DIY Native Landscaping Program
Homeowner Acknowledgement Form

Program Overview
The Homeowner Incentive Program (HIP) provides technical assistance and financial reimbursement for voluntary water protection improvements on properties within a portion of the Lake Whatcom watershed. The goal of HIP is to restore the health of the watershed and our drinking water source by significantly reducing the amount of phosphorus entering the lake from private properties.

Each property’s unique characteristics and placement in the watershed determines how much phosphorus it contributes to Lake Whatcom. For example, properties adjacent to the lake or streams with large lawns contribute relatively high levels of phosphorus that cannot be treated by City or County stormwater facilities. These types of properties are eligible for a variety of water quality improvement projects and higher levels of financial and technical assistance.

Properties that drain to the lake via City or County stormwater treatment systems and have smaller lawns contribute a relatively low amount of phosphorus to the lake. These properties are eligible for assistance installing native landscaping, including features such as wet gardens, dry creekbeds, and rainwater harvesting systems that provide water directly to native plants. While smaller in scale, these Do-It-Yourself (DIY) Native Landscaping projects are an important part of our collective effort to improve water quality in Lake Whatcom.

Instructions
1. Check that you have read and understand the HIP DIY Native Landscaping Program expectations listed on the next page. Keep the homeowner copy for your records and sign the HIP copy to return.
2. Complete and sign the HIP Homeowner Photo Release Statement form.
3. Return the HIP copy of each form to Ingrid Enschede at Whatcom County Public Works. Either mail the hard copy original or scan and send via email.

Whatcom County Public Works Natural Resources
Attn: Ingrid Enschede
322 N. Commercial St., Ste 110
Bellingham, WA 98225
ienschede@co.whatcom.wa.us
Homeowner Acknowledgement

You have expressed interest in participating in the DIY Native Landscaping program. In providing this program, HIP staff strive to communicate expectations clearly and ensure that you fully understand the program before beginning work on your project. Help us confirm that we have been successful by reading each statement below and checking the following boxes:

☐ I understand my role in completing a HIP DIY Native Landscaping project because:
  ➢ I attended a DIY Native Landscaping workshop; and
  ➢ I reviewed the binder materials provided at the workshop.

☐ I understand that the support offered by HIP staff is limited to:
  ➢ One DIY Native Landscaping workshop (3.5 hours);
  ➢ A follow-up site visit with a native plant expert (up to 3 hours); and
  ➢ Permit and application support from HIP staff when needed (2-3 hours). Note that permits will take up to three weeks to process.

☐ I understand that in order to receive reimbursement for native landscaping materials:
  ➢ My property must be deemed eligible at www.lakewhatcomHIP.org or by written confirmation from HIP staff;
  ➢ I must attend a DIY Native Landscaping workshop offered by HIP staff;
  ➢ Appropriate City or County permits must be obtained;
  ➢ My project must cover a minimum of 1,000 square feet or 25% of the developed area on my parcel, whichever is smaller;
  ➢ I must submit copies of receipts for plants, mulch, and other approved materials; and
  ➢ I must submit a signed and notarized maintenance agreement.

☐ I understand that the maximum reimbursement I will receive upon completing the project as permitted is $1.30/ft² of area improved up to a maximum of $6,000. Any project costs above this amount will be at my own expense. I understand it may take three to four weeks to receive reimbursement from the time my reimbursement request is submitted.

______________________________  ________________________________  ________________
Signature of Homeowner                      Printed Name                          Date

______________________________  ________________________________  ________________
Signature of Homeowner                      Printed Name                          Date

DIY Native Landscaping Program Homeowner Acknowledgement Form  Homeowner Copy
Homeowner Acknowledgement

You have expressed interest in participating in the DIY Native Landscaping program. In providing this program, City and County staff strive to communicate expectations clearly and ensure that you fully understand the program before beginning work on your project. Help us confirm that we have been successful by reading each statement below and checking the following boxes:

☐ I understand my role in completing a HIP DIY Native Landscaping project because:
   ➢ I attended a DIY Native Landscaping workshop; and
   ➢ I reviewed the binder materials provided at the workshop.

☐ I understand that the support offered by HIP staff is limited to:
   ➢ One DIY Native Landscaping workshop (3.5 hours);
   ➢ A follow-up site visit with a native plant expert (up to 3 hours); and
   ➢ Permit and application support from HIP staff when needed (2-3 hours). Note that permits will take up to three weeks to process.

☐ I understand that in order to receive reimbursement for native landscaping materials:
   ➢ My property must be deemed eligible at www.lakewhatcomHIP.org or by written confirmation from HIP staff;
   ➢ I must attend a DIY Native Landscaping workshop offered by HIP staff;
   ➢ Appropriate City or County permits must be obtained;
   ➢ My project must cover a minimum of 1,000 square feet or 25% of the developed area on my parcel, whichever is smaller;
   ➢ I must submit copies of receipts for plants, mulch, and other approved materials; and
   ➢ I must submit a signed and notarized maintenance agreement.

☐ I understand that the maximum reimbursement I will receive upon completing the project as permitted is $1.30/ft² of area improved up to a maximum of $6,000. Any project costs above this amount will be at my own expense. I understand it may take three to four weeks to receive reimbursement from the time my reimbursement request is submitted.

_________________________________________  ________________  __________
Signature of Homeowner                        Printed Name            Date

_________________________________________  ________________  __________
Signature of Homeowner                        Printed Name            Date
Homeowner Photo Release Statement
I give permission for photos and/or video taken on my property to be used as promotional and educational materials for the Homeowner Incentive Program and/or the Lake Whatcom Cooperative Management Program.

_____ YES  _____ NO

__________________________  _________________________  _____________
Signature of Homeowner             Printed Name                    Date

__________________________  _________________________  _____________
Signature of Homeowner             Printed Name                    Date