

INTERNATIONAL ICLEI AWARD

May 20, 2008

Snohomish County government received accolades from the international ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability for its work on sustainability and working toward reducing county impacts on climate change.

ICLEI, a membership association of local governments worldwide committed to reducing greenhouse-gas emissions and advancing sustainability, tracks members' progress toward their emission-reduction goals through five milestones: conducting a greenhouse-gas-emissions inventory, setting an emission-reduction goal, designing a climate action plan, implementing that plan and then monitoring and re-evaluating it periodically.

Snohomish County has completed a greenhouse-gas-emissions inventory and is developing a plan for adapting to climate change, in part by reducing local greenhouse-gas emissions 20 percent below year 2000 levels by 2020.

Much of this work is being done by Snohomish County Executive Aaron Reardon's Green Ribbon Climate Task Force, composed of business, government and nonprofit leaders.

Emissions inventories were conducted and have been coordinated through the county's Planning Department.

"Snohomish County is one of an elite group of local governments who have shown the leadership it takes to achieve the level of greenhouse-gas-emissions reductions that the world's scientists say we need," said Michelle Wyman, executive director of ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability.

County officials were presented with the award during the recent ICLEI Local Action Summit in Albuquerque, N.M.

