



**POSTAL PATRON**

**Washington Environmental Council**

**MISSION STATEMENT**

The Council is dedicated to advocating and providing leadership in maintaining, protecting, and enhancing the environmental quality of the Town of Washington and the surrounding region.

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Carlos Canal, President • Sarah Gager, Vice President • John Maxwell, Treasurer • Karen Craparo, Secretary  
Cheryl Anderson • Gretchen Farmer • Sarah Jenkins • Frances Owles • Eliza Paolucci • Dan Sherr • Van Vogel

**ADVISORY BOARD**

Denise Arturi • Randy Bernard • Betsy Corrigan • Ashley Goodale • Seth Low • Patsy Matthews • Susie Payne

**VOLUNTEERS**

Liz Gugel • Evelina Ericson • Kim Munn • Jennifer Pote • Tammy Rill

**Earth Day 2010**

40th Anniversary celebration

Saturday, April 17 • 12 – 2 pm

Town Hall Green, Washington Depot, CT

*(rain or shine)*

**Earth Day 2010**

40th Anniversary celebration

Saturday, April 17 • 12 – 2 pm

Town Hall Green, Washington Depot, CT

*(rain or shine)*

**TOWN CLEANUP** Residents, volunteers, and organizations will clean up our local roads from 9am to 12 noon. Trash bags will be available in the foyer of the Town Hall starting Tuesday, April 13, along with helpful information about the dos and don'ts of recycling. Take your filled trash bags to the Town Hall for disposal in an onsite dumpster. We will also be collecting clean clothes donations and sneakers (in any condition) for reuse and recycling.

*Then join the celebration and stay for food and fun.*

**FOOD** Anne Gallagher Catering will offer focaccia pizzas freshly cooked on the grill with toppings of local goat cheese, local beef from Stuart's Farm, and local greens from Urban Farms in New Britain. Anne is co-founder of Plow to Plate Youth Chefs.

**MUSIC** Joe Bouchard and Kristin Richards will be singing earth-themed folk music accompanied by guitar. Joe, one of the founding members of the rock band Blue Oyster Cult, is currently a private music instructor and international performer. Kristin is a music instructor who sings and plays guitar, flute, piano, mandolin, and mountain dulcimer.



**ENTERTAINMENT** Tom O'Brien Productions will present Sparkles the Clown (pictured left), who will make balloon animals and perform magic tricks.

Katrina Venhuizen, an educator from the Sharon Audubon Center, will discuss and show off birds of prey from the Center's Wildlife Rehabilitation Program from 1-2 pm.

Mark Alexander's renowned puppeteering troupe Mortal Beasts & Deities will awe both children and adults alike with their graceful performing doves on stilts. You will enjoy



Earnest Frivolity, Felicitous Discord, and Controlled Mayhem, with members of Mark Alexander's flock of enormous ten-foot-high doves (pictured above), and wonder at their swooping ten-foot wingspans.

**BOOTHS & DISPLAYS**

- The Judea Chapter of the D.A.R. will run a high-end tag sale. The proceeds will fund Washington Scholarships.
- Judea Garden will hand out packets of vegetable seeds to children and their parents to promote their community garden.
- The Washington Garden Club will provide literature on invasive plant and animal species to promote their upcoming talk on the Asian Longhorned Beetle.
- Washington Supply will host a display of their green products.
- The Animal Welfare Society of New Milford will bring their "animal representatives."
- The Lake Waramaug Task Force will display information on the lake and its watershed.
- WEC will be showing their WATT's UP meters, available for weekly loans at the Gunn Memorial Library.

## Washington Environmental Council Recycling Challenge

**40% by 2014**

**W**EC WILL OFFICIALLY KICK OFF ITS 40% BY 2014 Recycling Challenge at the 40th anniversary of Earth Day at the Washington Town Hall on April 17. At year-end 2009, recycling reached 19% of total refuse hauled. A push to increase recycling will help the environment and save town residents future tax dollars by decreasing trash hauling costs.

**IT'S THE LAW.** The State of Connecticut and the Town of Washington require residents to recycle. Shortly, Washington will add additional plastics to the town's recycling list. This should help town residents meet the 40% by 2014 Recycling Challenge.

Proposed actions by WEC to assist town residents in achieving this challenge include:

- Sneaker Collection Bin at the Transfer Station.
- Deposit Bottles and Cans Collection Bin at the Transfer Station. Each month the proceeds will be donated to the Community Fund to help with holiday baskets and back-to-school supplies.
- Convenient Recycling Containers at the Primary School Pavilion, Bryan Memorial Plaza, and the Washington Town Beach to make it easier for residents and visitors to recycle.

