

Eco audit USA Newsletter

INAUGURAL YEAR EXCEEDS EXPECTATIONS!

Puget Sound Community Impact

8/2009 - 6/2010

**1177
Individuals!**

22 Audits

4 Educational Institutions

73 Students

182 Student body and staff

922+ Employees

Thanks to ECOoffice Program participants, ECOaudit USA surpassed expectations for the inaugural year.

Since the first tests audits conducted in August and mentor training in September 2009, the direct impact on the community during the 2009-2010 academic year exceeded 1177 individuals!

These numbers would not have been possible without dedicated teachers who embraced this innovative service learning program designed to teach sustainable practices in the community. The program was created in 2006 by the Jane Goodall Institute- Shanghai Roots & Shoots Organization and Shanghai Environmental Resources Manage-



Eco Office in Action!

Fire House Cool Down Challenge by Redmond High Students.

ment (ERM).

Student groups from four Puget Sound area educational institutions participated in the US launch: Bellevue College Interior Sustainable Design Certificate Program- Mindi Caulley, Instructor; Redmond High School A.P. Environmental Science Class- Mike Town, Instructor; St. Madeleine Sophie 8th

Grade Leadership Class- Brian Fulmer, Instructor; and Tacoma School of the Arts Science Class- Mike Hagmann, Melissa Moffitt, Instructors under the mentorship of Mike Wierusz, ECOaudit USA.

Of course all this could not have been accomplished without the participation of businesses who supported our efforts!

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OUR BUSINESS PARTICIPANTS

Seattle/ Eastside

Nitze-Stagen
 Starbucks Corporate HQ
 JPC Architects
 Mulvanny G2 Architecture
 Zimmer Gunsul Frasca Architects LLP
 Bassetti Architects
 Perkins Will Architects
 City of Redmond Fire Dept .
 -6 fire stations

Washington State Offices Department of Ecology

- Lacey
 - Bellevue
 - Richland
 Seattle University
 -1218 E. Cherry Offices
 Bellevue College
 - Administrative Offices
 Coughlin Porter Lundeen, Inc.

Tacoma/Bellingham

Starbucks Store #3326
 Orange on Broadway
 Tacoma Art Supply
 Great Northwest Popcorn
 Cutter's Point Coffee
 Fujiya Japanese Restaurant
 Western Washington University -4 depts.

A GLOBAL EFFORT!

Although ECOaudit USA, currently operates in the Puget Sound region, it is part of a growing sustainable education movement. After the successful US launch of Eco Office by ECOaudit USA, the Jane Goodall Institute-Shanghai (JGI-S) Roots & Shoots Organization is working with other Roots & Shoots Organizations to bring the Eco Audit Educational Program to cities located around the globe.

This winter, a pilot program was launched in India by a Roots & Shoots (R&S) group at the American School in New Delhi. Students conducted a version of ECOoffice called, "ECOschool" and they are preparing to conduct ECOoffice audits of businesses affiliated with the school. Photos of these New Delhi students are posted on the ecoaudi-

tusa.org website along with photos of Shanghai Roots & Shoots students.

Tori Zwisler, JGI-S Roots & Shoots Chairman of the Board, and Tatiana Ramirez, JGI-S R&S Eco Audit Educational Program Manager, indicate that plans are underway to expand the Eco Audit Educational Program to Johannesburg, South Africa and possibly to cities in Australia.

ECOaudit USA is truly part of a coordinated effort, and although it operates separately from the JGI-S Roots & Shoots Organization, idea sharing and collaboration occur regularly, thanks to the internet and Skype.

The US expansion will occur in systematic fashion, emanating from the Puget Sound region. This summer Katie Fleming, from Re

Sources for Sustainable Communities, conducted an "Intro to ECOoffice" workshop at Western Washington University College Explorations Program for high school students. This fall, Katie will also train WWU students in the ECOoffice program. Also this summer, Mike Wierusz, of ECOaudit USA, trained Olympia area students who will audit Washington State governmental agency offices.

ECOaudit USA has received a number of inquiries from individuals about starting programs in Oregon, Rhode Island, NYC, Washington, D.C. and in Chicago. When funded, these cities will be added to the Eco Audit Educational Program World Map! (see www.ecoauditusa.org)

PROVEN RESULTS!

