



## **MOUNTAINS TO SOUND GREENWAY TRUST AWARDED “NO CHILD LEFT INSIDE” GRANT**

**MEDIA RELEASE:** SEATTLE, May 1, 2008

**CONTACT:** Sally Kentch, Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
206.524.1665 – [sally.kentch@mtsgreenway.org](mailto:sally.kentch@mtsgreenway.org)

Amy Brockhaus, Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust  
206.382.5565 - [amy.brockhaus@mtsgreenway.org](mailto:amy.brockhaus@mtsgreenway.org)

The Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust was awarded a \$30,000 “No Child Left Inside” grant from the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission. Of 238 applications submitted, 25 organizations received funding. “We are a proud recipient of this grant,” says Cynthia Welti, Executive Director of the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust. “Washington State Parks has recognized that we will be able to successfully deliver a combination of environmental education and hands-on conservation for youth, two of our well-established programs.”

- **EDUCATION PROGRAM:** “Seeking Solutions” offers 5th through 10th grade King County students and teachers an opportunity to participate in inquiry-based science programs through classroom lessons and field study trips to Tiger Mountain State Forest. Concepts woven throughout Seeking Solutions include the interconnectedness of all things in nature, the importance of considering a balanced approach to conservation and land use, how soil, water and trees interact and how biosolids can be recycled. Since 1998, 31,225 students from 175 schools have participated in the program.
- **YOUTH STEWARDSHIP:** The Youth Stewardship Program offers the opportunity to build trails, plant trees, restore riparian zones, remove invasive weeds and work in the Greenway native plant nursery. Since 2002 over 10,513 youth have spent 45,145 hours working on public lands in the Greenway.
- **EDUCATION AND STEWARDSHIP TOGETHER:** “Seeking Solutions Plus,” funded by the No Child Left Inside grant offers students the opportunity to continue to experience the natural world by participating in a day of environmental restoration or trail maintenance. “Our vision for the new program is to educate students about the natural world and provide meaningful outdoor work, giving students the opportunity to contribute to their community,” says Sally Kentch, Environmental Educator for the Greenway Trust. “The combination of classroom learning, field study trips and community service provides an opportunity for authentic learning, and a chance to apply education to a real life challenge.”

The 100-mile Mountains to Sound Greenway connects open spaces, trails, working farms and forests, historic towns, wildlife habitat and recreation opportunities just outside Washington's largest metropolitan area. The Greenway provides easy access to recreation and nature for millions of people in the Northwest.

The Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust is a nonprofit conservation organization established in 1991 to protect the Interstate 90 corridor between Seattle and Central Washington. The Greenway Trust works to promote public land acquisitions, connect a continuous regional trail system, teach people of all ages about the importance of conserving forests and wildlife, improve recreation access, create new parks and trails and mobilize thousands of volunteers. The Greenway portion of I-90 was the first interstate highway in the nation to be designated a National Scenic Byway.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:** [mtsgreenway.org](http://mtsgreenway.org)

To sign up for environmental education classes and to learn more about the Mountains to Sound Greenway, visit [www.mtsgreenway.org/environmentaled](http://www.mtsgreenway.org/environmentaled), email [education@mtsgreenway.org](mailto:education@mtsgreenway.org) or call 206.524.1665.

Photos are available upon request.