WEC is also advocating increased hours at the Transfer Station from Memorial Day to Labor Day and the purchase of a compactor. Its use would ensure full loads, which would reduce the overall amount hauled. This, in turn, would lead to lower hauling and tipping fees.

*Make a difference!  
Take up the challenge!*



### WEC PLAN 2010

## THINK GREEN ACT GREEN

- Increase recycling from 19% to 40% of total refuse hauled by 2014 under WEC's Five-Year Recycling Challenge to the Town.
- Establish education programs for town residents on energy and water conservation in the home.
- Increase the number of Washington homes participating in the CT Clean Energy Options Program by advocating for clean power alternatives and explaining the program to residents.
- Increase College Scholarships for environmental studies from five to ten awards per year.
- Expand the Council's involvement with local schools to further promote our:
  - Adopt a River Program for periodic cleanup of trash, identification of riparian invasives, and involvement in water testing under Department of Environmental Protection programs.
  - Trout-in-the-Classroom programs.
  - Low-Waste Lunches and Recycling initiatives.
- Increase our Harwood Memorial Lecture Series on environmental topics to three presentations a year.
- Update the Council's website to make it a better vehicle for environmental education.
- Expand our Earth Day Celebration to include other Washington organizations and promote greater participation by town residents and family groups.
- Promote:
  - Local Farms/Local Foods Initiatives.
  - Education of town residents on invasive plants identification and eradication techniques.

## SCHOLARSHIPS

The Washington Environmental Council provides scholarships annually to students who live or study in the town of Washington and who have an interest in furthering their education of the environment and its many related fields.

### SUMMER PROGRAMS Ken Williams Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship, consisting of \$1,000 grants, is available to middle- and high school students (grades 9 to 12) or college students in sound scholastic standing who would like to attend environmentally oriented programs during the summer. The program is available to students who live in Washington, Roxbury, and Bridgewater, provided they attend school in Washington. Washington residents will have preference, all other application factors being equal.

Funds are available to help with tuition, travel, and room and board expenses. Such programs include but are not limited to those offered by the National Audubon Society, the Student Conservation Association, the National Wildlife Federation, and Outward Bound. More information about these programs may be obtained directly from the respective organizations.

Candidates must submit an application and two references, one personal (other than family) or employment reference and one school reference.

### COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS Mary Anne Erichsen Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship grants up to \$2,000 to students in sound scholastic standing who are interested in pursuing environmental studies in college. The program is open to students who live in Washington, Roxbury, and Bridgewater, provided they attended high school in Washington. Washington residents will have preference, all other application factors being equal.

Funds are available to help applicants with tuition, room and board, and other educational expenses. Candidates must submit an application and three references, two of them personal (other than family) or employment references and one a school reference.

### HOW TO APPLY

Applications and reference forms may be obtained from the scholarship section of our website, [wec-ct.org](http://wec-ct.org). Please send completed application and reference forms to the Washington Environmental Council, P.O. Box 283, Washington Depot, CT 06794, by **April 30, 2010**. The applicant will be notified of our decision by **May 21, 2010**. Applications received after this time will be reviewed based upon available funds.

## LESSONS WELL LEARNED

### Recycling at Public and Private Schools

**F**EBRUARY SAW THE WASHINGTON PRIMARY SCHOOL AND THE Washington Montessori School go hands-on with recycling. Led by the WPS student council and the Parent Earth Team at Washington Montessori, sneakers, jeans, plastic bags, and batteries were collected at both schools. Washington Montessori added small electronics and ink cartridges.

In the spirit of the 3Rs, "**Reduce, Reuse, Recycle,**" the sneakers will be made into a surface used for playgrounds, basketball courts, and tracks. Jeans in good shape will be reused as they are. The really grubby ones will be made into insulation. Used ink cartridges and electronics will be returned to the manufacturer for cleaning and reuse of parts.

Literature explaining basic recycling and the direct experience of segregating items into appropriate recycling bins provided students and teachers with the knowledge to distinguish between what is garbage and what should be recycled. WEC deemed its program to broaden students' understanding of the need for and the process of recycling a valuable experience, for these students will become tomorrow's consumers and environmental leaders.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### NEW LEADERSHIP

**Carlos Canal**  
*Elected President*

At the May 2009 Board meeting, Carlos Canal returned to the presidency of the Council. A Director of WEC since 1987, he served as its president from 1989 to 2000. Carlos is also a director of the Lake Waramaug Task Force and was a director and treasurer of the Steep Rock Association for 14 years.

Carlos replaces Elliott Davis as President. Elliott was a director for six years and the Council's president for three years. Business demands led Elliott to step down from the Presidency and not stand for reelection at the May 2009 Board Meeting.