The Pipeline Safety Trust was born from tragedy: two boys and a young man died after a gasoline pipeline ruptured in Bellingham, Washington, on June 10, 1999. A popular and beautiful city park also suffered severe environmental damage and two miles of a salmon stream were destroyed.

The pipeline failed—at a time of weak pipeline safety laws and government oversight—because of the pipeline operator’s inadequate operating and accident prevention practices and bad decision-making.

In the aftermath, criminal cases were brought and a federal judge imposed severe penalties. To prevent future pipeline tragedies, the judge designated a portion of the settlement as an endowment to start the Pipeline Safety Trust. The Trust would disseminate information across the nation on pipeline safety and carefully evaluate the accident prevention practices of petroleum and natural gas pipeline operators. It would also monitor the effectiveness of government agencies in enforcing pipeline safety laws and instituting more stringent measures when needed.

"No Industry polices itself very well ... there is going to be the Trust ... They need to be listened to, they need to make a difference, because they're the ones that will be the watchdogs"

The Honorable Barbara Rothstein
United States District Judge
The Pipeline Safety Trust makes communities safer and protects the environment through:

**Major Policy Initiatives**

- Works with Congress to enact legislation, such as the landmark Pipeline Safety Improvement Act of 2002 and the Pipeline Inspection, Protection, Enforcement, and Safety Act of 2006.
- Works with federal agencies such as the Pipelines and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration and the National Transportation Safety Board to ensure effective regulations are developed and enforced.
- Works with local government and the pipeline industry to address land use and planning issues around pipelines.

**Education**

- Holds a unique national conference that annually brings together the public, government, and the pipeline industry to discuss pipeline safety issues.
- Runs the largest independent pipeline safety website in the nation.
- Publishes the Safe Pipelines newsletter and operates the national Safe Pipelines and LNG Safety listservs.
- Publishes independent analyses and reports on emerging pipeline safety issues.

**Represents the Public Interest**

- Sits as a public member on various federal and state advisory committees.
- Speaks as a public representative at industry conferences and regulatory meetings.
- Serves as an independent voice of pipeline safety information for the news media across the nation.

**Why We Need Public Support?**

In a time when tens of thousands of miles of pipelines are aging, pipeline operators are cutting costs, and new pipelines are being proposed to meet the nation’s energy demands, urban and rural communities have both a great and unmet need for pipeline safety information.

With your help we can continue to:

- Assist in the aftermath of a pipeline tragedy,
- Provide information about pipeline risks and property rights,
- Work with communities to prevent or resolve conflicts between existing pipelines and growing populations,
- Contract with technical experts to review industry practices.
- Promote public awareness and prevent tragedies like the one in Bellingham.

But with a small staff and budget, the Trust has to make difficult choices about where its resources can best serve the public interest in advancing the cause of pipeline safety.

In short, the Trust intends to expand our pipeline safety activities—not curtail them. And we need your help to do this.

**How You Can Help**

Make a tax-deductible donation to the Trust today! Fill out and mail the form on the other side or donate online at:

www.pstrust.org/donate.htm