

AMERICAN ECOLOGY CORP  
Form S-8  
February 26, 2009

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As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on February 26, 2009.

Registration No. 333-

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, DC 20549

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FORM S-8  
REGISTRATION STATEMENT  
UNDER  
THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

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AMERICAN ECOLOGY CORPORATION  
(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware	Lakepointe Centre I	
(State of Incorporation)	300 E. Mallard, Suite 300	
	Boise, Idaho 83706	95-3889638
	(Address of principal executive offices)	(I.R.S. Employer
	(Zip Code)	Identification No.)

AMERICAN ECOLOGY CORPORATION  
2008 STOCK OPTION INCENTIVE PLAN  
(Full Title of the Plan)

Jeffrey R. Feeler  
Vice President and  
Chief Financial Officer  
Lakepointe Centre I, 300 E. Mallard, Suite 300  
Boise, ID 83706  
(Name and address of agent for service)

(208) 331-8400  
(Telephone number, including area code, of agent for service)

Copies of all communications to:

Stephen Leitzell, Esq.  
Dechert LLP  
Cira Centre  
2929 Arch Street  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19104

(215) 994-4000

Indicate by check mark whether the Registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See the definitions of “large accelerated filer,” “accelerated filer” and “smaller reporting company” in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check one):

Large accelerated filer

Accelerated filer

Non-accelerated filer

Smaller reporting company

(Do not check if a smaller reporting  
company)

CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

Title of securities to be registered	Amount to be registered (1)	Proposed maximum offering price per share (2)	Proposed maximum aggregate offering price (2)	Amount of registration fee
Common Stock, par value \$0.01 per share	1,500,000	\$17.63	\$26,445,000	\$1,475.63

- (1) Pursuant to Rule 416(a) of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the “Securities Act”), this registration statement (the “Registration Statement”) shall also cover any additional shares of common stock of American Ecology Corporation (the “Registrant”) which become issuable under the Registrant’s 2008 Stock Option Incentive Plan by reason of any stock dividend, stock split, recapitalization or other similar transaction effected without the receipt of consideration which results in an increase in the number of the outstanding shares of the Registrant.
- (2) Estimated pursuant to Rule 457(c) of the Securities Act, solely for the purposes of calculating the registration fee, based upon the average of the reported high and low sales prices for a share of the Registrant’s common stock on February 19, 2009 as reported on the NASDAQ Global Select Market.

PART I

INFORMATION REQUIRED IN THE SECTION 10(a) PROSPECTUS

The Registrant will send or give documents containing the information specified by Part I of this Registration Statement to participants in the 2008 Stock Option Incentive Plan to which this Registration Statement relates, as specified in Rule 428(b)(1) promulgated by the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") under the Securities Act. The Registrant is not filing such documents with the Commission, but these documents constitute (along with the documents incorporated by reference into this Registration Statement pursuant to Item 3 of Part II hereof) a prospectus that meets the requirements of Section 10(a) of the Securities Act.

PART II

INFORMATION REQUIRED IN THE REGISTRATION STATEMENT

Item 3. Incorporation of Documents by Reference.

The following documents, as originally filed with the Commission by the Registrant, are incorporated herein by reference:

- (a) The Registrant's annual report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2008, filed on February 25, 2009, pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Exchange Act"); and
  - (b) The description of the Registrant's common stock contained in the registration statement filed under Section 12 of the Exchange Act, including any amendment or report filed for the purpose of updating such description; and
  - (c) All documents subsequently filed by the Registrant pursuant to Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 and 15(d) of the Exchange Act prior to the filing of a post-effective amendment to this Registration Statement, which indicates that all securities offered have been sold or which deregisters all securities then remaining unsold, will be deemed to be incorporated by reference into this Registration Statement. Each document incorporated by reference into this Registration Statement will be deemed to be a part of this Registration Statement from the date of the filing of such document with the Commission, until the information contained in such document is superseded or updated by any subsequently filed document which is incorporated by reference into this Registration Statement.
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Item 4. Description of Securities.

Not applicable.

Item 5. Interests of Named Experts and Counsel.

Not applicable.

Item 6. Indemnification of Directors and Officers.

We have broad powers to indemnify directors and officers against liabilities they may incur in these capacities under the Delaware General Corporation Law (the "DGCL"). Our Restated Certificate of Incorporation requires that we indemnify officers and directors and eliminates directors' liability to American Ecology for monetary damages, in each case to the full extent allowed under the DGCL.

