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ISSUE 33



*Monroe, Washington Economic Development Newsletter for March, 2023*

# Monroe Business

## Source Control & Business Inspection Program

New Federal regulations adopted in 2019 pertaining to the Federal Clean Water Act requires that the city adopt and implement a local source control program. Source Control is a practice that is designed to reduce and/or eliminate the accumulation of pollutants that originate from:

- manufacturing and industrial site activities
- spill incidents
- improper disposal of potential pollutants
- other potential indirect sources of pollution

The types of pollutants that the source control business inspection program will focus on can include:

- fertilizer
- sediment
- oils and greases
- commercial and industrial wash water
- chemicals and metal leaching
- organics

The city of Monroe began implementing the Source Control program January 2023.

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## Snohomish County Accepting Applications for \$1.6 Million in Arts and Culture Recovery Grants

Snohomish County is accepting applications for \$1.6 million Arts and Culture Recovery Grants, which will be funded by the County's federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) allocation. The goal of these grants is to provide relief to arts and culture organizations and businesses impacted by the pandemic. Two types of grants are available:

- **Nonprofit Recovery Grants** – Eligible organizations with a minimum pandemic revenue loss of \$2,000 may be awarded up to \$30,000.
- **Festivals and Events Recovery Grants** – Events characterized as having an operating budget over \$100,000 and a pandemic revenue loss of at least \$2,000 may be awarded amounts up to \$60,000.

Interested organizations should attend the upcoming technical assistance workshop => Tues. Mar 21, 2023, 2pm to 3pm @ <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84959217744?pwd=YU9xMnFEenlCb m8yNWl2LzJwdHBUQT09>

Meeting ID: 849 5921 7744 Passcode: 433339

Interested organizations can [find the grant application here](#). Please only submit your application via the online digital platform. For questions and technical assistance, please contact us at: [SnohomishCounty.Recovers@snoco.org](mailto:SnohomishCounty.Recovers@snoco.org).

# Monroe Business

## Grant Funding Available to Hospitality & Lodging Businesses

### ***\$100 million available to support businesses affected by pandemic***

The Washington State Department of Commerce announced a new grant opportunity for businesses in the hospitality and lodging industry that suffered business losses due to the pandemic. The application portal opened on March 14 at [wahospitalitygrants.com](http://wahospitalitygrants.com).

#### **Who can apply**

The grants are open ONLY to:

- Restaurants; food stands, trucks and carts
- Caterers, bars, saloons, lounges, and taverns
- Snack and non-alcoholic beverage bars
- Licensed alcohol producers where the public may taste, sample or purchase products
- Hotels and motels (except casinos), and inns and bed and breakfast establishments that have a least five private lodging rooms or onsite sales of food and beverage that account for at least 25% of gross receipts or sales
- Bakeries, brewpubs, tasting rooms, taprooms, breweries, microbreweries, wineries and distilleries are also eligible to apply **if onsite sales to the public comprise at least 25% of gross receipts or sales.**
- Bowling alleys and convention and visitors bureaus will also be considered for a grant, depending on the availability of funds.

#### **Additional qualifications**

- Eligible business must have experienced a 25% or greater loss in gross receipts or sales between 2019 and 2020 because of the COVID-19 pandemic and related public health and safety measures.
- Eligible businesses must generate minimum gross receipts or sales of \$12,000 in 2019 (or 2020, if the business opened that year); generate at least 51% of revenue in the state, have not permanently closed or intend to close in 2023.
- Eligible businesses must have expenses that are necessary to continue business operations, such as payroll and rent.

To learn more and subscribe to email updates about the program visit [wahospitalitygrants.com](http://wahospitalitygrants.com). For questions, email [info@wahospitalitygrants.com](mailto:info@wahospitalitygrants.com).

## Source Control & Business Inspection Program cont.

Monroe businesses subject to an inspection can expect a written notification via post mail informing them that their business will be subject to an inspection in the future.

### ***How can I prepare for an inspection?***

Implementing good housekeeping practices is a great first step in pollution prevention and can involve best management practices such as:

- Sweep and clean outside areas regularly
- Clean up spills and dispose of waste properly
- Keep liquids inside or undercover
- Keep dumpster areas tidy
- Conduct all washing operations in an area that drains to the sanitary sewer
- Cover piles and materials being stored outside

Additional best management practices and good housekeeping practices can be found in the [Department of Ecology's Stormwater Management Manual for Western Washington](#).

