

COMMUNITY

Lake Tahoe Sustainability Collaborative celebrates one year anniversary

By Hannah Greenstreet
Submitted to the Tribune

An anniversary is always a wonderful time to reflect and celebrate the past year. As of May 2013, the Lake Tahoe Sustainability Collaborative has brought together passionate and hardworking citizens around the Tahoe Basin for the purpose of accelerating the shift to sustainability and improved lifestyles across our local communities.

Originally developed to help define and implement a Lake Tahoe Sustainability Action Plan and related tools tailored to the Tahoe-Truckee region, the citizen-based network of basin-wide residents joined this regional forum unsure of the process and plans to come. However, after a

large wave of enthusiasm combined with expertise and creative innovations, the LTSC is building a foundation of collaboration that includes non-profit organizations, environmental professionals, government agencies and engaged citizens. LTSC's mission is to sustain a citizen-based effort to accelerate a shift toward a healthier Lake Tahoe-Truckee community, environment, and economy.

Varying in age, profession, backgrounds, and interests, the members offer diverse interests; however, there is one common goal amongst the 108 members— a more healthy and wholesome quality of life through active stewardship of the Alpine environment we call home. From expanding bike paths to community gardens,

LTSC seeks to deeper opportunities for economic, educational and cultural participation in their own backyard. These projects include working on improvements in community mobility, energy, water, and waste conservation, food security, social wellbeing, education and culture, and inclusivity of all populations.

The successes over the last year are just the start of all the possibilities. LTSC has secured more visible striping on Highway 50 for bike lanes, expanded the Compost Tahoe program, created a Sustainability Directory, and are establishing a future community garden. Through five active working groups, LTSC is implementing sustainable community projects "on the ground."

With the recent creation of the LTSC official logo, thanks to volunteer contributions from Dollar Signs, the group is transitioning into the next phase of work — empowering the community as the "key" to sustainability through volunteer efforts in the Basin.

There are many projects in the works that are built from grassroots ideas. LTSC is not about obtaining a permit or relying on a grant to make a goal come to fruition. LTSC is about a group of citizens who have enthusiasm for their community and our spectacular environment and want to see it flourish. If you are interested in joining the collaborative or have questions, visit the website or contact Michael at Michael@sustainabilitycollaborative.org.



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UPCOMING SNC EVENTS

43RD ANNUAL COMMENCEMENT

SNC is tremendously honored to welcome Tori Murden McClure as the 2013 Commencement speaker. As President of Spalding University, McClure draws upon her own innumerable achievements in both higher education and outdoor exploration. She also serves as a trustee of Smith College and is the former Chairwoman of the Board of Directors for the National Outdoor Leadership School. McClure's 2009 memoir, *A Pearl in the Storm*, recounts her trying, failing, and ultimately succeeding in becoming the first woman to row, alone, across an ocean.

