Homeowner Incentive Program
Do-It-Yourself Native Landscaping Workshop
2020
Workshop Goals & Objectives

Goal - Homeowners install native landscaping projects to reduce phosphorus runoff into Lake Whatcom

Objectives – You will:
• Understand the benefits of native landscaping
• Understand how HIP works
• Receive the resources you need to plan, permit, and install a HIP native landscaping project
• Feel supported and know who to call for help
Agenda & Binder Review
Background Information

Why HIP?
Lake Whatcom Problems

- Too much lawn
- Too much pavement
- Improper yard waste handling
- Not enough forest
- Pet waste
- Inadequate infrastructure
- Fertilizer use
- Stream erosion

Runoff from typical lot in Silver Beach Creek area = 100,000 gallons/year
Too Much Phosphorus

1 acre = 25 pounds algae

1 acre = 268 pounds algae
Native landscaping
Stream and shoreline restoration
Permeable paving
Sustainable gardening
Fertilizer use reduction
Capital improvements
Residential stormwater management
Pet waste pickup
Healthy Watershed
Lake Whatcom Solutions
~ 85% reduction in phosphorus runoff
How HIP Works
HIP is...

• Voluntary and non-regulatory

• Provides project planning assistance and financial reimbursements for best management practices (BMPs) that reduce phosphorus in runoff

• A joint City-County program with WCD assistance

• An important part of the solution to improve water quality in Lake Whatcom
HIP cannot...

• Provide assistance for improvements other than those listed for your property

• Spend public funds without receiving a public benefit

• Help with required mitigation

• Be used for new or redevelopment projects
HIP Program Area
Low Phosphorus Impact Properties

• Drain to City/County stormwater systems = opportunity for water quality treatment before entering lake
• Smaller lawns export less phosphorus
• Eligible for DIY Native Landscaping
High Phosphorus Impact Properties

- Drain directly to streams or lake
- Large lawns export lots of phosphorus
- Eligible for larger projects & 5 types of BMPs

See DIY Handbook pg. 2
Do-It-Yourself (DIY) Native Landscaping Program

- Convert lawn or “retrofit” your existing traditional landscaping
- Add multiple layers of native plants with mulch
- Reduce maintenance, water, and phosphorus runoff
- Increase wildlife habitat
DIY Native Landscaping Assistance

• Design assistance
• Permitting application assistance
• Reimbursement for approved materials
DIY Native Landscaping Program Requirements

• Workshop Attendance

• Minimum Project Size (*see custom map for your property*)
  • 1,000 square feet or 25% developed area improved through native landscaping

• Specific Planting & Mulch Requirements

• Maintenance Agreement (Appendix G)
DIY Native Landscaping Process

- See DIY Handbook pages 4-5
DIY Native Landscaping Planting Requirements

1. Minimum two vegetation layers
2. Minimum number of plants (*existing plants count*)
3. Minimum 4” of low-phosphorus mulch
4. Minimum 90% of new plants are native
4. Use approved materials (Appendix D)

more detail in your handbook...
DIY Native Landscaping Additional Features

Wet Gardens – native landscaping with wet soil loving native plants

See DIY Handbook pg. 7-8
DIY Native Landscaping Additional Features

Dry Creekbeds — create a river feature using rock instead of wood mulch

*Away from shoreline & creeks in Whatcom County*
Reimbursement

• $1.30/square foot landscaped area up to $6,000 maximum

• 1,000 square feet landscaped = $1,300 reimbursement budget

• Zero to low out-of-pocket expense if you do-it-yourself (labor is not reimbursable)

• 100% reimbursement is possible

• Costs vary based on age/size of plants purchased and additional materials (edging, irrigation, deer protection)

See DIY Handbook pg. 4
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Square Feet</th>
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<td>Back yard</td>
<td>1,840</td>
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<tr>
<td>Front yard</td>
<td>610</td>
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<td>ROW</td>
<td>1,000</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>3,450</strong></td>
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Reimbursement Budget = 3,450 x $1.30 = $4,485
Planning, Installing, and Caring For Your Native Landscaping Project
DIY Landscaping Workshop

Get Ideas for

- Where to locate your landscaping.
- Plants for your site conditions.
  - Sun/Shade exposure
  - Soil moisture
  - Plant Combinations
- Maintenance and protection measures.

