Seattle Watershed Projects

Seattle has been working to *Restore Our Waters*; by slowing and cleaning urban runoff and improving natural habitats. Seattle is a nationally recognized leader of successful projects including rain gardens and bioretention systems, habitat improvements and green roofs.

Seattle Public Utilities

RESTORE OUR WATERS
SEATTLE PUBLIC UTILITIES

Featured Projects

		Habitat Restoration	Bioretention Swale	Green Roof
1	**SEA Street** 2nd Ave NW & NW 117th St		●	
2	**Ballard Roadside Rain Gardens** 28th Ave NW & NW 67th St		●	
3	**Broadview Green Grid** N 107th St & 1st Ave NW		●	
4	**Water Quality Channel** 3rd Ave NE & NE 100th St		●	
5	**Pinehurst Green Grid NE** NE 115th St & 20th Ave NE		●	
6	**Meadowbrook Pond** NE 105th St & 39th Ave NE	●		
7	**Magnuson Park Wetlands** 7400 Sand Point Way NE	●		
8	**Salmon Bay Natural Area** 34th Ave NW & NW 54th St	●		
9	**South Lake Union Park** 860 Terry Ave N	●		
10	**Theater Commons** Mercer St & 3rd Ave N		●	
11	**Olympic Sculpture Park** 2901 Western Ave	●		
12	**4th & Madison (IDX Tower)** 925 4th Ave			●
13	**5th & Madison Building** 909 5th Ave			●
14	**Seattle City Hall** 600 4th Ave			●
15	**Seattle Justice Center** 600 5th Ave			●
16	**Fire Station #10** 400 S Washington St			●
17	**Madrona Creek Daylighting** 710 Lake Washington Blvd	●		
18	**Cheasty Greenspace** 2700 S Alaska St	●		
19	**Herring's House Park** W Marginal Way SW & SW Alaska St	●		
20	**Greg Davis Park** 2600 SW Brandon St		●	
21	**High Point Neighborhood** 3200 SW Graham St		●	
22	**Duwamish Waterway Park** 7900 10th Ave S	●		
23	**Chinook Beach** Rainier Ave S & Ithaca Pl S	●		

City of Seattle, May 2013
www.seattle.gov/RestoreOurWaters

Piper's Creek watershed is Seattle's third largest watershed and is the home of Carkeek Park where salmon return each year and location of the original SEA Street Natural Drainage System.

Thornton Creek, at twelve square miles, is Seattle's largest and most developed watershed. Habitat enhancements at Meadowbrook Pond provide community enjoyment, six million gallons of flood control, wetlands and home to numerous fish species and migrating birds.

Lake Washington, at about twenty miles long, is the largest lake in western Washington. Seattle's Thornton and Taylor Creeks flow into the lake where salmon return to spawn each year. Fish habitat has been improved at the daylighted Madrona Creek and restored Chinook Beach.

Schmitz Creek is a small watershed located just up the hill from Alki Park where aquatic life such as harbor seals and orca whales swim. Home of the oldest forest in Seattle, eagles and owls frequent the area. Standing amid the towering Douglas firs, the silence is profound.

See reverse for map of downtown buildings with green roofs.

The Duwamish River is Seattle's largest river. Originating in the Cascade Mountains, it flows through King County, finally emptying into Seattle's Elliott Bay. Despite the industrialization of the Duwamish River, this watershed provides important habitat for salmon and trout. Herring's House Park and South Park's Duwamish Waterway Park are examples of government and community working to improve the habitat in the Duwamish River.

Longfellow Creek is Seattle's second largest watershed. It offers a popular foot trail that meanders along the creek as it flows through the Delridge Valley. Active volunteers have improved habitat in the parks and on private properties where beaver, coyotes, owls and fox now live.

Fauntleroy Creek is where salmon fingerlings are released each year by local school children. Fish passage and habitat improvements encourage their return as adult fish.

Taylor Creek is Seattle's fourth largest creek where trails provide access to a restored park area with a canopy of hemlock, alder and cedar. Recent habitat enhancements include streambed restoration, culvert replacements, repair of a leaking sewer line, removal of invasive species and replanting of thousands of native plants and trees.

