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Award
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Certification
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Bay Point Chamber of Commerce
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Dow Chemical Receives Award

BALTIMORE, MD -- Employees at The Dow Chemical Company's The Dow Wetland Preserve received international recognition for their contributions to wildlife habitat conservation at the Wildlife Habitat Council's (WHC) 21st Annual Symposium, *Evergreen: A Celebration of Conservation in a Changing World*. Dow demonstrates its commitment to environmental stewardship and increasing native biodiversity by achieving *Wildlife at WorkSM* and *Corporate Lands for LearningSM* (CLL recertification at the Dow Wetlands Preserve.

The employees, volunteers and partners at The Dow Wetlands Preserve further distinguish themselves by winning WHC's prestigious *Corporate Lands for Learning* of the Year award, which recognizes a site for outstanding environmental education, stewardship and voluntary efforts.

"The Wildlife Habitat Council believes that collaboration among all stakeholder groups is critical to addressing the complex issues facing the sustainability of the planet," said Robert Johnson, WHC President. "WHC members take a leading role in connecting community stakeholders through wildlife habitat enhancement, community outreach and conservation education. Congratulations to Dow for their commitment to a healthy natural world and connected communities."

The 471-acre Dow Wetlands Preserve is located in the San Francisco Bay Area, between Pittsburg and Antioch,

California. The site contains diverse habitat types, including estuarine tidal marsh, emergent marsh, seasonal wet meadows, savannah, scrub shrub and forest fringe. The site serves as a nature preserve and environmental buffer zone, and 200 acres are actively managed for wildlife.

The wildlife team works to improve the tidal wetland habitat by controlling invasive hyacinth. A float was installed in 2008, to restrict boat access that could adversely affect wildlife. Invasive species pose a problem in the seasonal wetland pond. The wildlife team mows the area to decrease invasive pepper weed and provide room for native pickle weed to grow. Protective fencing was erected around native trees that were planted in the riparian forest to ensure they will survive predation by beavers which graze on the bark and continue to provide forest habitat.

The wildlife team monitors bird populations by providing a census form to qualified birders visiting the site. This census data is maintained in a database, providing long term data about bird populations on site. Bird experts also visit the site two to five times a year to monitor the bird populations. A number of nest boxes are located on site for bluebirds, wood ducks and kestrels. These nest boxes, along with raptor perches and floating platforms, enhance the existing habitat on site for a variety of birds.

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Ready Print Employee Attends CPRINT© Training

CHARLSTON – Josh Martin, Ready Print, California, recently attended the CPrint© International Production Manager's Training Conference held in Jacksonville, Florida. The CPrint© Training Conference, held annually, teaches management skills, gives information about new technology and gives printing production managers from across the U.S. and Canada the chance to discuss ideas and concerns with their peers.

According to Todd Nuckles, CPrint© president, Ready Print is among an elite group of companies whose growth and profitability are increasing in the face of ever increasing competition. One factor is the ongoing training provided by CPrint©. At the Conference, not only did attendees work with their peers and CPrint© staff, they ended the session by

taking a test that will help them become Certified Production Managers.

CPrint© is an organization of independently owned family-based businesses that strive for professionalism and performance among small businesses that commonly lack highly developed systems and leadership. Companies from throughout North America participate in the program.

The CPrint designation is available only to printers who demonstrate exceptional quality and service by maintaining standards in operations, training, equipment and software as well as worker benefits and working conditions. This program requires onsite recertification as well as participation in continuing education programs.



Networking Mixer!

Our next Mixer will be in March, so start preparing your presentation table, or just work on your networking skills! Look for the announcement in the mail, and by email!

Delta Diablo Sanitation Advice

Only Rain Down the Drain this Winter!

ANTIOCH – Delta Diablo Sanitation District has updated street sweeping schedules and maps to offer more effective cleaning schedules for the residents of Antioch, Bay Point and Pittsburg. With winter fast approaching, local residents are urged to find out if there have been changes in their neighborhood which impact which days they need to move cars and clear debris to ensure that street sweeping vehicles can easily access gutters and roadways.

It is also time to remember that the change in season means potential rain and storms can allow dangerous pollutants to be washed into storm drains which flow directly into the Bay-Delta and damage the natural eco-system.

According to Elisa Wilfong, Watershed Management Planning Specialist at Contra Costa Clean Water Program, "Having examined pollutant loads over the past five years, it proves to me that the amount of pollutants, as well as organic debris, sediment, trash and other

material picked up by the street sweepers, is advantageous for the environment and removes pollutants from the storm drain system that otherwise would have entered the storm drain, negatively impacting our local creeks and ultimately the entire San Francisco Bay Area waterways."

The grated openings you see in gutters collect rainwater and carry the water to storm drains which help minimize flooding. Anything on the streets, sidewalks, parking lots or driveways eventually washes into the storm drains and is carried directly to the Delta without treatment.

