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## **New E3 website connects communities with environmental and sustainability educators.**

OLYMPIA-The Environmental Education Association of Washington (EEAW) launched its highly anticipated E3 Washington (E3) interactive website today. “E3” stands for education, environment, and economy.

The E3 website will allow educators, business, community and tribal leaders, public employees, and youth to connect to share success stories and news of events and resources across the state. The launch of the website also signals a leap into action. E3 leaders and participants are moving from developing a comprehensive environmental and sustainability education plan to executing it.

Core to E3 Washington is the belief that an innovative education sector, a healthy business sector and a high degree of environmental quality are interdependent.

“E3 encourages individuals to connect across these sectors and make sustainable choices. Individuals’ actions in turn influence neighborhoods, workplaces, organizations and communities,” said Nan McKay, EEAW President. “The social networking format of this new website will make those linkages simple, effective, and fun.”

Users of the website will be able to:

- **Learn** about the E3 Washington initiative to create a system of education for sustainable communities.
- **Discover** local, regional, and statewide programs for environmental and sustainability education.
- **Keep up-to-date** about environmental and sustainability education across the state through news, events, jobs, and endorsement pages.
- **Get connected** through E3’s unique searchable Network Directory. Users can find a person, program, curriculum, report, article, or other resources.
- **Take action** by endorsing the E3 plan, submitting calendar, job and news items, and getting connected **through** E3’s unique searchable Network Directory.

Since its inception in 2006, E3 Washington has grown into an innovative initiative that is making positive changes in environmental and sustainability education in our state. E3 works in 17 regions of the state and with 12 professional sectors to integrate the three systems of education, environment, and economy.

The Environmental Education Association of Washington (EEAW) is Washington’s professional association for environmental and sustainability educators and stakeholders. In 2005, the Governor’s Council on Environmental Education asked EEAW to lead development of a comprehensive plan for environmental education, which evolved into the E3 Washington initiative.

EEAW is dedicated to increasing the awareness and quality of, and support for, environmental and sustainability education in the state of Washington.

EEAW is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and is an affiliate of the North American Association for Environmental Education .

Editor's/News Director's note:

Honorary Co-Chairs Governor Chris Gregoire, Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission Chairman Billy Frank, Jr., and former Director of the Environmental Protection Agency, William Ruckelshaus, offered this statement on the progress of E3.

“We offer our wholehearted thanks to the thousands of people and organizations across Washington who gave their time, talents and real-world expertise to help craft E3 plans. Your work reflects the incredibly rich cultural and geographic diversity of our state. Your superb work laid an excellent foundation for future success.”

“By linking education, the environment and the economy, you’re helping to encourage sustainable communities, which will enhance Washington’s quality of life and our reputation in the global economy

“For those unfamiliar with E3, we encourage you to visit its website. Most importantly, we hope you will consider getting involved in this important work. Your participation will help ensure the health of our residents, communities, environment and economy for generations to come.”

Visit E3 Washington’s website [www.e3washington.org](http://www.e3washington.org)

View E3 Washington promotional video [www.e3washington.org/video](http://www.e3washington.org/video)

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