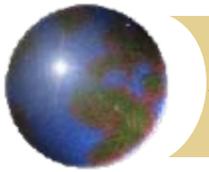


Developing Sustainability Training For your Agency

Presentation by:

**Barbara J. Lither, Esq.
USEPA Region 10
Federal Environmental Symposium – West
June 18, 2008**

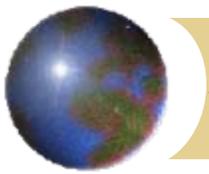


Sustainability and EPA Training

- How did it start?
- Why *Sustainability* training? What's that?
- What topics were covered?
- Costs?
- A modest proposal.



John Wise (retired EPA), David Schaller (retired EPA), Barbara Lither, EPA Region 10 Attorney and current Sustainability Practitioner



Training Classes in Other Regions

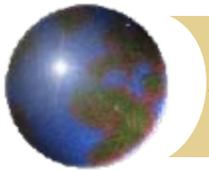


This is the class in EPA Region 2.



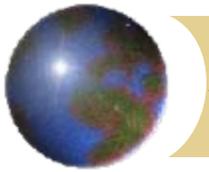
The Sustainability Wizard Appeared in various classes!

Over 400 Employees were trained



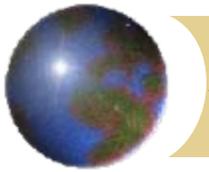
How Did it Start?

- Self Identified Champions with the requisite experience and expertise volunteered to fill a need.
- Cultivated and gained management support.
- Created training at low cost developed *'by feds for feds'*
- Provided knowledge in an area which is gaining momentum and visibility.



Why Sustainability Training?

- **Stewardship** is being used more and more and requires knowledge of a **systems approach**
- Complex problems such as climate change and stormwater runoff require new ways of approaching old problems.
- Great emphasis placed on EMS for federal agencies.
- Sustainability is an organizational approach which can support these ideas.

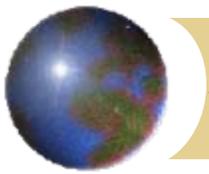


Ask the Public:

“Who Should Take the Lead on Environmental Issues?”

- 50% The Federal Government
- 35% Business and Industry
- 35% Individual Americans
- 27% State Government
- 21% Enviro Groups
- 21% Scientists and Inventors
- 11% Local Government

Roper Green Gauge 2007. Percent of total Online Population: based on a systematic sample and internet survey of about 2000 participants in the GfK Consumer Online Panel, consisting of adults in the Continental US who have accessed the internet within the past 30 days (~70% of U.S. population), adjusted by age, race, education, and several geographic factors to reflect the applicable latest Census Bureau Information.

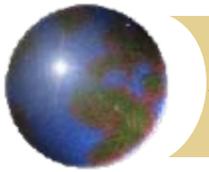


The National Advisory Council for Environmental Policy and Technology (NACEPT) March 2008:

“EPA should reframe its mission with stewardship as the unifying theme and ethic and strive to become the world’s premier stewardship model and catalyst.”

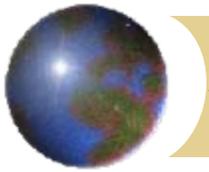
“Stewardship is a systemic approach to addressing the challenge of sustainability – economic, environmental and social.”

<http://www.epa.gov/ocem/nacept/reports/pdf/2008-0328-everyones-business-final.pdf>



Stewardship and Systems Thinking

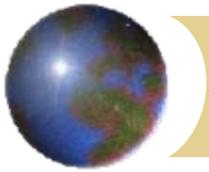
- ***Stewardship*** - EPA has embraced a vision of environmental stewardship... where we all take responsibility for environmental quality in every aspect of our lives – in our jobs, at home, and in our communities." *EPA Administrator Stephen Johnson*
- ***Systems Thinking*** –
"...a set of ideas, tools and methods for engaging with and improving complex situations, referred to as messes."
Jake Chapman in "An Introduction to 'Systems'"



A Federal Definition of Sustainable...

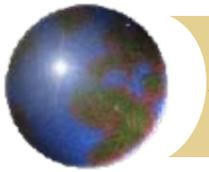
- ***Sustainable*** – “Means to create and maintain conditions, under which humans and nature can exist in productive harmony, that permit fulfilling the social, economic, and other requirements of present and future generations of Americans;...”

Executive Order #13423, January 24, 2007, Section 9 (k), Federal Register, Vol. 72, No. 17, Friday, January 26, 2007



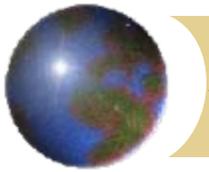
Some Legal Authorities

- NEPA, 42 U.S.C. 4331 et seq. Public Law 91-190, January 1, 1970, as amended.
- Executive Order #13423 January 24, 2007, Section 9 (k), Federal Register, Vol. 72, No. 17, Friday, January 26, 2007
- 40 CFR Section 1.3 and Reorganization Plan 3 of 1970 – “*systematic basis*”; treat the “*environment as a single interrelated system.*”
- The **Sarbanes-Oxley** Act of 2002 (Public Law 107-204, 116 Stat. 745), also known as the Public Company Accounting Reform and Investor Protection Act of 2002
- International Treaties
- Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007, Public Law 110-140, H.R. 6 (2007)
- Energy Policy Act of 2005, 42 U.S.C. 15801 et seq. Public Law 109-58, August 8, 2005
- Indirectly all major environmental laws



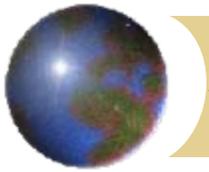
What were the costs?

- Costs were kept low since federal employees were trainers
- Requesting region/office used an in-house champion to set up
- Requesting region/office paid for costs of travel.
- Training was done in 'sustainably' designed free rent government space



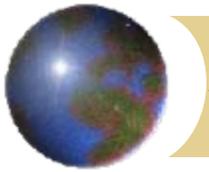
What Topics were Covered?

- Course designed in “modules”
- Each Module is meant to convey a specific learning element
- Toolkit of specific EPA activities where sustainability and systems approaches could be used
- Examples from RTP and Seattle classes



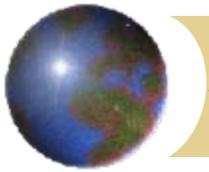
A Modest Proposal

- The “Sustainability and EPA” materials already exist and have proven successful.
- If federal employees from other agencies are interested, the materials may be modified and made available for use.



Is there interest to create an ad-hoc Workgroup?

- Short-term ad hoc workgroup
- Meetings will be virtual by phone.
- Goal will be to produce a template of existing materials for use by other federal agencies.
- Additional task will be to find a suitable home to house the training materials.
- Opportunity to leverage existing agency expertise.
- Interested?



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**“YES, IT IS IMPOSSIBLE,
THEREFORE IT WILL TAKE
A LITTLE LONGER”**

PAOLO LUGARI

