



WASLA Newsletter

Washington Chapter American Society of Landscape Architects

In This Issue

[President's Message](#)

[Golf Registration Open](#)

[Seattle WASLA Members](#)

[Green Gardening Program](#)

[No Child Left Inside](#)

SEPTEMBER 2008

Events Calendar

September 12

[LARE: Grading, Drainage & Stormwater Management](#)

September 13

[FSOP Walking Tours 2008](#)

September 19

[AIA/WASLA Happy Hour](#)

September 26

[Design for Livability:
Doing Density Right](#)

October 1

[Puget Sound Low Impact
Development Technical
Workshop Series](#)

October 10

[WASLA/WRPA Golf
Tournament](#)

October 11

[FSOP Walking Tours 2008](#)

October 17

[AIA/WASLA Happy Hour](#)

October 29

[2008 IPM Workshop for](#)

Messages

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Christopher L. Overdorf, ASLA

Summer is almost over and as we head into fall, there is much to do. We are currently soliciting for nominations to the chapter's executive committee and soon will vote on the next group of professionals whom will lead the chapter. The governmental affairs committee has been working hard preparing for next year's legislative session. We are preparing for this year's Golf Tournament that we are co-sponsoring with the Washington Parks and Recreation Association. We are preparing for this year's National Park Service RTCA Charrette in Spokane. The list goes on and on. This is a lot of work to accomplish and we need your help.

WASLA cannot just be an organization that puts on an awards program, sponsors a charrette and hosts a conference every few years. We all must be advocates for the profession. We are in a great position to demonstrate leadership to the public. Did you know that a few landscape architects have been critical to the development of the Seattle Parks for All Campaign? Did you know other landscape architects have been working tirelessly on an effort to get the City of Seattle to perform a detailed tree inventory? Did you know a group of landscape architects from the Vancouver area are working to form their own section so they can have a better support mechanism for advocacy in their own region? These are examples of leadership that serve as a call to action for the rest of us.

[Landscape Professionals](#)

November 5

[Puget Sound Low Impact
Development Technical
Workshop Series](#)

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[Cascade Recreation](#)



[Pacific Earth Works](#)



[Sitelines](#)



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Yes, getting involved does take time and sacrifice. But every little bit helps. Please contact us and help to serve on a committee. Sign up for the Advocacy Network. Answer the call when we need representatives to testify in the upcoming legislative session. Contact your newspaper editors, neighborhood councils, city councilman, or state legislators and let them know that our trees, parks and open spaces are important and need to be saved. Get involved with non-profits that are working to protect our neighborhoods and communities. Attend the Parks Campaign Kick-Off Party tomorrow and help support the parks levy.

It is not just through our projects that we advocate our profession, but also through our actions. It's time to act.

Committee Reports and Public Relations

WASLA NEEDS YOU

The chapter is only as strong as the involvement of its members. We are seeking nominations for candidates who are interested in serving on the Chapter Executive Committee. Position descriptions are listed below. All nominees need to be full members of the Chapter except for the Associate-at-Large position.

If you are interested in running for a position, please forward a brief one-paragraph biography to office@wasla.org. Please describe how your involvement will help the chapter. Nominations are needed no later than next Monday, September 15.

Elected positions include:

President-Elect

The President Elect serves a three-year term. The first year as President Elect he or she provides support for the current president while preparing to assume leadership. The second year as Chapter President the responsibilities include chapter management and responding to member needs. The third year is served as Past President. The President-Elect is expected to travel to the National ASLA Conference and to Washington D.C. for Chapter President's Council and Lobbying.

Secretary

The secretary maintains the records of the Chapter, its calendar of events and helps keep the membership informed and up-to-date with the decisions of the Executive Committee. Additional duties include editing and creating the E-newsletter

and serving as the point person for e-mail announcements. This is a two-year term.

Treasurer

The treasurer serves as trustee of the accounts and is in charge of funds and the chapter financial records. The treasurer receives and disperses funds for the chapter. This is a two-year term.