Appendix C
King County Sample Plans
Every Action You Take to Manage Storm Water Will Provide Multiple Benefits

Privacy
Shady retreats
Birds & Butterflies
Beauty
Less maintenance
Less irrigation
Reduce energy costs
Store carbon

APPENDIX B: Landscaping With Native Plants
Water Leaves Your Property In 3 Ways

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<tr>
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<th>Natural Forest</th>
<th>Residential Lot</th>
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<tr>
<td>EVAPOTRANSPIRATION</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>SOIL INFILTRATION</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>SURFACE RUN-OFF</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>65%</td>
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Relationship between impervious cover and surface runoff. Impervious cover in a watershed results in increased surface runoff. As little as 10 percent impervious cover in a watershed can result in stream degradation.

From US Environmental Protection Agency—EPA 841-F-03-003

Landscaping With Native Plants  p. 3
Allies: Native Plants and Soil Organisms

Protect Water Quality

Mycorrhizae

- Increase water retention in soils
- Absorbs phosphorus
- Binds toxic metals to soil
- Digests many pollutants
- Transport nutrients & water
- Carbon sequestration

Native Plants attract and feed soil microbes. Soils microbes feed plants.
Getting Started: Go Outside

- Where would you like to landscape?
  - Can you locate in areas to capture runoff?
- Don’t forget to consider your needs too.
  - Where do you recreate?
  - Kids? Pets?
  - Wildlife?
  - View?
- What canopy layers might work best?
Locate landscaped beds to manage runoff:

- Bottom of slopes
- Buffers for water resources
- Adjacent to impervious & lawn areas
- Hedge the edge of the property
Existing Beds

- Add canopy layers
- Increase plant density
- Expand existing beds
Create New Beds
- Around trees

Hate to Rake Leaves?
Design for Less Work
Create New Beds
- Unused areas

If the only time you use the lawn is while you are mowing . . .

ELIMINATE IT

Front Yard

Narrow Side Yards
Create New Beds
- Where grass doesn’t grow well

- HILLSIDES
- SHADY
- TOO WET
- TOO DRY
Create New Beds
- Adjacent to lawn or impervious surfaces

Infiltrate & filter storm water runoff.
Create New Beds
- Hedge the edge

Storm Water Management
Privacy
Enhance/Frame Views
Wildlife Habitat
Save energy
Track Water Flow Across Your Property

SPREAD IT OUT
Rain Barrel – Drip Line

SOAK IT IN
Landscape Bed

SLOW IT DOWN
Plant In Layers

Landscaping With Native Plants  p. 6
Backyard Wildlife Sanctuaries

Habitat:
- Food
- Water
- Shelter
- Structural Diversity
- Edges
- Sanctuary

Birds and insects are nature’s pest management system.

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

Landscaping With Native Plants  p. 7
CREATE A PLANTING PLAN
A planting plan is a bird’s eye view of your area.

KEY CONCEPTS
• Plant selection
• Locate to manage runoff
• Diversity and habitat value

PLAN FOR MAINTENANCE
• Maintain pathways to beds
• Hydrozone – less irrigation

DESIGN GUIDELINES
• Design one layer at a time
• Consider views
• Continuous bloom times

A scale of 1 inch = 4 feet is a good size to write on.
MULCHED PATHS

Divide the yard
Define shape & size of your landscape beds
Move people around the yard
Access for maintenance
ELIMINATING LAWN
4 – 6 inches of low phosphorus mulch

1. Mow very low
   Trench the edge
   Toss soil/grass on lawn & break up

2. Cardboard
   Spread mulch

3. Plant Anytime
   Push away Mulch
   Dig hole & Plant
   Keep mulch 6 inches from trunks

No Sunlight = No Photosynthesis

Landscaping With Native Plants  p. 9
BENEFITS OF WOODY MULCH

- Reduces evaporation of soil moisture
- Moderates soil temperatures
- Absorbs and slowly releases water
- Reduces weed seed germination
- Feeds soil organisms & plants
- Protects soil from compaction
NOTES ON WOODY MULCH

- Larger pieces will last longer
- Smaller pieces and fines will feed the soil faster
- Layering option:
  bottom = cheapest, top = prettiest
Vegetation Layers
Shrubs
Groundcovers

Canopy Layers
2-3 layers

Layer Plants of Different Heights
Trees – tall and medium
Shrubs – tall, medium, and low
Ground Covering Plants – woody, evergreen, perennials
Canopy Layers

2-3 layers

- **Trees** - Tall plants provide structure, locate the tallest plants along the perimeter.
- **Shrubs** - Locate FOCAL plants in natural sight lines – end of path or view from windows.
- **Groundcovers** – Anchor plants, seasonal interest, plant in groupings and repeat throughout.