SHANGHAI ROOTS & SHOOTS A SUCCESS STORY!

During 2008-2009, over 460 students from 38 schools conducted audits at 85 businesses and schools in Shanghai. The estimated cumulative savings of 60 re-audited offices:

Cost Savings: \$107,000 (US)!

Resource Savings

31 % reduction of paper use!

12% less electricity consumption!

24 % less water use!

Carbon Emissions Reduction

655,499 Kg of CO2 = 1,467,000 lbs. of CO2 in one year!

**International Finalist
2008 at the United Nations
Education Program Awards
in Sweden**

In 2006, the program began in Shanghai with 9 company, 6 school and

76 student participants.

By 2009, over 160 companies, 60 high schools and colleges, 2,000 students and over 20,000 employees have learned sustainable work practices in China!

AUDITS AND WORKSHOPS ARE FREE OF CHARGE, HOW?

Yes it true! The ECOoffice audits are free of charge to businesses and the training workshops for teachers, volunteers and students are free as well. This year, 100% of the program operations were covered mostly by passionate volunteers donating numerous hours of labor and also by funders of cash and in-kind goods and services which insured the successful launch of the program in the US.



Students inspect packaging and read content labels to determine if products are ecofriendly.

ECOaudit USA's financial goals are to keep program training free to participants and the audits free to businesses. In addition, ECOaudit USA would like to offer incentives to encourage teachers to implement ECOaudit USA in their community and small scholarships to high school and college students volunteering for ECOaudit USA.

The paramount goal is to fund two full time permanent staff for Puget Sound operations and one staff member to allow for program expansion to other US cities. Thus, we hope to raise \$100,000 cash yearly from the local business community for operational costs, and an additional \$25,000 to subsidize training workshops and teacher stipends. This amount will be a great foundation to secure additional grant funding and is a great value considering ECOaudit USA is educating the next generation's leaders and change agents to have a sustainable ethos.

We invite individuals and companies to contribute to this innovative sustainable education program for students with a tax deductible donation sent to our address (page 4).

We are also seeking corporate sponsorships and sponsors for training workshops. If your company can support our efforts in this way, please contact:

Mike Wierusz
 mikew@ecoauditusa.org

It's helped me to be more aware of my behavior as a consumer and how I affect the environment." -S.G., Tacoma School of the Arts student

WE THANK OUR FUNDERS!

The following companies supported ECOaudit USA during the inaugural year through cash donations and in-kind services. These contributions were vital to our success. Thank you for supporting sustainable education!



WE ARE ON THE WEB!
WWW.ECOAUDITUSA.ORG



OUR MISSION:

To develop educational tools, programs and community outreach opportunities that allow young people, educators, and public agency professionals to research, apply and communicate sustainability practices.

ECOaudit USA is financially supported by Urban Green, a 501 C3 dedicated to the above stated mission. FED ID# 34-2029478

Our Goals:

Educate communities about energy and resource conservation

Show communities that conservation can reduce costs

Reduce a community's carbon footprint

Lessen a community's impact on local environment

Empower citizens to make a positive difference in our world!

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**Students Creating Sustainable
Communities Worldwide!**

T H E B A C K G R O U N D S T O R Y

In 2008, a group of Seattle business professionals visiting Shanghai Roots & Shoots learned about the ECOoffice Program and its impact on Shanghai business and student community. Kevin Daniels, a Seattle area developer, asked Tori Zwisler, Executive Director for Shanghai Roots & Shoots, if he could to bring it to the US.

Monte Alves and John Kinsella of ERM-Seattle agreed to adapt the ECO office to the US standard and conducted mentor training for Puget Sound area educators last fall.

ECOoffice is a community service learning program for students who work directly with local businesses to

conduct a basic carbon footprint analysis. From this analysis, the students prepare a report that includes results (scores) and recommendations of affordable, achievable actions a company can take to reduce energy consumption, save office resources and lower operating costs.



Students audit a government agency office.



A high school student surveys an office employee about work habits . The student's mentor is nearby during this first audit experience.