CCLC’s timeline

- 2007 introduction to Eco-Healthy Child Care® endorsement through Oregon Environmental Council (OEC)
  - OEC founded the EHCC program in 2005

- 2007-2008 piloted endorsement in 25 centers in CA and OR

- 2009 required 100% of CCLC centers to be eco-healthy endorsed
  - 108 centers nation wide

- 2010 —100% of CCLC centers were eco-healthy endorsed!

- Currently working to sustain 100% compliance by submitting renewals
  - due every two years
Greatest challenges

- Item #5: We do not use scented or unscented candles or manufactured air fresheners.
  - Concern about parent response to diaper odors and other smells
  - Training/education and sourcing for alternatives
- Item #8: We use chlorine bleach only when and where it is required or recommended by state and local authorities. We use it prudently and never use more than necessary.
  - Licensing requirements
  - Affordable and accessible alternatives
- Item #9: We do not use aerosol sprays of any kind.
  - Concern about parent response to diaper odors and other smells
  - Training and education
- Item #23: We avoid toys made out of soft plastic vinyl (such as vinyl dolls, beach balls, and “rubber ducky”, chew toys). Instead, we buy only those labeled “PVC-free”.
  - Limited access
  - Identify and source alternatives when possible
Benefits

- Healthier environments for children
- Reassurance for parents who have children suffering from asthma, allergies or other respiratory sensitivities
- Marketing differentiator
  - Teacher and family recruitment and retention
  - Eco Healthy Child Care® logo on webpage for endorsed centers
  - Links to Eco Healthy Child Care® information on website
- Partnerships with employer partners and/or communities
- Professional Growth opportunities for teaching staff
  - Teachers have the opportunity to lead and grow this initiative
- Partnerships with parents
  - Work with parents to identify sources and alternatives when needed
Extensions and Enrichments

- Battery recycling collections
  - Parent convenience

- Healthy environment education for children and families
  - Curriculum activities
  - Newsletter articles, web links, etc.
  - Parent education seminars/webinars

- National, State & Local conference presentations
Making this happen

- Requires a champion
  - Personal commitment and interest
  - Independent research and knowledge
- Baby steps
- Policies, Procedures, Licensing & Accreditation
  - Research to understand opportunities
- “Teachable Moments”
  - On the spot opportunities
- Support and Resources
  - Eco Healthy Child Care Program®
  - Internet searches
  - Conferences and webinars