

Washington State Department of Ecology

Budget Fact Sheet

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What the Department of Ecology does:

We work to protect, preserve and enhance Washington's environment, and promote the wise management of our air, land and water for the benefit of current and future generations.

Our work is carried out by 10 environmental programs. A summary of where the money comes from, how it is used and what happens as a result of the work is available in our ["2007-09 Budget and Program Overview."](#) A new edition on the 2009–11 budget will be published this fall. For more information, visit www.ecy.wa.gov.

2007-09 Capital Budget	\$458 million
2009-11 Capital Budget	\$324 million

2007-09 Operating Budget	\$458.0 million
2009-11 Maintenance Level	\$459.4 million
2009-11 Operating Budget	\$445.6 million

Reductions and actions we are taking:

- Reducing the number of remedial action grants to ports and local governments for toxic cleanups.
- Reducing the number of small community hardship (Centennial Clean Water) grants for wastewater and sewage treatment.
- Reducing the number of watershed grants to local communities.
- Reducing the number of cleanups of toxic sites in Puget Sound.
- Reducing the number of water rights processed each year from about 500 to 370.
- Picking up less litter, suspending the litter prevention campaign for two years, decreasing grants to local communities by 20 percent and hiring 100 fewer teens for litter crews.
- Reducing the number of oil spill prevention inspections and compliance checks.

- Reducing awards of public participation grants for citizens and non-profit organizations.
- Cutting grants and technical assistance to local governments for watershed planning and projects.
- Cutting grant money for communities to plan actions and projects to control flooding.
- Reducing management and oversight of water quality loans to local governments.

Programs and services we will continue to deliver:

- Loans to local communities for wastewater, sewers and other water quality projects.
- Projects for flood and drought construction.
- Beach erosion prevention and crab habitat protection in southwest Washington
- Coordinated Prevention Grants to local communities.
- Toxic site cleanup including the ports of Bellingham and Anacortes.
- Water rights processing for the Columbia, Walla Walla and Nooksack basins will receive priority.
- At a greatly reduced level, work to reduce wood smoke and diesel emissions, the most common risks in our communities.
- Immediate response to all oil spills and lower levels of inspections and drills to prevent spills.
- Emergency response tug stationed year-round at Neah Bay to help prevent shipping accidents and oil spills off the Washington coast.
- More oversight of the federal cleanup of hazardous and radioactive waste at Hanford.
- More grants and technical assistance to 77 local governments to adopt shoreline master plans, many focused on protecting Puget Sound.
- Grants and technical assistance to 29 communities to implement watershed plans (including Quilcene-Snow, Skokomish-Dosewallips and Nisqually).

For more information, visit <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/budget.html> or contact:

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