

The Nature Conservancy Honors Boeing for Outstanding Corporate Citizenship

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The Nature Conservancy of Washington today presented the Boeing Company with its Outstanding Corporate Support award. The award recognizes the company for its long and consistent history of supporting the Conservancy, a nonprofit organization working to protect Washington's rich natural heritage.

In making the presentation at the group's second annual Corporate Awards Luncheon, the Conservancy's board chairman, Stephen DeForest, noted several types of support provided by the company. Those included: more than 2,000 hours of volunteer time annually by employees; participation of company executives on the Conservancy board and committees; direct financial support and employee gift-matching exceeding \$1.3 million; and company-sponsored volunteer events. The company supports the Conservancy at the national level and through various regional chapters.

"Boeing has been a significant supporter of the Conservancy almost since its inception," DeForest said. "The company's financial contributions have put untold acres of Washington's imperiled natural systems into protection. Volunteers from the company have helped remove weeds, plant native species and monitor the health of these lands.

"It's been a remarkable partnership, and one for which the Conservancy is thankful."

Ron Ostrowski, Boeing vice president and general manager of the 777 Division and current Conservancy board member, accepted the award for the company.

The event was attended by 200 business leaders representing the Conservancy's 100 corporate sponsors, plus guests from dozens of other leading Northwest companies and community groups.

The Nature Conservancy is the nation's largest private conservation group. Established in 1951 by a group of scientists, the Conservancy protects plants, animals and natural communities that represent the diversity of life on Earth by protecting the lands and waters they need to survive. The Conservancy uses a science-based, cooperative approach, protecting natural landscapes either through direct purchases from willing sellers or by way of partnerships with public and private agencies.

To date, the Conservancy and its more than one million members have protected more than 11 million acres in the United States and Canada, and have helped protect nearly 60 million acres in Latin America, the Caribbean, Asia and the Pacific. It owns and manages more than 1,300 preserves in the United States, the largest private system of nature sanctuaries in the world.

Since its inception in 1961, the Nature Conservancy of Washington has helped protect nearly 140,000 acres throughout the state. It owns and manages 40 preserves in Washington and has helped establish many others with public and private partners. The Washington chapter is one of 50 state chapters that make up the national program.

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