and through improved employee resources. The county also recently installed new recycling receptacles for heavily visited public areas at the County Campus, allowing bottles, cans and paper to be recycled.

“Our internal recycling campaign is an important initiative because it helps conserve natural resources, reduces greenhouse-gas emissions, and contributes to green jobs in our region,” said Snohomish County Executive Aaron Reardon. “By increasing our recycling rate by 30 percent in day-to-day operations, we can divert more than 35 tons of materials from needlessly being land-filled.”

The recycling challenge is being led by the county’s Office of Energy and Sustainability, as well as its Solid Waste and Facilities Management divisions.

“Snohomish County has always been a leader in environmental stewardship, and our internal recycling challenge demonstrates our commitment to being part of the solution,” Reardon said.

In recent years, Washington state firms employed nearly 5,000 people in recycling-related green jobs, many of which are located in Snohomish County.

Reardon thanks Peinecke for service at WDC

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In This Issue:

- County launches year-long effort to reduce waste stream
- Reardon thanks Peinecke for service at WDC
- United Way offers tax assistance to those in need

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Sincerely,

Aaron Reardon



Earlier this week, Snohomish County Executive Aaron Reardon lauded Dale Peinecke, president and CEO of Giddens Manufacturing, for his work as chair of Snohomish County's Workforce Development Council. Peinecke served five years as chair but still remains on the board. Stepping into the role is Jeffry Tomson of Machinists, Inc.

United Way offers tax assistance to those in need

Need help determining whether you qualify for the Earned Income Tax Credit on this year's tax returns?

The United Way of Snohomish County is again providing free tax preparation and access to the Earned Income Tax Credit and other tax credits to help working families increase their incomes and create savings. The annual campaign allows people to keep more of their hard-earned money and avoid paying unnecessary fees for commercial tax preparation and "rapid refund" loans.

Households earning \$50,000 or less annually qualify for tax assistance through the United Way and may be eligible for thousands of dollars in tax credits when filing an income-tax return.

The service will be available through April 14, 2012, and at some locations, translation assistance will be available. For a complete list of locations and what to bring, click [here](#).

Thank you very much for taking the time to read my electronic newsletter.

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