**VEGETATION LAYERS**

Trees, Shrubs
Groundcovers

Use both deciduous and evergreen in all layers. Repeat at various locations to unify the garden design.
VEGETATION LAYERS

Trees
Shrubs
Groundcover
VEGETATION LAYERS

Trees
Shrubs
VEGETATION LAYERS

Trees
Groundcover
VEGETATION LAYERS
Shrubs
Groundcovers
Natural Inspiration
Plant a Meadow

Native Pollinators
Beneficial Insects
Hummingbirds
Butterflies
Songbirds
You

VEGETATION LAYERS
Trees, Shrubs
Groundcovers
Natural Inspiration
Plant a Woodland

Whether it is a small
grove of 3 trees or the
entire backyard,
woodlands offer a shady,
low maintenance
retreat.

VEGETATION LAYERS
Trees, Shrubs
Groundcovers
FALL - BEST TIME TO PLANT

- Soil is still warm
- Winter rains will keep soil moist
- Roots will grow all winter
- Better able to tolerate summer dry

FIRST SUMMER
- Water 2x weekly

SECOND SUMMER
- Water every 2-3 weeks as needed

THIRD SUMMER
- Monitor and water as needed
PLANTING TECHNIQUE – p. 11

MANAGE WEEDS/SMART WATERING p. 13

MINIMIZE DAMAGE FROM DEER p. 14
LANDSCAPING WITH NATIVE PLANTS

1 Orange Honeysuckle
   *Lonicera ciliosa*

2 Blue eyed Grass – *Sisyrinchium* – Yellow eyed Grass

PLANT LIST handout corresponds with the numbered photos.
PNW region extends from northern BC to southern Oregon

- Floods and animals have historically moved seed around both avenues are now cut off to a large extent.

Plants that lived in the region before the arrival of European settlers.

- Trillium ovatum
- Chocolate Lily
- Columbia Lily
What’s In a Name?

**SCIENTIFIC NAME**

*Acer macrophyllum*

*Genus*  *species*
**Iliama rivularis**  
Riverside Globe Mallow

**Armeria maritima**  
Pink Sea Thrift
Species Names:

**BOTANIST DISCOVERER**

10. *Delphinium menziesii*  
Upland Larkspur

11. *Olsynium douglasii*  
Grasswidow

12. *Mimulus lewisii*  
Pink Monkeyflower
COMMON NAMES

Serviceberry
Juneberry
Saskatoon

Salmonberry

False Solomon’s Seal
Western Solomon’s Seal
The evolution and success of human cultures rest upon a foundation of the uses of particular plants.

Food - Building Materials - Clothing Medicine - Religious Ceremonies Fish Spreaders - Harpoons -
Native Flora has evolved with Native Fauna

Western Columbine

Red Elderberry
Native Plants are adapted to our climate

Native gardens support our schedule, too.

- **SPRING** = cool time to garden
- **SUMMER** = lazy days in the sun
- **AUTUMN** = rains, planting time
- **WINTER** = dormancy
Native Plants are beautiful

White Fawn Lily

Shooting Star
Native Landscapes are low maintenance

Natural Allies
Fall Planting
Spring Clean Up
Edit Plantings As Needed
Growing Native Requires Good Gardening Techniques

Extra Care Until Plants Are Established
Match Garden Conditions & Plant Needs

Mulch To Feed The Soil Not The Plants

Limit Pruning, Fertilizing, and Over Watering
Designing with Natives

GENERALISTS
Sun to Shade / Moist to Dry

Oceanspray

44

SPECIALISTS
Requires special conditions

Skunk cabbage

45
Natives Can Co-exist With Non-natives

Prairie Smoke planted with Bluebells
Cascade Oregon Grape
ECOSYSTEMS: Living and Non-Living Components

Broadleaf Penstemon
Broadleaf Stonecrop
Creating Interest with Leaf Structure

Star Flower Solomon’s Seal (Salal & Bleeding Heart)
Keep It Simple
Or Not

Pearly Everlasting

Showy Fleabane
Design A Landscape That Looks Good All 4 Seasons

- One third structural – trees & tall shrubs
- One third evergreen – conifers & broadleaf evergreen
- One third seasonal interest – perennials, low shrubs, ferns, etc.

Sequencing for Continuous Bloom

Paintbrush (Arnica & Lupine)
1. Begin your design with the trees.

