



March, 2023

Municipal Stormwater Education & Outreach Newsletter

Hello,

I am your new Statewide Municipal Stormwater Educational and Outreach Coordinator, Anne Melrose, here with a quick introductory story and some E&O news. Future info & updates will be housed on our new [Education & Outreach – Washington Stormwater Center site](#).

My Best Outreach Story • • • • •

This is a quick story about an outreach effort gone rogue.

I wrote a blog about the Pacific fisher being studied by our wildlife team in the Sierra. To attract fisher to their camera stations the wildlife team baited them with “chicken in a sock.” After years of buying most of the socks in stock at Walmart the researcher came and asked if I could help him get socks, and out of the embarrassment of having to explain himself in the checkout line. What does everyone have in their drawers but unwanted single socks? So, he gave me a cool photo of a fisher swinging on a sock and I wrote a blog, “Socks Rock!”



The blog got picked up and reprinted by others. Packages arrived by the mail cart full for months. I got socks from 35 states and 3 countries! They came for 2 years! Hundreds of boxes and thousands of dollars spent in postage! I got a large box from the Girl Scouts in Montpelier, Vermont! I donated socks to homeless shelters everywhere. It was the single farthest reaching outreach effort we did in 8 years, and it was by accident. [Check out the article written about it here](#).

Upcoming Trainings

- [How to Develop & Deliver an Engaging Virtual Conference Presentation.](#)
March 10th, 10am - 12pm ; \$70
- [PNSMA Best Practices for Applying DEI Principles to Marketing Communications & Engagement.](#)
March 15th, 11:30am - 1pm
- [Cornell University Environmental Education & Community Engagement Online Course.](#)
April 3rd – 30th ; \$70
- [SCIENCE TALK ‘23 Association of Science Communicators: Giving Science a Voice Virtual Conference.](#)
April 6th - April 7th
- [The Making Moves online 8-week interactive course.](#)
April 10th - May 29th ; \$800

Meet The Statewide E&O Advisory Workgroup.

This new working group is designed to assist in the collection of data on Permittee needs, facilitate discussion on solutions and help develop long-term work plan suggestions.

Eric Lambert, Stormwater Partners of SW WA | Abbey Stockwell, Dept. of Ecology | Sarah Norberg, City of Tacoma | Peggy Campbell, Snohomish County | Kelsey Crane, Thurston County | Aaron Hussman, City of Kirkland | Katherine Straus, STORM | Trey George & Megan Havko, City of Spokane | Kelsey Grover, City of Wenatchee | Martin Nelson, City of Union Gap



That's me, Anne Melrose, on the left!

In The News:

[Saving Washington's Salmon From Toxic Tire Dust - Dept. of Ecology Blog.](#)

Clark County Student Video Contest - Getting Kids Involved!

Stormwater Partners is about to start their 2023/3rd year of Students for Clean Water video contest. Local, middle and high school students will be producing 1 minute videos on actions they can do to protect our water, or share their personal connections to water. Entries are judged by local engineering firms that donate \$600 in prize money to support the students. [Here is a video](#) of past winners. For more information [contact Eric Lambert](#).

Connect with Citizen Groups.

The Lacamas Watershed Council (LWC) is a citizen's group working to rejuvenate Camas's three lakes by collecting water quality data using NOAA's Phytoplankton Monitoring Network program. Members also assist a group of local high school students with their lake related projects and are collaborating with the City of Camas on public outreach meetings. Find [more information here](#) OR [contact Rodger Hauge](#).

Happy stormwater outreach everyone!

~ Anne Melrose

Contact me at anne.melrose@wsu.edu



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