Trustee

The trustee serves as an officer on the Executive Committee of the Chapter and as the Chapter representative on the Board of Trustees of the Society. The trustees' primary role is to bring the Chapter perspective to the Board of Trustees and the national perspective to the Executive Committee and members of the Chapter. This is a three-year term.

Member-at-Large - Two Positions: Member-at-Large/East & Member-at-Large/West

The Member-at-Large represents the chapter membership in executive committee decision making for a term of one year. The Member-at-Large typically assists with various chapter programs and committees.

Associate-at-Large

The Associate Member-at-Large represents the associate membership in executive committee decision making for a term of one year. The Associate Member-at-Large typically assists with various chapter committees.

Why Should You Serve?

1. Professional Responsibility. We, as professional landscape architects, are dedicated to the public health, safety and welfare and recognition and protection of the land and its resources. It is your responsibility to be stewards of the land through the increased viability and public awareness of our profession. All ASLA members are encouraged to serve on elected or appointed boards, committees or commissions dealing with the arts and environmental and land-use issues.
2. Professional Development. Depending on the capacity in which you serve the chapter, there are a variety of leadership training opportunities offered through ASLA. Inherent to your participation, you'll also be introduced to the basics of organizational management, learn new leadership techniques, help to guide a group of people with a common goal, and learn more about our profession. Your involvement will also lead to an increased awareness of the issues, concerns and trends that will affect your career as a landscape architect.
3. Networking Opportunities. You can make valuable professional contacts and forge lasting ties with other landscape architects. There is also a variety of ways in which you can become acquainted with local and regional decision makers.

**ONE MONTH LEFT TO SIGN UP AND PLAY AT
CHAMBERS BAY**

**Second Annual WRPA and WASLA
Golf Tournament
Friday, October 10, 2008**

Chambers Bay Golf Course
Home of the 2010 Amateur &
2015 US Open Championships
[Visit the website](#)

First Tee Time - 8:00 a.m.
6320 Grandview Dr. W
University Place, WA 98467

Join us for an outing of fun with friends, co-workers, and breathtaking views along Puget Sound while playing golf at an award winning course! Chambers Bay is the youngest course to host the U.S. Open Championship and the first to host it in the Pacific Northwest. This true links-style course will challenge you from the first tee box. You will experience golf in its truest form while enjoying the beauty of its natural surroundings.

Welcome to all landscape architects, architects, engineers, planners, contractors, administrators, managers, and interns.

\$140 per golfer fee includes 18 holes of golf, full range facility use, early morning "wake me up" necessities, golf course snacks and beverages, and lunch time food and festivities.

\$10,000 hole-in-one prize
TV and vacation prizes
Closest to pin; long drive and more

[Registration and Sponsorship](#)

TO ALL SEATTLE WASLA MEMBERS

As you may know the Pro Parks Levy is expiring at the end of the year. Over the past 8 years, the levy supported over 70 park development projects many of which were led by landscape architects. The passing of the new levy is an important issue that we all need to rally behind. It is for this reason that I ask you to join the Seattle Parks for All Campaign, and help pass Seattle Proposition 2 - the Parks and Green Spaces Levy.

As landscape architects, we need to support this levy for a number of reasons. But the most important may be that as our city grows and becomes denser, it is important to continue to invest in our parks and green spaces to protect our quality of life and provide for an active and healthy lifestyle for all of Seattle. Parks are where we meet our friends and neighbors, where our children play, our senior citizens walk, and our athletes perform. They entice us out of our homes and workplaces.

Investing in our parks for future generations to enjoy is good for our profession and our whole community. We have all enjoyed Green Lake, Seward Park, Lincoln Park and the Arboretum. We need to make similar investments as our own legacy for future generations.

Here are some of the projects contained in this levy:

- Improvements to 23 substandard playgrounds, currently out of compliance with federal safety standards
- 4 rebuilt playfields which will improve playing conditions and conserve water
- 3 new skateparks
- 3 new spray parks
- 2 off leash dog parks
- 6 million dollars for new parkland in our greenbelts/ natural areas
- 24M to purchase park land our most densely populated neighborhoods
- 3 new parks on city owned reservoirs
- Improvements at major parks including the Arboretum, Jefferson, Magnuson, and the Children's play garden
- New park development and improvements at 9 neighborhood parks
- 3 significant trail additions to Burke-Gilman Trail, West Duwamish Trail, and Bay to Shore Trail
- Restored urban forest and stream corridors
- Improved access to our shorelines
- New and improved community food gardens
- \$15M Opportunity Fund for community initiated park projects

For more information about the levy, go to www.seattle.gov/parks.

seattleparksforall.org.

