

## **UW's Strategy for Environmental Stewardship Goes from 'Grass Roots' to 'Day to Day'**

### **Presenter(s)**

AJ Van Wallendael, Environmental Stewardship Coordinator, University of Washington

### **Abstract Text**

There is a city within a city just north of the Ship Canal, with 294 buildings and daily traffic of 42,000 students, visitors and staff and faculty – the University of Washington campus. Being a city within a city has advantages and disadvantages for environmental stewardship. The size and complexity of activities on the campus means spanning huge varieties of needs and competing demands while launching comprehensive conservation efforts.

Aggressive pursuit of conservation means that each employee, each leader, student and visitor feels a sense of participation in the effort for an environmentally sustained university city. The University's many successful conservation efforts have prompted numerous awards. Little wonder that the city of Seattle and utilities have partnered with the University and the partnerships continue to produce impressive advances in sustainability.

### **Presenter Bio(s)**

**AJ Van Wallendael, Environmental Stewardship Coordinator, University of Washington**

AJ Van Wallendael has over 26 years of experience in environmental management systems design, implementation and oversight. She began her career as a hazardous waste analytical chemist resulting in several promotions and leading to managing a Part B permitted waste management facility in the Pacific Northwest.

Ms. Van Wallendael ventured out on her own as an environmental management consultant and advisor in the early 90s, and currently provides advisory services to the public and private sectors in most aspects of business growth, risk and exit strategies involving financial, operational and environmental issues.

In addition to her private practice, she currently holds a part time position with the University of Washington as the Environmental Stewardship Coordinator. This position requires: a) the coordination of students, faculty and staff efforts around environmental stewardship (including green buildings sustainability); b) designing, implementing and overseeing the environmental management system for all three (3) campuses; and c) managing the Environmental Stewardship Advisory Committee (ESAC) which is advisory to the UW Provost and UW EVP on environmental stewardship issues for all three (3) UW campuses.

### **Credentials**

RAB Certified Lead Environmental Auditor, 1998

LEED Accredited Professional, 2006

Certifications in asbestos, lead, transportation and solid waste related arenas.

**Education**

AAS; Chemistry, Broome Community College

BS, Business Management, City University

Masters in Business Management and Administration, Binghamton University

Ph.D Candidate, Holistic Nutrition and Natural Health, Clayton College of Natural Health