1. Then add shrubs.

1. Finally fill in with groundcovers.
Western Red Cedar

Douglas Fir

Western Hemlock
57  Red Cedar - Excelsa

58  Shore Pine

59  Mountain Hemlock

60  Juniper
HYBRID DOGWOODS

Eddie’s White Wonder
*Cornus nattalli x Cornus florida*

Venus
*Cornus nattalli x Cornus kousa*
67 Vine Maple
68 Pacific Crabapple
69 Black Hawthorn
70 Douglas Maple
Canopy Layers
Shrubs

Locate these FOCAL plants in natural sight lines – end of path or view from windows.

Use both deciduous and evergreen shrubs. Repeat at various locations to unify the garden design.
71 Pacific Wax Myrtle

72 Hairy Manzanita

73 Tall Oregon Grape

74 Snowbrush
75  Pacific Rhododendron

76*  Yellow Twig Dogwood
77 Low Oregon Grape

78 Bog Laurel

79 Evergreen Huckleberry

80 Oregon Box
81 Red Twig Dogwood

82 Red Huckleberry

83 Mock Orange

84 Western Sweet Shrub

85 Pacific Ninebark
86 Indian Plum
87 Black Twinberry
88 Cinquefoil
89 Sitka Mt. Ash
90 Blue Elderberry
3 SPIREA species

91 S. douglasii
Douglas spirea

92 S. splendens
Subalpine spirea

93 S. lucida
Shiny Leaf Spirea
Canopy Layers
Groundcovers

Massing layer is small shrubs, perennials, ferns, grasses, annuals, and spreading groundcovers.

Get creative. What are your favorite colors?
These evergreen plants slowly spread like ground covering plants.

They cover the soil/mulch year round, preventing erosion and help control weeds.
100 Deer Fern

101 Maidenhair Fern

102 Sword Fern

103 Licorice Fern
COVERS THE GROUND

104 Bunchberry

105 Inside Out

106 Bleeding Heart

107 False Lily of the Valley

108 Oxalis

109 Coastal Strawberry
NATIVE PLANTS ARE WELL SUITED FOR LANDSCAPING – A PLANT FOR EVERY SITUATION
Native Plant Guide
Create your own native plant landscape

Featuring plants native to Western Washington and native plant gardening tips

Find a Native Plant
Look up a specific native plant. Search for which plants would thrive best in your yard. Or just browse through more than 100 beautiful photos and learn more northwest native plants. Start finding plants...

Native Plant Landscaping Plans
These illustrated plans give you basic ideas for landscaping using native plants. Plans cover various yard conditions such as sun, shade and dry or moist soil. View the plans...

Create a Custom Native Plant List
Use this tool to create your own customized native plant list. Then print the list, email it or save it for later (registration required). Makes a great shopping list or landscape planning tool! Start your list...

How-to Articles
Want to attract more wildlife to your yard using native plants? Do you know which native plants are best suited for a deeply shaded or sloped yard? Browse these articles – which include plant suggestions – to find the answers. Read how-to articles...
Search all plants

Plant type:  
☐ Tree  ☐ Shrub  ☐ Groundcover  ☐ Grass-like  ☐ Vine  
☐ Deciduous  ☐ Evergreen  ☐ Perennial

Moisture requirements:  
☐ dry  ☐ moist  ☐ wet

Exposure requirements:  
☐ sun  ☐ part shade  ☐ shade

Search text:  

keyword(s):

General  
☐ aggressive  
☐ annual  
☐ broad leaf (evergreen)  
☐ conifer (evergreen)  
☐ drought tolerant  
☐ edible  
☐ fast  
☐ ferns  
☐ fire-resistant  
☐ fruit

☐ perennial (non-woody)  
☐ slow  
☐ spreading  
☐ thorns or prickles  
☐ black  
☐ blue  
☐ orange  
☐ pink  
☐ purple  
☐ red

☐ white  
☐ yellow  
☐ growing habit  
☐ broad  
☐ creeping or trailing  
☐ narrow  
☐ upright  
☐ birds  
☐ butterflies

ADD TO MY PRINTABLE LIST
Native Plant Sources

Special Sales:
• March – Whatcom Conservation District
• May – Native Plant Society - Fairhaven
• May – Master Gardeners – Hovander

Fourth Corner Nursery — wholesale
Located in Whatcom County on Sand Road
By appointment only
www.fourthcornernurseries.com

Plantas nativa — retail nursery
Located on Champion St. B’ham.
Limited hours
www.plantasnativa.com
Break
Project Extras

If you have reimbursement budget remaining after the purchase of plants and mulch!
Deer Fencing

- temporary cages or fencing

See DIY Handbook pg. 9
Edging

• Bricks, wood, plastic, get creative...
Holding mulch in place on steep slopes
Holding mulch in place on steep slopes
Rain Barrels

- Barrels, hardware, hoses, and other materials set up to water your new native plants
- Irrigation supplies (soaker hoses, timer, etc..)

