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Local Businesses Receive Air Quality Business Recognition Awards

Mount Vernon, WA (October 10, 2011) – Partners for Clean Air Awards are presented annually by the Northwest Clean Air Agency to businesses in Island, Skagit, and Whatcom counties that are working to reduce emissions and improve air quality in our communities. Gold and Platinum awards are given to only those businesses that have consistently gone above and beyond of what is required of them and helped us keep our communities a healthier place to live.

Gold award recipients must comply with all applicable air quality regulations and have implemented additional clean air practices over the last three years in two of four pollution prevention categories - energy efficiency; emissions reductions as a result of process changes, material substitution, etc.; air pollution prevention practices related to their specific business sector; or transportation, such as, commute trip reduction, no idle policies, cleaner fleets, or diesel retrofits.

The **Platinum** distinction is awarded to businesses that qualify for the Gold award and moreover have taken exceptional measures to further improve air quality. Granite Precasting & Concrete, Inc. received the 2011-2012 Platinum award. A plaque commemorating their achievement will be presented to them at the Agency's Board of Directors meeting on October 13th.

Granite Precasting & Concrete, Inc. has consistently gone above and beyond what is required. They replaced an older boiler with a high efficiency on-demand steam generator reducing fuel usage by 40%. By paving over the gravel and routinely using a sweeper, they reduced the particulate emissions from the yard by 90%. In addition, they have reduced vehicle emissions considerably by initiating a "no idle policy" for their semi and delivery trucks and by becoming more efficient in organizing loads to minimize deliveries.

The businesses who have been awarded the Partners for Clean Air Gold award include the City of Anacortes Wastewater Treatment Plant, Dally's Auto Body, Granite Construction Company, Granite Construction Company – Singer Asphalt Plant, Nylatech Inc., Rothenbuhler Engineering, Tony's Coffees and Teas Inc., and Turner Enterprises Inc. DBA Burlington Collision. All award recipients receive a window decal acknowledging their efforts.

Please visit <http://www.nwcleanair.org> for more information about the [Air Quality Business Recognition program](#).

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