

**"GOOD NEWZ #6"** is an online newsletter produced by San Juan County Washington's Solid Waste Division, in line with its "Trash to Treasures" project goals. The hope and purpose of "Good Newz" and the growing **"Sustainable San Juans"** effort is to spark enthusiasm in the concept of sustainability; its aim is to encourage community-building by providing a format for the collection and dissemination of new ideas, practices, and products that promote sustainability in the San Juan Islands. We also hope to acknowledge existing efforts by local individuals, organizations, agencies, and businesses that support sustainability concepts. **Here are a few definitions of SUSTAINABILITY:**

- **"A sustainable society satisfies its needs without diminishing the prospects of future generations."**  
Lester R. Brown, Founder and President, Worldwatch Institute
- **Sustainability is when functions and processes of an ecosystem are maintained for the common good.**
- **Sustainability combines economic growth with protection of the natural environment. Sustainability requires an increased awareness of the value of community and of our place in the natural environment. Sustainability derives from a greater sense of personal and community responsibility to care for nature and all life.**

"Good Newz" carries reports on global, national, and local efforts. We welcome your input and suggestions for improving the newsletter. Items you share on sustainable individual, group, and business efforts will be posted here.; contact [helenv@rockisland.com](mailto:helenv@rockisland.com). To "unsubscribe" from this mailing list, respond to this email. Please forward "Good Newz" to anyone who might be interested in sustainability, especially in the San Juan Islands.

### **THE WORLD COMMUNITY:**

The Canadian edition of the latest "Harry Potter" book (935,000 copies available through [www.amazon.ca](http://www.amazon.ca)) is printed on Raincoast Books 100% recycled, endangered forest-free paper---a landmark for earth-friendly publishing. The first printing will save 29,640 trees. [And, the Recycling Wizards couldn't be more pleased!]

Canada, Mexico, and the United States have adopted a new biodiversity strategy acknowledging that shared migration and transboundary species are intricately linked and interdependent. The NAFTA resolution states that biodiversity loss has a rippling effect on species, ecosystems, and economies. (In another progressive effort, NAFTA countries are also cooperating on ways to reduce and eliminate threats from persistently-polluting chemicals like PCB's, mercury, chlordane, and DDT.)

Brasillio, Brazil: President daSilva has established new rules for the sustainable harvest and marketing of mahogany wood. Exploitation of the threatened rainforest trees due to deforestation is prohibited by the strong rules and implementation.

A pilot project in southwest British Columbia, Canada and northwest Washington, "The Georgia Basin/Puget Sound International Airshed Strategy," will identify measures to reduce hazardous air emissions and other transboundary pollution.

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### **GOOD ALL-AMERICAN EFFORTS:**

The California Fish and Game Commission has approved the Channel Islands as a network of marine reserves. A fishing ban in a 175-mile area around the Islands is designed to allow struggling species to rebound.

**YOU CAN TAKE ACTION FOR THE OCEANS:** Ask your congressional representatives to support the establishment of an independent oceans agency to oversee marine reserves off-limits to commercial fishing and shipping, and to urge the elimination of pollutant runoff into the oceans, as recommended by the 2003 Pew Commission Oceans Report ([www.pewoceans.org](http://www.pewoceans.org)).

The San Juan County Marine Resources Committee (MRC) is interested in your thoughts on marine protection. You're invited to attend the July 18th meeting to be held at the Roche Harbor pavilion from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. The U.S. Department of Energy Secretary said that advances in renewable energy research are readily available to the public for use in homes and businesses. "By incorporating advanced energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies that reduce energy use into building designs, the U.S. building sector is

achieving significant results. Home energy conservation saves money today and helps ensure abundant energy supplies for the future." See [www.energysavers.gov](http://www.energysavers.gov) for tips and resources on efficient windows, appliances, heating/cooling, and insulation to cut energy use and costs.

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### **SUSTAINABLE SAN JUANS:**

**CONCEPT OF THE MONTH: "NAVIGATING OUR FUTURE" is the theme for two upcoming sustainability events in the San Juan Islands. Building on the groundwork begun at the Low Impact Development Conference held here in May, NOF will host a fantastic sustainability exhibit featured at this year's San Juan County Fair as well as a follow-up September conference that will provide further exploration of sustainability practices.**

**Sustainability at the San Jan County Fair, August 13-16: Sustainability in the San Juans is the theme of the "Navigating Our Future" exhibit at this year's Fair. You'll find useful information and compelling displays on solar power for home use, rainwater catchment, native plants landscaping, biodiesel, electric cars, sustainable agriculture and much more at the Fair exhibit and Conference. Be sure to check out [www.navigatingourfuture.org](http://www.navigatingourfuture.org) for issue-specific information.**

**Larry Greene, team coordinator for the Fair exhibit and for the September follow-up conference, explained the "Navigating Our Future" effort: "Our intent is to invite individuals, families, schools, businesses, government agencies, and social and environmental organizations in the Islands to join in a voyage of discovery that can chart a viable future for our community of islands.**

**"Our vision is to begin weaving our many individual threads of expertise into a vibrant tapestry of sustainable community, and together make an evolutionary voyage to destinations yet uncharted. Discoveries along the way will surely open our vision to new horizons.**

**"We are beginning this voyage not as individuals but as a crew, a focused team of explorers into a new world. The places we go, the experiences we share, and the discoveries we make will provide us with the tools, better ways of working together, and cooperative solutions we will need to transform ourselves, our community and our planet.**

**"We're already on the same boat. Now, let's journey together on a voyage of discovery and positive change. Join us in Navigating Our Future."**

**Look for more details on the Fair exhibit in the next "Good Newz."**

**"A sustainable world is one in which humanity utilizes our planet's rich physical and cultural resources in ways that allow harmonious, fulfilling, equitable and sustainable lives while ensuring the availability of those resources for future generations." [Spencer Jourdain of the 1420 Foundation for Sustainable Development Education] See [www.1420learning.org](http://www.1420learning.org)**

**"Island communities are ideal labs for sustainable resource management." [George Sidles, WA Dept. of Ecology, Solid Waste & Financial Assistance Program]**