See DIY Handbook pg. 10
Project Components: Review

- Native plants and mulch
- Dry creekbed features (ribbons of rock mulch)
- Edging
- Temporary deer protection
- Rainwater harvesting/irrigation supplies

Reimbursable expenses are materials, tools, delivery fees necessary to install these things.
Getting Started
Step 1: Review Workshop Materials

• Binder with DIY Native Landscaping Program handbook and appendices

• Refer to “Landscaping with Native Plants” handbook

• Browse through websites with native plants (King County Native Plant Guide)

• Think about your goals for your property

• Walk around your property and note sun/shade conditions
Step 2: Designing Your Native Landscaping Project

- Request site visit
- Identify unique planting areas
- Identify ROW planting areas
- Measure areas
  - Existing conditions/surfaces within City limits
  - Proposed planting areas

See DIY Handbook pg. 11-13
Example: identify and measure planting areas

- **Backyard**: shade plants with existing trees
- **Front yard**: full sun, 1 existing tree
- **ROW**: full sun, no trees, need email approval
Measuring Areas for Your HIP Project (Appendix H)
Measuring tapes and wheels
## Real Property Search

### Improvement / Building

**Improvement #1:** 2 STORY  
**State Code:** 1114  
**Total Sq Ft:** 2296.0  
**Value:** $257,857

- **Exterior Wall:** SI/ST  
- **Fireplace:** SIN 1-AVG  
- **Fixtures:** 14  
- **Floor Cov Adj:** Base Allowance  
- **Flooring:** CARPT  
- **Foundation:** CONPR  
- **Full Baths:** 1  
- **Full Baths:** 3  
- **Heating/Cooling:** F/A  
- **Interior Finish:** FIN  
- **Number of Bedrooms:** 4  
- **Roof Covering:** COMP

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<th>Type</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<th>Sub Class CD</th>
<th>Year Built</th>
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City IQ
Area Estimation

2,155 square feet
Area Estimation

Rectangle: Length x Width
Triangle: Base x Height x 0.5
Step 2: Designing Your Project Continued...

- Sketch planting areas on your map and name them.

- Use the planting worksheet to determine # of plants needed (Appendix E).

- Use example planting plans and plant lists to select plants (Appendix C).

See DIY Handbook pg. 11-13
Planting Worksheet Example

Front yard: full sun, 1 existing tree
Scientific Names Preferred

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Option</th>
<th>Vegetation Layer Combination</th>
<th>Minimum Planting Density</th>
<th>Total Planting Area (square feet)</th>
<th>Cubic Yards of Mulch (planting area ft² × 80)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Tree, Shrub, and Groundcover</td>
<td>Divide planting area by 225 (15' o.c.)</td>
<td>Trees</td>
<td>700</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Divide planting area by 64 (8' o.c.)</td>
<td>Shrubs</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Divide planting area by 25 (5' o.c.)</td>
<td>Groundcovers</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Tree and Shrub Only (No Groundcover)</td>
<td>Divide planting area by 144 (12' o.c.)</td>
<td>Trees</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Divide planting area by 36 (6' o.c.)</td>
<td>Shrubs</td>
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<td>Tree and Groundcover Only (No Shrub)</td>
<td>Divide planting area by 144 (12' o.c.)</td>
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<td>Divide planting area by 25 (5' o.c.)</td>
<td>Groundcovers</td>
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Plant List: Please complete with species name (scientific preferred) and desired number.

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<th>Native Trees</th>
<th>Ingrid Enschede: count 1 existing tree as a shrub</th>
<th>Native Shrubs</th>
<th>Ingrid Enschede: Native hybrid</th>
<th>Native Groundcovers</th>
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<td>Species Name</td>
<td># of existing trees</td>
<td>Species Name</td>
<td># of existing shrubs</td>
<td>Species Name</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>#</td>
<td></td>
<td># of existing groundcovers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cornus nuttallii kousa (Venus dogwood)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Vaccinium ovatum (Evergreen huckleberry)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Kinnikinnik</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mahonia nervosa (cascade clematis)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Arctostaphylos columbiana (Hairy manzanita)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Gaultheria Shallon (salal)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cornus sericea (red twig dogwood)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Spirea betulifolia (Shiny-leaved spirea)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Mahonia repens (creeping Oregon grape)</td>
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<td>Rosa nutkana (Noctua rosea)</td>
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<td>Sedum spathulifolium (pink sea thrift)</td>
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<td>Armeria maritima (pink sea thrift)</td>
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<td>Lonicera ciliosa (Orange honeysuckle)</td>
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<td>Fragaria chiloensis (beach strawberry)</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Sedum apothecium (broad-leaved stonecrop)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TOTAL 0 | TOTAL 14 | TOTAL 48
Get Help - Schedule a Site Visit

