



# WASLA Newsletter

Washington Chapter American Society of Landscape Architects

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JANUARY 2009

## Messages

### TIME TO STEP UP IN 2009

*Ed Winkley, WASLA President*

Time flies while you're having fun. 2008 was a historic year to say the least. A Presidential Election that outshined the NBA Finals, World Series and Gardening with Cisco (not to say that Gardening with Cisco isn't interesting). A snow storm that, let's just say, the Puget Sound wasn't prepared for and taught many of us how to walk to the general store or nearest pub. Also New Years resolutions are made and some how seem to fizzle out before the end of the night.

Challenges and opportunities of the New Year are just on the horizon. Challenges come in the form of passing a practice act in the 2009 legislature that will strengthen Landscape Architecture in Washington State. A challenging economy will force many of us to tighten our belts financially. An infrastructure that is eroding will need all of us to work together to get it back up to speed. These three challenges for Landscape Architects and firms in Washington State are real and part of everyday conversations.

Opportunities come in the form of an administration that understands words like sustainability, green infrastructure, conservation, preservation and water quality. These are just not words, but marching orders that have been conveyed by and to our elected officials. These same elected officials understand the need for trained individuals who will carry out this groundbreaking plan. Landscape Architects will inevitably be at the forefront of this green infrastructure wave.

## Events Calendar

**January 26**

[USCC's 17th Annual Conference & Tradeshow](#)

**February 18**

[In-district Advocacy Day](#)

**March 20**

[Emerging Professionals Happy Hour Series](#)

**April 17**

[Emerging Professionals Happy Hour Series](#)

**May 15**

[Emerging Professionals Happy Hour Series](#)

**June 19**

[Emerging Professionals Happy Hour Series](#)

**August 21**

[Emerging Professionals Happy Hour Series](#)

September 18  
[Emerging Professionals Happy  
Hour Series](#)

October 16  
[Emerging Professionals Happy  
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WASLA has been hard at work over the past year working towards a New Years resolution of passing a Practice Act. Unlike many resolutions this one won't diminish over time. WASLA has some extraordinary volunteers that are working for each and every Landscape Architect in the State of Washington. WASLA also is lucky enough to have a lobbyist that understands the legislative process and is a licensed Landscape Architect herself. Terri Hotvedt has been working closely with our Governmental Affairs Committee and the Legislature towards a licensure bill and her hard work is starting to pay off. We are working closely with landscape-associated organizations that once opposed our efforts and now realize the importance of solidifying the profession with this legislation.

Terri's work doesn't come for free though, and being a volunteer organization our pockets are not deep. I would like to invite any and all landscape professionals to donate financially. Any amount of money you can donate will go directly towards the cost of passing this bill. If interested in donating financially please contact us at [office@wasla.org](mailto:office@wasla.org). You can also help us in our legislation efforts by completing your ASLA Advocacy Network profile <http://capwiz.com/asla/home/>.

I'm looking forward to things to come in 2009 and would like to wish all WASLA members a Happy New Year.

## GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE UPDATE

*Christopher L. Overdorf, ASLA*

The prime focus of the Governmental Affairs Committee for the past several years has been to upgrade the landscape architect law in Washington from a title act to a practice act. As you all know, our state's title-only act provides the very thinnest veil of protection to the public's health safety and welfare because currently anyone can legally perform the work of a landscape architect in Washington under another title. Plus, a title act devalues the legitimacy of a Washington license in other states and makes it harder for us to achieve reciprocity.

As many of you know, the licensure upgrade bill moved steadily forward in the 2008 legislature session but due to time and an unexpected amendment introduced by the landscape design industry, the session expired before the bill passed. Over the past year we continued our negotiations with the Washington Association of Landscape Professionals (WALP), the Washington State Nursery and Landscape Association (WSNLA) and the Association of Professional Landscape Designers (APLD). We are happy to announce that we have finally reached an agreement with all three organizations and the practice act bill will be in the 2009

session.

We feel we have negotiated a good agreement with these organizations and look forward to strengthening the ties between our allied professions.

Even with support from these organizations, we will still need your help to get the practice act realized. Over the next few months you will be receiving emails asking you to contact your state Senators and Representatives especially when the bill is coming up for a hearing. This is something every chapter member must do!

If you do not know who your legislators are or how to contact them, please refer to the following website: <http://apps.leg.wa.gov/districtfinder/statewide.aspx>.

Please contact WASLA if you interested in participating on the Governmental Affairs committee.

## 2009 WASLA CONFERENCE

**Engaging Change: A Green(er) Perspective**  
**WASLA ANNUAL CONFERENCE**  
**Friday, April 3, 2009**  
**8 am - 5 pm**

The 2009 WASLA Conference, Engaging Change: A Green(er) Perspective, will be held at the Northwest Rooms of the Seattle Center on Friday, April 3. The event is expected to draw landscape architects, designers, emerging professionals and students from around the state to participate in a day of exciting and interesting lectures and presentations on the latest developments in our field.