***For a complete list of business types that are subject to inspection, please visit [Monroe Storm Water; Source Control & Business Inspection Program](#)***

## From the Washington State Economic and Revenue Forecast Council

- Newly revised unemployment data show an earlier increase in the Washington unemployment rate. The revised estimates show that the Washington unemployment rate began rising earlier in 2022 than previously believed. In January, the Washington unemployment rate inched up to 4.6% (SA) in January from a revised 4.5% in December.
- Seattle metropolitan area (which includes Snohomish County) consumer price inflation continued to exceed the national average in the year ending in February 2023.
- Washington's Major General Fund-State (GF-S) revenue collections for the February 11 - March 10, 2023 collection period came in \$110.1 million (6.2%) higher than forecasted in November.
- Tax payments by businesses in the accommodation and food services sector were up 20.9% year over year. Last month receipts from the sector were up 10.6% year over year.
- Cumulatively, Washington Dept. of Revenue collections are \$198.6 million (2.0%) higher than forecasted

For a more detailed look at the Washington State economy, go to the Economic and Revenue Forecast Council's [Monthly Newsletter for March 2023](#)

## Canadian plant-based food producer No Meat Factory to launch operations in Stanwood

March 15, 2023

### ***\$200,000 state grant to Economic Alliance Snohomish County helps jumpstart former Twin City Foods plant update***

The Department of Commerce announced that [No Meat Factory](#) (NMF), a Canadian manufacturer of plant-based meat alternative products, will open a new production facility in Stanwood, Washington. The new plant will reopen a facility closed by Twin City Foods in 2017.

The new facility will allow NMF to meet growing demand for its line of plant-based meat alternative products. After investing up to \$20 million in renovations and improvements, the Stanwood facility will produce a full line of convenience products, including veggie burgers and nuggets, a veggie-based ground beef substitute, seafood alternatives and extruded products, such as sausages and wieners.

"The establishment of No Meat Factory in Stanwood represents a significant investment in our local economy and a testament to our region's skilled workforce," said Garry Clark, Economic Alliance Snohomish County CEO and president. "We are proud to support this venture and to see the return of over 100 food processing jobs to our community."

## CALENDAR & EVENTS

**March 21 2023 7:00 PM**  
**CITY COUNCIL BUSINESS MEETING**  
**Monroe City Hall and Zoom Online Meeting Platform**

**March 22 • 8:00 AM - 9:30 AM**  
**RECORD KEEPING FOR SMALL BUSINESSES**  
**5415 Evergreen Way**  
**Everett, WA 98203**

**Cost: Free**

*This class, which is free of charge and hosted by Coastal Community Bank, will help you understand the benefits a small business derives from proper record keeping and identify best practices, tools, and resources for your organization. [Register Here!](#)*

**April 11 • 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM**  
**SNOHOMISH COUNTY UPDATE from County Executive**  
**- Dave Somers**

**Boeing Future of Flight**  
**8415 Paine Field Blvd**  
**Mukilteo, WA 98275**

**Cost: \$25-\$30**

[Register Here! »](#)

**Contact: [WilliamS@EconomicAllianceSC.org](mailto:WilliamS@EconomicAllianceSC.org)**

**April 26 • 8:00 AM - 9:30 AM**  
**FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT FOR SMALL BUSINESSES**  
**5415 Evergreen Way**  
**Everett, WA 98203**

*This class will help you understand the basics of financial management and identify best practices, tools, and resources available to your business.*

**Cost: Free**

[Register Here! »](#)

**April 26 • 10:30 AM - 2:00 PM**  
**Economic Alliance Snohomish County hosts**  
**ECONOMIC FORECAST & ANNUAL MEETING**

**Tulalip Resort Casino**  
**10200 Quil Ceda Boulevard**  
**Tulalip Bay, WA 98271**

**Cost: \$95 – \$1,300**

[Register Here »](#)



## **SERVE ON A BOARD, COMMISSION OR COMMITTEE**

Are you looking for ways to serve the community you live in? The City of Monroe has openings on multiple Boards, Commissions and Committees.

Business Owners and or Managers who work in Monroe are encouraged to apply for current openings on the Economic Development Advisory Board. We need your input to ensure Monroe stays a business friendly community.

Click the link to view current vacancies (including how to apply). [Vacancies & Applications](#)



## **Contact US**

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