



HOLD FOR APRIL 14 RELEASE

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~ MEDIA ADVISORY ~

SPRINGFIELD TO RECOGNIZE LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL LEADERS

Six Springfield Community Members to Receive 2nd Annual Environmental Leadership Awards

What: As part of Earth Day, 2010, Springfield Mayor Sid Leiken will honor six Springfield organizations with Environmental Leadership Awards for demonstrating exceptional leadership in conserving Springfield's community resources while protecting and enhancing our environment.

When: April 14, 2010 – award presentations are scheduled between 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

Where and Why:

9:00 a.m. Sanipac, 1650 Glenwood Blvd.

Sanipac has been instrumental in assisting the City of Springfield with the annual Spring Clean-up event for over the past 20 years. The Spring Clean-up offers residents a convenient location to drop off large and hard-to-recycle items for free. Sanipac covers all costs associated with hauling materials from the Spring Clean-up site to its intended destination. They provide the boxes, trucks, drivers and fuel. In addition, they provide the portable restrooms and hand-washing station, a certificate for 6-months free garbage service to be given away through a drawing, and additional resources as needed. Without Sanipac this important community event would not be possible.

9:20 a.m. NEDCO (Neighborhood Economic Development Corporation), 212 Main Street

NEDCO has been instrumental in bringing Farmer's Market to downtown Springfield. The open-air marketplace provides fresh, locally produced, and often organic fruits, vegetables, plants and specialty foods to Springfield residents and visitors. The market is located in the Springfield Museum parking lot every Friday, May- October. May 7th marks the opening date for the 3rd year of the Springfield Farmer's Market.

9:40 a.m. SUB – Amy Chinitz, 250 "A" Street

Amy Chinitz is the Springfield Utility Board's Water Quality Protection Coordinator. Amy approaches her job of providing outreach and education to Springfield's businesses and citizens with enthusiasm and passion. Her daily activities help protect Springfield's drinking water supply. On any given day she may provide outreach through the Groundwater Guardian program, work with businesses located within groundwater protection areas and review plans for developing businesses that may have impacts on groundwater. Those who have worked with Amy find her dedication to the protection of the local environment inspiring.

10:00 a.m. Springfield School District, A3 School, 615 Main Street

A3/Gateways Parking Lot: Incorporated energy efficient lighting and an infiltration planter. The infiltration planter contains a layer of gravel, soil, and vegetation (native Oregon plants) that allows stormwater runoff from the parking lot to infiltrate into the ground slowly. Infiltration planters help reduce stormwater runoff flow rate, volume, temperature, and pollutants and help recharge groundwater supplies.

10:30 a.m. ACME Collision Service, 4350 Main Street

ACME Collision is one of two Eco-Biz certified automotive shops in Springfield. Eco-Biz recognizes vehicle service and repair businesses and shops that reach the highest standards in minimizing their environmental impact. In order to become certified auto shops have to meet all local environmental regulations and take extra, voluntary steps to help protect the environment.

11:00 a.m. Willamalane, Park Service Division, 250 South 32nd Street

The Willamalane Park Service Division continues to make efforts to use native Oregon vegetation in their parks. Native vegetation provides habitat to local wildlife, reduces the need for chemical pesticides and fertilizers and reduces irrigation needs. In addition, Willamalane has been instrumental in the success of the Mill Race Restoration project.