If you are interested in presenting at this year's conference please download the [call for proposals](#). The submission deadline is next Tuesday, January 20.

If you are interesting in sponsoring or exhibiting please fill out the [sponsorship program information](#) and return to the WASLA office as soon as possible.

Registration for the conference is now open [online](#).

We anticipate that the 2009 WASLA Annual Conference will be a huge success and we are looking forward to seeing you all at the Northwest Rooms on April 3.

For more information please contact the conference co-chairs Kari Stiles at [Kstiles@jonesandjones.com](mailto:Kstiles@jonesandjones.com) and Kellye Hilde at [khilde@triadassoc.com](mailto:khilde@triadassoc.com).

## 2009 SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE

We are delighted to announce the 2009 WASLA Sponsorship program. This is the second year that we have offered firms the opportunity to sponsor the chapter for the year. Four levels of Chapter Sponsorship are available, allowing firms to maximize their exposure to landscape architects throughout the state. In addition, firms may opt to sponsor a single activity or event. Download the 2009 [WASLA Sponsor Form](#) for complete information and to sign up.

Based on feedback received from past sponsors and exhibitors, we have adjusted the costs of sponsorship. The Chapter and Website Sponsorships are less than they were last year. Also, Conference exhibitors have 2 options: tabletop exhibit at \$500 or booth exhibit at \$800.

Some sponsorship opportunities are limited, so act now. (The Platinum Chapter Sponsorship has already sold to Pacific Earth Works. Thank you, Jay Curcio.)

Contact the WASLA office if you have any questions, 206-443-9484 or [office@wasla.org](mailto:office@wasla.org).

## EDITOR'S NOTE

If you would like to contribute to the WASLA Monthly Newsletter please send inquiries to Jocelyn Freilinger at [jocelynlf@mac.com](mailto:jocelynlf@mac.com).

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## Announcements

ASSOCIATION OF BUILDERS AND CONTRACTORS  
GREEN COUNCIL ROUNDTABLE: RAINWATER  
HARVESTING

Triad Associates will host the next Association of Builders and Contractors Green Council Roundtable on Thursday, February 5th from 11:30 - 1:00 PM in the Training Room.

The presentation topic is rainwater harvesting. Speakers will be Kurt Unger from the Department of Ecology who will speak about the current and upcoming law changes regarding rainwater in the state of Washington. He will focus on the current regulations, what ecology is looking at for revising this law, and what some other states have done. David Hilgers of Triad Associates will focus on actual projects and look into the design process and the infrastructure involved with a rainwater harvesting system. He will discuss the Zero Energy House as a specific example.

Kurt Unger has worked for the Washington State Department of Ecology's Water Resources Program since 2005. Kurt works at HQ in the Policy and Planning Section. He is the State Drought Coordinator and the Program's climate change staff lead. When not working on drought or climate change, he focuses on policy and rule development. Prior to Ecology, Kurt worked for the Desert Research Institute in Reno while earning a Master's degree in Environmental Science and a Ph. D. in Hydrology from the University of Nevada. Kurt is also a licensed attorney (J.D. from the University of Oregon). Prior to his graduate studies Kurt spent two years in Las Vegas working as an environmental consultant and two years in Italy in the Navy. Throughout his career he has volunteered for numerous non-profit groups.

For more information, contact David Hilgers:  
[dhilgers@triadassociates.net](mailto:dhilgers@triadassociates.net)

**WASLA/NPS-RTCA GORST TO MISSOURI GATE  
CHARRETTE (SINCLAIR INLET)  
APRIL 24-25, 2009**

### **Sinclair Inlet Development Concept Plan**

WASLA and the National Park Service Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program (RTCA) are in the preliminary planning stage for a design charrette to be held April 24-25, 2009. The charrette will focus on the Sinclair Inlet between Gorst and Bremerton in Kitsap County and will seek to develop a concept plan for public access and recreational opportunities adjacent to the shoreline, shoreline restoration, and a nearby underwater marine sanctuary. This will be the 9th charrette conducted under the WASLA/NPS-RTCA partnership agreement (memorandum of understanding) first signed in 1998 and renewed in 2003 and 2008. The Sinclair Inlet Advisory Committee, consisting of community groups and members, WSDOT, the US Navy, the

City of Bremerton, Kitsap County and other agencies or agency representatives, are working together with WASLA to plan the event. This is an early call to Landscape Architects, designers and others to participate. There will be more information on the charrette in subsequent newsletters.

Please contact Don Benson, ASLA, AICP, WASLA Trustee, at 206-438-2027 or [don\\_benson@urscorp.com](mailto:don_benson@urscorp.com) if you are interested. Thank you.

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