0 0.5 1 3
Scale, in miles

N

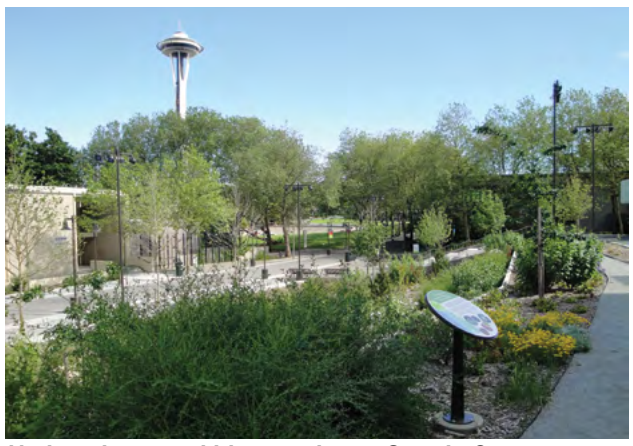
Improving Creeks and Waterways, for a Healthy Seattle

Visit these sites that enhance Seattle's already cool watersheds, lakes, creeks and parks helping to make the Puget Sound a great place to be.

Rain Gardens and Bioretention Systems

Green stormwater solutions, like rain gardens and bioretention systems, are important because they slow the flow of stormwater and filter pollution. Natural drainage systems limit the negative impacts of stormwater runoff by taking advantage of plants, trees, and soils to clean runoff and manage stormwater flows.

Bioretention swales and rain gardens have been constructed at High Point, Seattle Center, SEA Street, Pinehurst Green Grid and Ballard Roadside Rain Gardens.



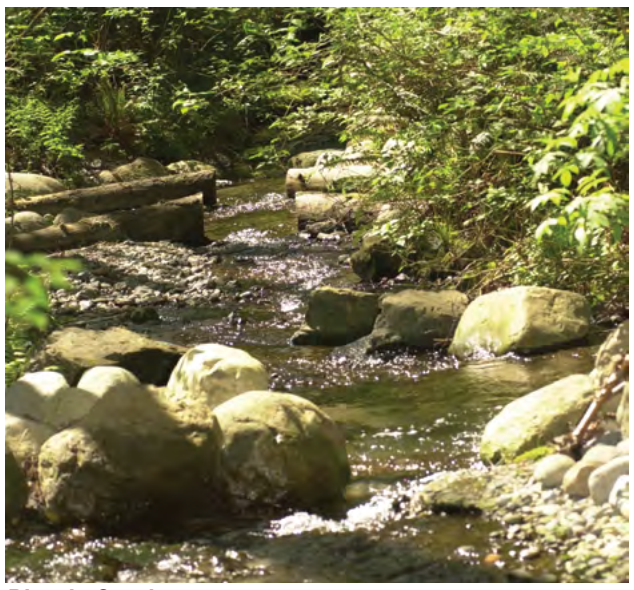
Native plants and bioretention at Seattle Center

Restored Beach at Olympic Sculpture Park

Habitat Improvement

A healthy habitat has cool clean waters for salmon and wildlife. Good creek habitat includes gravel and woody debris with shade from streamside native shrubs and trees. Barrier-free streams allow salmon to reach all available habitats for spawning and rearing. Good lake and sound shoreline habitat has gentle, unarmored slopes with trees and shrubs overhanging the water. Replanting and restoring native trees, plants and in-water habitat are key components of these projects.

Habitat improvement projects can be found along Lake Washington and the Duwamish River, at the downtown Seattle Sculpture Park and at Meadowbrook Pond on Thornton Creek.



Piper's Creek

Native plants and bioretention at High Point

Green Roofs

Green roofs are an innovative and beautiful solution to some of our toughest urban environmental problems including slowing rainwater flows and decreasing contamination of streams, lakes and the Puget Sound. Additionally, green roofs help cool buildings and neighborhoods while extending roof-life and providing sound insulation to the occupants. They also provide an urban oasis for insects, birds and people.

