



Puget Soundkeeper Alliance

Protecting and Preserving Puget Sound

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: June 1, 2005

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Stimson Marina to Receive King County EnviroStars Award

King County Executive Ron Sims, Mayor Nickels to present award on June 6

On Monday June 6, 2005, Seattle's Stimson Marina will receive a 5-Star rating under the EnviroStars Clean Marina Program. The award signifies that the long-standing Ballard neighborhood facility is exemplary in their commitment to preventing water pollution.

From 4:30pm-6:30pm, a celebration and award presentation will be held dockside at the marina, which is located in the heart of the busy Ballard industrial area at 5265 Shilshole Ave NW. King County Executive Ron Sims will present the EnviroStars award to Stimson Marina and Seattle Mayor Greg Nickels will address the attendees with a clean water message.

Seattle-based Puget Soundkeeper Alliance, working with the Local Hazardous Waste Management Program in King County and Northwest Marine Trade Association, assisted Stimson with the certification process. The EnviroStars program, an incentive-based business certification program administered by the County, rewards businesses that take voluntary steps to reduce pollution, with particular focus on hazardous materials and wastes. The certification process requires a facility inspection and analysis of waste prevention practices and policies. On a 2- to 5-star scale, a 5-star rating denotes that the facility provides leadership in the industry and the greater community. Puget Soundkeeper Alliance is currently pursuing a campaign to develop the Clean Marina program statewide and to increase membership in the program

More than 100 attendees, representing the marine industry, local business, government as well as the environmental community are expected to participate in the reception, which also recognizes the Alliance's other work in areas of clean water and environmental protection.

Despite its industrial character, the Lake Washington Ship Canal, which links Lake Sammamish, Lake Washington and Lake Union with Puget Sound, provides important habitat for salmon, herons, eagles, muskrat, beaver and turtles. The marina is located on the Canal's north shore, near the east entrance to the Ballard Locks. The marina is the first freshwater marina and the first covered marina to enter the program. Two other Seattle-area marinas also have this award: Shilshole Bay Marina and Elliott Bay Marina.

"This is a great way to demonstrate our commitment to keeping Puget Sound and the surrounding waterways as clean as possible. I'm looking forward to seeing more marinas join the program." Says Tom Bayley, CEO of CD Stimson Co. The company owns the facility and surrounding real estate.

The EnviroStars Cooperative, now operating in five Western Washington counties, boasts over 600 member businesses. The EnviroStars Clean Marina project is made possible, in part, by a grant from King County WaterWorks.

For more information about the EnviroStars program Contact Laurel Tomchick at King County 206-263-3063, or Chris Wilke of Puget Soundkeeper Alliance at 206-297-7002. Additional information can be found at www.envirostars.org or at www.pugetsoundkeeper.org.