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**Coeur d'Alene Lake Our Gem Symposium & Spokane River Forum Conference**  
 March 22 - 24, 2016  
 Coeur d'Alene Resort

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Spokane River **headlines**

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The Spokane River Forum is a non-partisan, non-profit organization that creates materials, events and activities that promote sustaining a healthy river system while meeting the needs of a growing population.

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## City of Spokane Goes Green with EnviroStars Certification

The City of Spokane's Fleet Services Department has been recognized as a certified "**Spokane EnviroStar**" for its work to protect the environment by properly managing and reducing hazardous materials and waste. The department sought the certification after moving into the new Spokane Central Service Center, which was designed to comply with LEED green building criteria. The City's fleet of 1,500 vehicles is maintained at the station.

"As the City of Spokane proceeds with more than \$300 million in work to improve the health of the Spokane River, it just makes sense to follow through with other practices that protect our river and drinking water supplies," says Gene Jakubczak, the City's Fleet Services Director. "Throughout the City, we are working to be financially and environmentally responsible, and this is one more demonstration of that commitment." [Read More](#)

## Islands Trailhead Spokane River Access Underway

Construction is a wonderful thing. 5 years in the making, Spokane River Water Trail Access at Islands Trailhead is happening.



Just downstream of Plante's Ferry and next to Denny Ashlock Bridge, we're working with Spokane Conservation District and other partners to put in the first "slide system" for paddlers, rafters and anglers to safely get their boats in and out of the water. This includes restoring over 150 feet of shoreline. [Contact us](#) if you'd like to volunteer for riparian planting Saturday, March 19th, 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Learn more about this and other restoration and access projects at the Spokane River Forum Conference March 23rd-24th. [Click here](#) to register.

## Spokane River Instream Flow Rule Appealed

Environmental groups with local, regional and national affiliations are challenging the Spokane River in-stream flow rule that Ecology adopted in February, 2015. The purpose of an instream flow rule is to protect and preserve water in streams for fish, wildlife, recreational uses, wastewater management, and hydropower.

At the core of the appeal is the desire for increased flows to protect and restore the river's redband trout population and meet recreational boating needs. [Click here](#) for their news release. Said Guy Gregory with the Washington Department of Ecology, "We were notified yesterday. Once complete, we'll begin reviewing it in accordance with Washington law."

Instream flows will be addressed as part of climate change, the water needs of a growing population, conservation efforts, aquifer protection and fishery restoration at the Spokane River Forum Conference March 23rd - 24th. [Click here](#) to register.



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