Section 145(a) of the DGCL provides that a corporation may indemnify any person who was or is a party or is threatened to be made a party to any threatened, pending or completed action, suit or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative or investigative (other than an action by or in the right of the corporation) by reason of the fact that such person is or was a director, officer, employee or agent of the corporation, or is or was serving at the request of the corporation as a director, officer, employee or agent of another corporation or enterprise, against expenses (including attorneys' fees), judgments, fines and amounts paid in settlement actually and reasonably incurred by such person in connection with such action, suit or proceeding if he or she acted in good faith and in a manner he or she reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the corporation, and, with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, had no reasonable cause to believe his or her conduct was unlawful.

Section 145(b) of the DGCL provides that a Delaware corporation may indemnify any person who was or is a party or is threatened to be made a party to any threatened, pending or completed action or suit by or in the right of the corporation to procure a judgment in its favor by reason of the fact that such person acted in any of the capacities set forth above, against expenses (including attorneys' fees) actually and reasonably incurred by such person in connection with the defense or settlement of such action or suit if he or she acted under similar standards, except that no indemnification may be made in respect of any claim, issue or matter as to which such person shall have been adjudged to be liable to the corporation unless and only to the extent that the court in which such action or suit was brought shall determine that, despite the adjudication of liability but in view of all the circumstances of the case, such person is fairly and reasonably entitled to be indemnified for such expenses which the court shall deem proper.

Section 145 of the DGCL further provides that (i) to the extent that a former or present director or officer of a corporation has been successful in the defense of any action, suit or proceeding referred to in subsections (a) and (b) or in the defense of any claim, issue or matter therein, such person shall be indemnified against expenses (including attorneys' fees) actually and reasonably incurred by him or her in connection therewith; (ii) indemnification provided for by Section 145 shall not be deemed exclusive of any other rights to which the indemnified party may be entitled; and (iii) the corporation may purchase and maintain insurance on behalf of any present or former director, officer, employee or agent of the corporation or any person who at the request of the corporation was serving in such capacity for another entity against any liability asserted against such person and incurred by him or her in any such capacity or arising out of his or her status as such, whether or not the corporation would have the power to indemnify him or her against such liabilities under Section 145.



Article Seven of our Restated Certificate of Incorporation requires that we indemnify to the full extent permitted by the DGCL any person for liabilities incurred in his or her capacity as a director or officer of the Company, including service at our request in any capacity at another entity. We are obligated to pay in advance the person's expenses incurred in defending any proceeding in advance if the person agrees to repay the advance if it is determined ultimately that he or she is not entitled to be indemnified.

Article Seven also provides that the personal liability of our directors to the Company or its stockholders for monetary damages for any breach of fiduciary duty by the director as a director is limited or eliminated to the fullest extent permitted by the DGCL.

Item 7. Exemption from Registration Claimed.

Not applicable.

Item 8. Exhibits.

The following exhibits are filed herewith or incorporated by reference as part of this Registration Statement:

Exhibit Number	Description
4.1	American Ecology Corporation 2008 Stock Option Incentive Plan (filed as Exhibit A to the Registrant's Definitive Proxy Statement on Schedule 14A filed on April 10, 2008, and incorporated by reference herein)
5.1	Opinion of Dechert LLP (counsel to the Registrant) as to the legality of the securities being registered.
23.1	Consent of Moss Adams LLP.
23.2	Consent of Dechert LLP (contained in the opinion filed as Exhibit 5.1 to this Registration Statement).
24.1	Power of Attorney (set forth on the signature page of this Registration Statement).





Item 9. Undertakings

A. Undertakings required by Item 512(a) of Regulation S-K

The undersigned Registrant hereby undertakes:

(1) To file, during any period in which offers or sales are being made, a post-effective amendment to this registration statement to include any material information with respect to the plan of distribution not previously disclosed in the registration statement or any material change to such information in the registration statement.

(2) That, for the purpose of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, each such post-effective amendment shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.

(3) To remove from registration by means of a post-effective amendment any of the securities being registered which remain unsold at the termination of the offering.

(4) That, for the purpose of determining liability under the Securities Act of 1933 to any purchaser:

i. If the Registrant is relying on Rule 430B:

A. Each prospectus filed by the Registrant pursuant to Rule 424(b)(3) shall be deemed to be part of the registration statement as of the date the filed prospectus was deemed part of and included in the registration statement; and

