



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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Contact: Anthony Tham  
Public Relations Manager  
503-581-4325, ext. 25  
atham@TravelSalem.com

**Travel Salem Named Top 100 Best Green Companies to Work For in Oregon**

SALEM, ORE. — Travel Salem has been selected as a “Top 100 Best Green Companies to Work For in Oregon” by *Oregon Business* magazine. The rankings were unveiled at a luncheon held at the Hilton Portland & Executive Tower on Tuesday, June 1, 2010. Travel Salem was one of only five Salem businesses recognized — and the only nonprofit — ranking 80<sup>th</sup> overall.

Travel Salem’s “Green Team,” a group of employees in charge with making the workplace more sustainable, led the way in developing an eco-savvy culture that buy-in to sustainable practices. Travel Salem is certified EarthWISE through Marion County’s business environmental assistance program; incorporating sustainable practices in the business such as recycling, reducing waste and saving energy. Travel Salem’s Travel Café and administrative office was designed with sustainability in mind; using recycled and earth-friendly materials, natural light, among other features. Last March, the Travel Café received an award for “Green Building Retrofit of the Year” at the 2010 Mid-Willamette Valley Green Awards.

Based on its widely recognized “100 Best Companies to Work For in Oregon” project, the 100 Best Green Companies were determined by an anonymous employee survey and an independent assessment of the employers’ sustainability practices. There were 503 organizations and more than 26,000 employees participating in the project. Companies must enter either the 100 Best Companies survey or the 100 Best Nonprofits survey to be eligible for the 100 Best Green ranking. Last year, Travel Salem was recognized as the 16<sup>th</sup> best small nonprofit and 21<sup>st</sup> overall to work for in Oregon. The next 100 Best Nonprofits rankings will be announced in September.

The “100 Best Green Companies to Work For in Oregon” is featured in the June “Green Issue” of *Oregon Business* magazine, which is out now.

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*\*\*\*Travel Salem is a non-profit organization that promotes Salem and Marion and Polk counties for leisure tourism and convention and event business. The local annual economic impact of the greater Salem area visitor industry is \$451 million. Travel Salem manages*

*the Official Salem Area Travel Café/Visitors Center located at the historic Grand Hotel building (181 High St. NE, Salem), two I-5 satellite visitor information locations located at the Best Western Mill Creek Inn (3125 Ryan Dr. SE) and the Red Lion Hotel (3301 Market St. NE), and the Official Salem Area Website [www.TravelSalem.com](http://www.TravelSalem.com)\*\*\**