

# Get Involved!

## Help Ensure a Healthy Environment

A Washington Toxics Coalition Campaign Fact Sheet • March 2003



*“Everybody can be great,  
because everybody can serve.”*

—Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Is protecting public health a priority for you? Are you concerned about toxic chemicals in our environment? Would you like to help

decrease the amount of mercury in our water and fish?

Would you like to educate your neighbors and the public on the hazards of their pesticide use and alternatives that are available? Do you feel compelled to “make a difference”?

working to provide a future free of toxics for generations to come. By joining our program you will have the chance to become informed on toxics issues, acquire new skills and interests, witness non-profit management and development, gain relevant experience for your résumé, meet other like-minded, committed individuals, and have loads of fun.

Volunteers and interns are instrumental to the success of our organization. In 2002, 121 volunteers contributed 1500 hours to our campaigns, development, administration, outreach and other areas of the organization. Major projects such as the redesigning of our website, creation of the *Growing Trends* report, major-donor meetings, annual dinner celebration and auction and more could not have been accomplished without the help of these dedi-



On July 11, 2002 Kmart shoppers were educated about the dangers of vinyl found in Martha Stewart's Everyday line of products. Volunteers Kristin, Chris, and Elizabeth joined WTC staff members Brandie and Kristina in handing out flyers and asking shoppers to sign postcards urging Martha to switch from the poison plastic to a safer alternative.

If you answered yes to any of the above questions, consider becoming a volunteer or intern with us. Washington Toxics Coalition can help you make a difference. Whatever your reason for becoming a volunteer or intern, we will assist you in finding a position from our many opportunities that best fits your skills and interests and will help you reach your goals.

Washington Toxics Coalition is a non-profit, member-based organization dedicated to protecting public health and the environment by identifying and promoting alternatives to toxic chemicals and pollution. We welcome volunteers and interns to help us use research, grassroots organizing, publications and presentations, litigation, and citizen education to provide reliable information and promote pollution prevention.

When you contribute your time and skills to Washington Toxics Coalition, you receive the satisfaction of knowing that you are



Kate assisted in a restoration of the Cedar River Watershed by removing Japanese knotweed, an invasive species. In order to provide clean drinking water to the city of Seattle, alternatives to pesticides are used in the watershed.



*Elizabeth and a concerned Kmart shopper demonstrate their dedication to the removal of PVC in Martha Stewart's products and packaging. Postcards were signed and sent to Martha asking her to use alternatives to PVC, a plastic that releases the cancer-causing chemical dioxin during its production and disposal.*

cated individuals. With the understanding that every bit counts, volunteers and interns are involved in almost every aspect of the organization from stuffing envelopes and staffing information tables at events to providing legal support and motivating lapsed members to rejoin. Volunteers and interns are invaluable to us. They are our link to the community, and they reaffirm the importance of our work. Building the movement requires the connection and communication of

our staff, board, activists, members, interns, and volunteers.

The following is a sample of projects open to volunteers and interns:

- Community Outreach
- Major Donor Taskforce
- Creating a Persistent-Pollutant Organizing Kit
- Pesticide-Free Zone Project
- Media Watchdog
- Coordination of Seattle Schools Workparties
- Roadside Vegetation Management Research
- Translation of Fact Sheets
- Green-Economics Research
- Prevent Cancer First Committee
- Anniversary Celebration and Auction

To become involved, contact Kristina Logsdon at 206-632-1545 ext. 20 or [volunteer@watoxics.org](mailto:volunteer@watoxics.org). We look forward to working with you! ■

*“It is both uplifting and inspiring to be in the company of such committed and socially conscious human beings as the staff, board, and many, many donors. They are the foundation that enables this most significant and necessary goal of a toxic-free world to become a reality! I feel fortunate that I am able to volunteer for an organization like WTC whose commitment and passion for its mission is making change happen!”*

–Sheilah Kodimer, volunteer



*Don has been faithfully volunteering with us since early February of 2003 when he was notified of opportunities through a volunteer newsletter he receives. Whether it is stuffing envelopes, updating our media database, or finding contact information for other organizations, Don cheerfully lends us his skills. Always upbeat, he is a joy to have in the office.*