



Pierce County

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## News Release

### 2008 Livable Communities Fair set for May 17 in Tacoma

Pierce County's fourth biennial Livable Communities Fair will be held Saturday, May 17, 2008 at the Tacoma Dome Exhibition Hall. Pierce County, which produced the earlier fairs in Gig Harbor, Parkland and Puyallup, is working in partnership with the City of Tacoma for next spring's event.

"We are committed to making it the biggest and best that we've had," said Fair Manager Diane Braaten, assistant to County Executive John W. Ladenburg. "We invite businesses and organizations to join us as sponsors and get involved."

Ladenburg and Tacoma Mayor Bill Baarsma are co-chairs. The fair, similar to a home or garden show, is an expo featuring interactive booths, workshops and speakers. It promotes resources and information aimed at improving the community's quality of life. "Fair goers will discover volunteer opportunities to help make Pierce County a better place to live, work and play," Braaten said.

The first LCF in 2002 drew 5,000 people to the Tacoma Narrows Airport near Gig Harbor. Attendance more than doubled in 2004 at Pacific Lutheran University and in 2006 at the Puyallup Fair & Events Center. Braaten and her team expect more than 10,000 to attend the Tacoma fair.

The 2008 fair's theme is "Changing the World One Fair at a Time." "Imagine 10,000 people being inspired and taking a specific action that makes a difference in their home, neighborhood or community," Braaten said. "If that were to happen, we'd have taken steps toward changing our world."

Virtually any livable/sustainable idea that benefits neighborhoods and communities is welcome to be part of the LCF. Participants will have an exceptional opportunity to provide information and educate the public on recycling, low impact development, affordable housing, roads/transit, emergency preparedness, public safety, environment, recreation and other topics.

"The Livable Communities Fair has established itself as a highly successful environmental festival. We are telling potential sponsors and exhibitors that the fair's purpose is to educate and challenge organizations and citizens to connect and engage in maintaining, improving, and sustaining the livable qualities of our communities," she said. "We welcome any idea that benefits Pierce County citizens and their communities."

To obtain information about being a fair sponsor, exhibitor and-or volunteer, contact Braaten at 798-6691 or [diane.braaten@co.pierce.wa.us](mailto:diane.braaten@co.pierce.wa.us). Information also is available at [www.livablepiercecounty.org](http://www.livablepiercecounty.org)

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