**Regional Attitudes towards Climate Change**

**Conceptualizing Our Regional Environment (gCORE), Fall 2011**

Dear Participant:

I am a student at The Evergreen State College. As part of my research in the Masters’ of Environmental Studies Program, I am conducting a research project titled: “Regional Attitudes Towards Climate Change.” The purpose of this project is to gather information about local attitudes and activities about climate change. I will also produce a research paper and presentation about my findings. I will be conducting a 60 minute audio recorded interview with you about this topic. If you want to discuss the topic(s) in greater detail, the interview could last as long as 90 minutes or two hours, but going into that level of detail is your decision.

Any risks to you are minimal, and would likely be nothing more than mild embarrassment from sharing your attitudes about this topic. There is no compensation for your participation, which is completely voluntary. You may withdraw your participation at any point or skip any question you do not wish to answer. I will keep the digital audio recording and its transcription of my interview with you in a password protected computer accessible only by me. I might consult with my faculty on interpreting the transcription, but upon completion of the project, we will destroy the digital files. The specific words you use in the interview will only be heard and used by myself and possibly my faculty sponsors, Judy Cushing, Carri LeRoy or Martha Henderson.

As mentioned above, I will use your responses only as resource material for my research paper on attitudes towards climate change, and the interpretation of your responses will be pooled with interpretations of interviews with other persons conducted by other students.

At your request, I will provide you with a copy of the final draft of my paper, and of any final report or publication that comes from this work. My paper will not be published, but it will be read by my faculty member and I will make a presentation about it to my fellow students. I may report your answers in my paper, but I will keep your identity confidential and not reveal any identifying information about you in my final paper and presentation.

General results of the attitudes and activities of Olympia residents (culled from the 42 interviews by students) will possibly be published by the students and faculty in this program, and made available to interested parties. However, your identity will remain confidential and NO identifying information about you or any persons interviewed will appear in these publications.

If you have questions about the project, please call Faculty Judy Cushing at 360-867-6652, or email her at judyc@evergreen.edu. The person to contact if you experience problems as a result of your participation in this project is John McLain, Academic Grants Manager at The Evergreen State College, Library 3821, Olympia, WA 98505; Phone 360-867-6045.

Thank you for your participation and assistance!

Sincerely,