Rainwater often carries street debris – trash leaves, cigarette butts, grass clippings, pet waste, and vehicle fluids – into storm drains. Also pesticides, paints, antifreeze and used motor oil can end up in our river when people dispose of them improperly. Remember, not only do we get our drinking water from the river, but we also use our rivers and the Delta as a recreation area and a valuable natural habitat.

Dow Award, Continued

An impressive tidal wetland habitat at The Dow Wetlands Preserve is home to a thriving CLL program that provides learning opportunities to hundreds of students and adults from Contra Costa County, California, and its surrounding counties. The program was first certified in 2000, and Dow staff have since seen their efforts grow to cater to a wider variety of audiences, including 3rd through 12th grades at Antioch and Pittsburg school districts, University of California, Berkeley and Los Medanos College, local teachers, Eagle Scouts and residents wishing to use the open site, Dow employees, and other local groups and associations.

The Wetlands Environmental Team regularly sponsors teacher training opportunities. These include trainings at various science academies and many free curricula developed in coordination with the Contra Costa Department of Education, teachers, the Lindsay Wildlife Museum and Project Wild Aquatic staff. Watershed education is the main focus of on-site education and the site works with high school and college age students to design and implement research projects at the Preserve. This in turn aids the wildlife team in their habitat enhancement efforts.

Many programs at The Dow Wetlands Preserve include hikes to discover the habitat as well as hands-on discovery of the organisms that live there. Further activities include writing in a field journal and drawing pictures, depending on the age of the participant. These constructivist-based learning experiences allow children to learn about science and nature by experiencing it with pre- and post-visit activities, strengthening the standards-based educational experience. Teacher surveys, given out after each program also strengthen the program by supplying company employees with

valuable information on the effectiveness of the program and how it supports the state's curriculum standards.

The Dow Wetlands Preserve was one of 238 sites recognized at the 2009 Symposium for creating a *Wildlife at Work* program. In addition, 47 CLL programs were recognized, reaching thousands of learner from schools and scout groups to master gardeners and university researchers. Since 1990, WHC has certified 560 *Wildlife at Work* and 113 CLL programs worldwide. The certification program recognizes outstanding wildlife habitat management and environmental education efforts at corporate sites, and offers third-party validation of the benefits of such programs. Certification requirements are strict and require that sites apply for periodic renewal.

The Wildlife Habitat Council (WHC) is a non-profit, non-lobbying organization dedicated to increasing the quality and amount of wildlife habitat on corporate, private and public lands. WHC devotes its resources to building partnerships with corporations and conservation groups to create solutions that balance the demands of economic growth with requirements of a healthy, biodiverse and sustainable environment. WHC-assisted wildlife habitat and conservation education programs are found in 48 states, the District of Columbia and nine other countries. To learn more, visit www.wildlife.org.

Dow is a diversified chemical company that combines the power of science and technology with the "Human Element" to constantly improve what is essential to human progress. The Company delivers a broad range of products and services to customers in approximately 160 countries, connecting chemistry and (Continued on page 4)

Some people have greatness thrust upon them. Few have excellence thrust upon them. . . . They achieve it. They do not achieve it unwittingly by doing what comes naturally and they don't stumble into it in the course of amusing themselves. All excellence involves discipline and tenacity of purpose.

John William Gardner



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We're on the Web!

See us at:
www.BayPointChamber.com

**BAY POINT CHAMBER
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Events

Board Meetings: 7:00pm on the Fourth Thursday of each month. Usually at Los Gallitos Restaurant, 3005 Willow Pass Road, Bay Point. Call for specifics.

Biz Lunch: 12:00 noon, the third Thursday of every month. Usually at La

Finca Restaurant, 706 Port Chicago Highway, Bay Point.

Mixer: Get your "stuff" ready! We're planning a mixer for March, and want to see everyone there! Let's make networking effective this year!

Dow Award, Continued

innovation with the principles of sustainability to help provide everything from fresh water, food and pharmaceuticals to paints, packaging and personal care products. In 2008, Dow had annual sales of \$57.4 billion and employed approximately 46,000 people worldwide. The Company has 150 manufacturing sites in 35 countries and produces approximately 3,300 products. On April 1, 2009, Dow acquired Rohm and Haas Company, a

global specialty materials company with sales of \$10 billion in 2008, 98 manufacturing sites in 30 countries and approximately 15,000 employees worldwide. References to "Dow" or the "Company" mean The Dow Chemical Company, and its consolidated subsidiaries unless otherwise expressly noted. More information can be found at www.dow.com. Information about Dow's Pittsburg Operations can be found at www.dowpittsburg.com.

Next Newsletter

In our next newsletter, we'll be taking a look at the potential impact and benefits of Bay Point's becoming an Enterprise Zone. Benefits await businesses who take advantage of this designation, once it has been completed. We'll

discuss tax breaks, incentives for hiring the unemployed, and many more advantages included in the zoning designation.