

To ensure that these emails go to your inbox, [add us to your safelist](#).

If you are having trouble viewing this email, click [here](#) for an online version.



WMSA Walks the Intern Talk

As the initiative gets underway to create 3,000 more internships in West Michigan for college students, the West Michigan Strategic Alliance is seeing the benefits of internships first hand. Dan Cherette and Brad Wilson were selected to work as interns at WMSA for the summer of 2008. [Click here](#) to view the full article.

WIRED West Michigan Catches Washington's Eye

Brent Orrell, Assistant Secretary of the U.S. Department of Labor, Employment & Training Administration visited West Michigan on Monday, August 4th for an in-depth briefing concerning two of WIRED West Michigan's Innovations, [West Michigan TEAM](#) and [NCRC/WorkKeys](#). These Innovations caught Orrell's eye as national best practices because they are excellent examples of how WIRED West Michigan has achieved system change by creating effective collaborations. We continue to receive validation for our Innovations here in West Michigan; it is quite an honor to be recognized nationally as well.

Green Infrastructure Initiative Begins Inventory Project

The West Michigan Strategic Alliance's Green Infrastructure Initiative has started a project to establish baseline data of Green Initiatives, events, activities, and organizations throughout the eight counties represented by the West Michigan Strategic Alliance (WMSA). The initiative will also include a framework for "hosting" data, a calendar of events, creating mechanisms for distribution and retrieval of data, and establishing portals and reciprocal links. This information will serve as a tool for promoting collaboration, and to help the region avoid duplication of services, and to encourage sharing of resources between West Michigan organizations working on green infrastructure. [Click here](#) for more information.

Save the Date

3rd Annual Natural Connections Summit 2008 - Locally Green, Regionally Connected
This year's summit features two very exciting keynote speakers, Karen Firehock, Environmental Planner from the Green Infrastructure Center in Charlottesville, VA., and Chris Bedford, filmmaker and co-founder of Sweetwater Local Foods Market in Muskegon, MI. There will also be several hands-on workshops demonstrating best practices, applying tools and excellent networking opportunities.

[Click here](#) for the event brochure and registration form.

When: September 25, 2008 from 7:30 am - 4:00pm

Where: [The Pinnacle Center](#), 3330 Highland Drive, Hudsonville, MI

Cost: \$50 (includes continental breakfast and lunch)

Register: Fax registration form to 888-776-7457 or email to rsvp@wm-alliance.org

Join the many people and organizations from around West Michigan who are contributors to the work of regional collaboration by visiting our website wm-alliance.org or email info@wm-alliance.org

Note: This project is funded in whole or in part by a WIRED grant from the U.S. Department of Labor - Employment Training Administration

Click [here](#) to forward this mailing with your personal message.

This email was sent to: admin@wm-alliance.org
This email was sent by: **West Michigan Strategic Alliance**
PO Box 68046, Grand Rapids, MI 49516



Click [here](#) to leave this mailing list.

Click [here](#) to view our privacy policy.