This levy is on the ballot because people across Seattle came together to renew the expiring Parks levy. This levy will only pass if we come together and let our friends and neighbors know that we need good parks for all of Seattle.

I ask you to do the following:

1. Join the campaign at <http://keep.seattleparksforall.org/welcome.php> - the campaign's online headquarters. Join the site and one of the online groups organizing to make the levy a reality. Work with others in your neighborhood to help spread the word at local events.
2. Come to the kickoff party, Friday, September 12 at 5:30pm, 8556 Dayton Avenue North.
3. Please donate to the campaign, <https://www.upwardstech.net/seattleparks/>
4. Spread the word to your friends.

Thank you. Please do not hesitate to call me if you have any questions.

Christopher L. Overdorf, WASLA President

Announcements

GREEN GARDENING PROGRAM TO ENCOURAGE PARTICIPANTS TO STAY "ONE STEP AHEAD" AT ANNUAL IPM WORKSHOP

"One Step Ahead: Preparing for an IPM Future in the Northwest"

2008 IPM Workshop for Landscape Professionals
Wednesday, October 29th, 7:15 am to 4:00 pm
South Seattle Community College

Sponsored by Seattle Public Utilities and Local Hazardous Waste Management Program
Fee: \$50 full-day (with lunch) or \$35 half-day (no lunch). Pre-registration required.
Pesticide recertification and continued education credits from WSDA, ISA, CPH, and CLT.

As our environment changes, landscape professionals advance their practices to address new diseases, pests, and policies designed to protect people and the planet. The 2008 Green Gardening IPM Workshop is designed to set the landscaping industry's sights ahead on the future of pest management.

Workshop attendees will learn how to be on the cutting edge of the landscaping profession through informative and interactive presentations from leaders in the field and your peers. Topics include: gleaning lessons from British Columbia's pesticide bans, Seattle's minimal pesticide use park maintenance, bio-based oils for horticulture equipment, IPM and green building projects, maintaining trees to reduce disease, using native plants in the landscape, helping customers move away from pesticides, enhancing wildlife habitat in the landscape, and more.

Attendees can earn pesticide recertification credits from the Washington State Department of Agriculture. Continuing education credits are also available for Certified Professional Horticulturists, Certified Landscape Technicians, and from the International Society of Arborists.

Download the registration flyer at www.seattle.gov/util/proipm or call (206) 343-9759 ext 108 for more information.

NO CHILD LEFT INSIDE ACT (H.R. 3036) TO BE VOTED ON NEXT WEEK

ASLA has learned that the No Child Left Inside Act (H.R. 3036) is likely to be voted on next week when Congress returns from recess. The legislation was voted out of the House Committee on Education and Labor in June.

The No Child Left Inside Act, sponsored by Representative John Sarbanes (MD), would offer states incentives to develop Environmental Literacy Plans and integrate environmental education across their K-12 curriculums. It would also increase funding for teacher training to ensure that teachers have the skills and knowledge necessary to deliver high quality environmental education. Such curricula would use the local environment as an extension of the classroom. Passage of The No Child Left Inside Act would ensure that schools have the resources and training necessary to help the next generation understand and address the challenges of protecting the environment.

ASLA has actively advocated for passage of this legislation, working with fellow members of the No Child Left Inside Coalition. The rapidly growing No Child Left Inside Coalition is comprised of more than 700 environmental, educational, business, health care and other organizations from 50 states, representing more than 40 million people.

To date, numerous ASLA members have contacted their legislators urging support for this important legislation. If you have not done so, please take a moment to contact your legislator to urge their support of this bill that will take important steps to providing our young people with an environmental education.

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