An impressive collection of viewable green roofs can be visited at Seattle City Hall, the Seattle Justice Center, the 4th & Madison (IDX Tower) and the 5th & Madison building. Find more at: http://www.seattle.gov/dpd/GreenBuilding/CapitalProjects/Resources/CaseStudies/

Green Roofs Downtown

12 **4th & Madison (IDX Tower)**
925 4th Ave, floor 7, via "Podium Elevator" in SW corner of building

13 **5th & Madison Building**
909 5th Ave at midblock street level, walk west between buildings

14 **Seattle City Hall**
600 4th Ave, floors 3 and 7

15 **Seattle Justice Center**
600 5th Ave, floor 12, through security at "Municipal Court of Seattle"

16 **Fire Station #10**
400 S Washington St, view from Yesler Way between 4th & 5th Ave

Publicly viewable green roofs in downtown Seattle

Inviting Projects

1 SEA Street, 2 Ballard Roadside Rain Gardens & 3 Broadview Green Grid
Provide neighborhood improvements including landscaping, traffic calming, and adding sidewalks into the natural drainage systems.

4 Thornton Creek Water Quality Channel
Provides multiple environmental benefits in a highly urbanized environment including open space. It receives and biologically treats runoff from 680 acres before entering Thornton Creek.

5 Pinehurst Green Grid
Another excellent natural drainage system.

6 Meadowbrook Pond
A myriad of diverse partners came together to provide habitat in a park like setting as well as flood control.

7 Magnuson Park Wetlands
A retired military property transformed into an urban park with a habitat rich wetland that also provides water quality benefits to Lake Washington.

8 Salmon Bay Natural Area
Site of a rich estuary where fresh water merges with salt water. Despite human intervention that has highly altered the estuary, Salmon Bay in Ballard shelters a multitude of birds, mammals, insects and salmon along the newly restored riparian corridor.

9 South Lake Union Park Shoreline
One of Seattle's newest parks, anchoring the lake to the South Lake Union neighborhood, exhibits significant shoreline restoration and large bioswales.

10 Theater Commons at Seattle Center
The central feature is Donnelly Gardens which showcases native Cascadia plantings, complemented by a series of bioretention ponds and a tree-lined pathway leading visitors through the site. Garden lighting during evening hours mimics the moon.

11 Olympic Sculpture Park Cove
A restored cove in Elliott Bay serves as a beachhead for native flora and fauna. Shoreline habitat restoration and terrestrial improvements have created a new beach with upland riparian and intertidal habitats.

12–16 Downtown Green Roofs
See inset map above.

17 Madrona Creek Daylighting and Woodlands Restoration
Committed efforts by the community, nearby schools and native plant stewards have removed invasive species and replanted native woodland species. Madrona Park Creek now flows from its headwaters in Madrona Park Ravine through Madrona Woods in a series of pools and fish-passable weirs and into a new wetland cove carved into the lakeshore.

18 Cheasty Greenspace
This project exemplifies a forested watershed so critical to aquatic health. A unified array of community volunteers, government partnerships and non-profit interests have coalesced to make this project possible.

19 Herring's House Park
Located beside the Duwamish River, native habitat has replaced invasive species to make a healthier home for land and sea birds. Named for a Native American longhouse village that once thrived there, a two-acre intertidal bay has been restored. Walking trails provide views of the Duwamish River ecosystem and respite from the sounds of the nearby working industrial area.

20 Greg Davis Park &
21 High Point Neighborhood
Retrofitting old neighborhoods can help restore our waterways. High Point integrates ecological and social goals to create a new model for affordable, livable, and sustainable neighborhoods. High Point mimics nature by naturally filtering and slowing storm water through bioinfiltration swales. Over two miles of pervious concrete sidewalks are also noteworthy. Other natural drainage systems are found at Greg Davis Park.

22 Duwamish Waterway Park— South Park Restoration
Carved from an industrial setting, this park provides river habitat access as well as a quiet and secluded neighborhood meeting place for the diverse local community.

23 Chinook Beach
This is a restored beach complete with driftwood and logs washed up along the shore, a simple, long walking path along the beach, with spectacular views of Lake Washington and the Cascades beyond.

RESTORE OUR WATERS
SEATTLE PUBLIC UTILITIES

www.seattle.gov/RestoreOurWaters