

Snohomish County Executive
AARON REARDON



Priorities in Action



Latest News & Upcoming Events

Friday, November 12, 2010

www.snoco.org

 **Heartfelt thank-you to our veterans**

Thursday was Veterans Day, and I would be remiss if I didn't again take the opportunity to thank the women and men who have served and continue to serve our country in the military.

Through generations, the different branches of the U.S. Armed Forces have protected our U.S. Constitution and preserved the freedoms that make America great. For your sacrifice and dedication to the enduring values of this country, you are owed our greatest respect and admiration.

Thank you, and may God bless you all.

Sincerely,

 **Snohomish County joins PUD's "Energy Challenge"**

Snohomish County has joined the Snohomish County PUD's "Energy Challenge" in an effort to cut electricity consumption, save money and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Snohomish County has pledged to reduce energy use in county facilities by 10 percent below the 2007-2009 average during the next three years. The pledge includes buildings at its main Everett campus as well as the South District Court and the Arlington-based fleet shop.

"We are excited to be the first government to join the PUD's 'Energy Challenge,'" Snohomish County Executive Aaron Reardon

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Heartfelt thank-you to our veterans

Snohomish County joins PUD's "Energy Challenge"

County crews ready for bad winter weather

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How are we doing?

Did you know that you can track how well the County is meeting its performance goals?

The SnoStat system tracks how well the County is delivering services, the costs of those services, and the efficiency and effectiveness of service delivery.

said. "The potential savings equals 875,000 kilowatt hours – enough to power nearly 70 homes annually while reducing CO2 emissions by 125 tons each year."

The county will reach its goals through capital retrofit projects as well as employee awareness efforts. Retrofits are partially being funded through a \$1.5 million federal Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG).

Snohomish County joins more than 150 local businesses and institutions – including Everett Community College, QFC, Lake Stevens School District and the PUD – as well as 2,500 residential customers.

Consumers and businesses throughout Snohomish County and Camano Island expect to save hundreds of thousands of dollars through Snohomish County PUD's "Energy Challenge," a community effort that asks customers to cut their energy use by 10 percent.

The PUD launched the program in spring 2009. Collectively, participants could save nearly 15 million kilowatt hours – enough to power 1,200 homes annually.

Snohomish County and Camano Island residents and businesses can join [here](#).

County crews ready for bad winter weather

As the days turn colder, Snohomish County's Public Works crews are ready should winter storms hit this season.

The county has added four sander/plow combination trucks to its fleet since 2008, two of which are smaller units that will service neighborhood streets and parking lots at public facilities.

In addition, Snohomish County has 20,000 tons of winter sand stockpiled throughout the county as well as 17,000 gallons of already mixed liquid deicer, 38 tons of dry deicer for mixing and 200 tons of solid deicer and salt available. Steel and carbide plow bits are in stock if needed for severe conditions.

"We are prepared for tough weather this season and ready to keep roads cleared and safe for drivers," said Snohomish County

Simply visit our [SnoStat website](#).

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Or, [send me an email](#).

Sincerely,



Aaron Reardon

Executive Aaron Reardon. “The additional trucks will benefit residential areas that are sometimes one of the last places to see a plow.”

During the December 2008 snowstorms, Snohomish County, more than 160 county employees put in 12-hour shifts around the clock during a three-week period, successfully plowing and de-icing more than 50,000 road miles, sometimes with snow four feet high. These efforts kept primary county roads and many secondary roads open with few – and short-lived – road closures.

The county also routinely de-ices roads prior to storm events, as it did last year, keeping drivers on standby when meteorological weather reports called for wintry weather.

“Residents also should prepare for bad weather by planning ahead to be as self-sufficient as possible,” Reardon said.

During a snowstorm event, unincorporated Snohomish County is divided into 12 zones that are actively managed to keep roads cleared. High-volume arterials and collector streets as well as rural area hills, curves and intersections are cleared before residential areas.

The county also contracts with several cities to provide snow and ice control on city streets.

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

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You may also contact me directly by phone at 425.388.3460.