



Contact: Thea Levkovitz, Coalition Coordinator  
Duwamish River Cleanup Coalition  
206-954-0218

# Press Release

## Duwamish River Cleanup Coalition receives Clearwater Award

- What:** Seattle's Duwamish River Cleanup Coalition was named the 2009 Clearwater Award winner by the *URBAN WATERFRONTS 27: Sustainable Solutions*, an annual international conference on waterfront planning, development and culture.
- Where:** Seattle Marriott Waterfront
- When:** October 23, 2009, 4:30 p.m.
- Who:** Cari Simson, Program Manager for Duwamish River Cleanup Coalition (DRCC) will accept the **2009 Clearwater Award** for the "Duwamish Vision" on behalf of DRCC. DRCC joins representatives from 27 states, eight Canadian provinces, New Zealand, Australia, China, and South Korea in Seattle for the 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Urban Waterfronts Conference. The nonprofit Waterfront Center, which hosts the "Excellence on the Waterfront" awards, annually brings together a dynamic group of experts focused on waterfronts to exchange ideas on the challenges of waterfronts worldwide.

**The Clearwater Award** is named for the citizen's group working to clean up the Hudson River, New York State, spearheaded by songwriter Pete Seeger. The winners will be announced during the Center's annual conference, held in Seattle from October 22 to 24, 2009. The announcement, always a highlight of the annual meeting, is followed by a champagne reception honoring the winners and a gala dinner to be held at the Seattle Art Museum's Sculpture Garden Pavilion.

**The Duwamish River Cleanup Coalition** (DRCC) is the Environmental Protection Agency's Community Advisory Group for the Lower Duwamish Superfund site (the lower 5.5 miles of the river from Tukwila to Harbor Island). Since 2001, when the EPA listed the Lower Duwamish River on its list of National Priorities, DRCC has been involving the public in the Superfund cleanup process through technical review, tours, volunteer events, and other opportunities. In advance of the EPA's Riverwide cleanup planning process in 2010, DRCC initiated the "Duwamish Vision," which is a comprehensive, community-based future visioning process, engaging people who live, work or visit the Duwamish Valley through workshops, mapping and interviews.

"The Duwamish Vision provides a clear voice to diverse citizens and stakeholders along the Duwamish River, who might not otherwise attend EPA Public Meetings or participate in other ways," Thea Levkovitz, DRCC Coordinator said, "otherwise, marginalized people who live, work along, or visit the Duwamish River might not have a chance to comment on how they want the river cleaned up."

The project compiled the community's ideas, concerns, and visions for the River's eventual cleanup into a comprehensive Vision Map and Report, which includes transportation, housing, recreation, jobs, and habitat restoration. The Duwamish Vision can be viewed and downloaded from the DRCC web site:

<http://www.duwamishcleanup.org/#whatisvision>

For Release 4:30 PM. PST, October 23, 2009

Duwamish River Cleanup Coalition - 1620 18<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite #10 - Seattle, WA 98122 - 206-954-0218 – [thea@duwamishcleanup.org](mailto:thea@duwamishcleanup.org)