B. Each prospectus required to be filed pursuant to Rule 424(b)(2), (b)(5), or (b)(7) as part of a registration statement in reliance on Rule 430B relating to an offering made pursuant to Rule 415(a)(1)(i), (vii), or (x) for the purpose of providing the information required by section 10(a) of the Securities Act of 1933 shall be deemed to be part of and included in the registration statement as of the earlier of the date such form of prospectus is first used after effectiveness or the date of the first contract of sale of securities in the offering described in the prospectus. As provided in Rule 430B, for liability purposes of the issuer and any person that is at that date an underwriter, such date shall be deemed to be a new effective date of the registration statement relating to the securities in the registration statement to which that prospectus relates, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof. Provided, however, that no statement made in a registration statement or prospectus that is part of the registration statement or made in a document incorporated or deemed incorporated by reference into the registration statement or prospectus that is part of the registration statement will, as to a purchaser with a time of contract of sale prior to such effective date, supersede or modify any statement that was made in the registration statement or prospectus that was part of the registration statement or made in any such document immediately prior to such effective date; or

ii. If the Registrant is subject to Rule 430C, each prospectus filed pursuant to Rule 424(b) as part of a registration statement relating to an offering, other than registration statements relying on Rule 430B or other than prospectuses filed in reliance on Rule 430A, shall be deemed to be part of and included in the registration statement as of the date it is first used after effectiveness. Provided, however, that no statement made in a registration statement or prospectus that is part of the registration statement or made in a document incorporated or deemed incorporated by reference into the registration statement or prospectus that is part of the registration statement will, as to a purchaser with a time of contract of sale prior to such first use, supersede or modify any statement that was made in the registration statement or prospectus that was part of the registration statement or made in any such document immediately prior to such date of first use.

(5) That, for the purpose of determining liability of the Registrant under the Securities Act of 1933 to any purchaser in the initial distribution of the securities:

The undersigned Registrant undertakes that in a primary offering of securities of the undersigned Registrant pursuant to this registration statement, regardless of the underwriting method used to sell the securities to the purchaser, if the securities are offered or sold to such purchaser by means of any of the following communications, the undersigned Registrant will be a seller to the purchaser and will be considered to offer or sell such securities to such purchaser:

i. Any preliminary prospectus or prospectus of the undersigned Registrant relating to the offering required to be filed pursuant to Rule 424;

ii. Any free writing prospectus relating to the offering prepared by or on behalf of the undersigned Registrant or used or referred to by the undersigned Registrant;

iii. The portion of any other free writing prospectus relating to the offering containing material information about the undersigned Registrant or its securities provided by or on behalf of the undersigned Registrant; and

iv. Any other communication that is an offer in the offering made by the undersigned Registrant to the purchaser.

**B. Undertakings required by Item 512(b) of Regulation S-K**

The undersigned Registrant hereby undertakes that, for purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, each filing of the Registrant's annual report pursuant to section 13(a) or section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (and, where applicable, each filing of an employee benefit plan's annual report pursuant to section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934) that is incorporated by reference in the registration statement shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.

C. Undertakings required by Item 512(h) of Regulation S-K

Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act of 1933 may be permitted to directors, officers and controlling persons of the Registrant pursuant to the foregoing provisions, or otherwise, the Registrant has been advised that in the opinion of the Securities and Exchange Commission such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Act and is, therefore, unenforceable. In the event that a claim for indemnification against such liabilities (other than the payment by the Registrant of expenses incurred or paid by a director, officer or controlling person of the Registrant in the successful defense of any action, suit or proceeding) is asserted by such director, officer or controlling person in connection with the securities being registered, the Registrant will, unless in the opinion of its counsel the matter has been settled by controlling precedent, submit to a court of appropriate jurisdiction the question whether such indemnification by it is against public policy as expressed in the Act and will be governed by the final adjudication of such issue.

SIGNATURES

The Registrant. Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, the Registrant certifies that it has reasonable grounds to believe that it meets all of the requirements for filing on Form S-8 and has duly caused this Registration Statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in the City of Boise, State of Idaho, on February 25, 2009.

AMERICAN ECOLOGY CORPORATION

B y : / s / J e f f r e y R .  
Feeler  
Jeffrey R. Feeler  
Vice President and Chief Financial Officer  
(Principal Financial Officer)

## POWER OF ATTORNEY

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, this Registration Statement on Form S-8 and the foregoing Power of Attorney have been signed by the following persons in the capacities and on the date indicated.

Signature	Title	Date
/s/ Stephen A. Romano Stephen A. Romano	Chief Executive Officer and Chairman (Principal Executive Officer)	February 25, 2009
/s/ Jeffrey R. Feeler Jeffrey R. Feeler	Vice President and Chief Financial Officer (Principal Financial Officer)	February 25, 2009
/s/ Victor J. Barnhart Victor J. Barnhart	Director	February 25, 2009
/s/ Joe F. Colvin Joe F. Colvin	Director	February 25, 2009
/s/ Roy C. Eliff Roy C. Eliff	Director	February 25, 2009
/s/ Edward F. Heil Edward F. Heil	Director	February 25, 2009
/s/ Jeffrey S. Merrifield Jeffrey S. Merrifield	Director	February 25, 2009
/s/ John W. Poling John W. Poling	Director	February 25, 2009

Exhibit Index

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