• Call or email Emily to schedule (1-3 weeks to schedule)
• About 2-3 hours
• Get help
  • Finalizing planting area locations
  • Measuring planting areas
  • Making your maps
  • Selecting plants and filling out planting worksheets
  • Filling out HIP paperwork

See DIY Handbook pg. 13
Step 3: Application & Permits

- Examples (Appendix E)
- See DIY Handbook pg. 14-16
- End result of design and planning process
- Different in City of Bellingham and Whatcom County
- Simple application and permitting process
- Help available with application at site visit
- Takes 2-3 weeks to receive permit approval
- Permits valid for 1-2 years (rules vary City & County, call contact staff listed for permit questions in your binder)
Step 4: Install Your Native Landscaping

• See DIY Handbook pg. 16-17

Buying Materials:

• See Appendix D for approved materials & supplier directory (only for HIP project components)

• Save your receipts! *(buy HIP purchases in a separate transaction)*
Step 4: Install Your Native Landscaping

Doing the Work:

• **No sod flipping**
• See Landscaping with Native Plants
• Two phases if needed – consult with staff
• Fall/Spring planting windows
  • Mulch summer, plant fall = ideal
• Hiring help (pg. 11)
Step 5: Final Inspection & Reimbursement

• See handbook pg. 18-20, Appendix F

• Divide into 2 phases if needed

• 3-4 weeks for reimbursement after request submitted
Step 6: Maintenance

- Handbook pg. 20, Appendix G
- Water young plants!
- Weed
- Look out for noxious weeds
- Replace plants that die
- May be asked to submit a photo showing your lovely landscape
Maintenance Agreement

- Signed, notarized agreement (See Appendix G)
- Turned in with reimbursement request

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pull weeds</td>
<td>Once per year, in spring, or as desired for aesthetics</td>
<td>Remove any easily-pulled weeds and grass growing in landscaped areas. Weeds are not required to be pulled as long as native plants remain unaffected by weed growth.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water plants</td>
<td>Once every other week during first three summers, more often during drought years</td>
<td>Water plants as needed to achieve a total of 1” of irrigation per week from July 4th - Labor Day. If rain occurs during that period, irrigation may not be necessary.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Replace dead plants</td>
<td>Once per year for first five years, as needed, in fall.</td>
<td>Goal is to achieve 80% survivorship after three years. Replace plants that die with more-applicable plants if 80% goal is difficult to meet.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Identify and remove invasive species and/or noxious weeds</td>
<td>Every five years or as needed</td>
<td>If known invasive species (e.g. Himalayan blackberry, Bohemian knotweed, yellow-flag iris) are identified, control using guidance provided by Whatcom Weeds.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Replace mulch</td>
<td>Every five years or as needed</td>
<td>Ensure a minimum of 4” of woody mulch covers all landscaped areas. If your system is planted effectively, and maintenance occurs as described above, mulch may not need to be replaced for many years.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Homeowner Acknowledgement Form

Program Overview
The Homeowner Innovative Program (HIP) provides technical assistance and financial reimbursement for voluntary water quality improvement projects on properties within a portion of the Lake Whatcom watershed. The goal of HIP is to improve 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 determine 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.

Projects that lead to the lake and/or 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 sump basins, and rainwater harvesting systems that provide water directly to native plants. While smaller or scale projects like these, for example, 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 Whidbey Island Water Resources, either mail the hard copy original or scan and send the email.

Whidbey Island Water Resources
432 N. Commercial St., Ste 110
Bellingham, WA 98225
(360) 752-0075
www.whatcomwater.com

Homeowner Acknowledgement
You have expressed an 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 marking 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 ―how to‖ materials provided at the workshop.
- [ ] I understand that the support offered by City and County staff is limited to
  - [ ] One DIY Native Landscaping workshop (3-5 hours);
  - [ ] A follow-up visit with a certified landscaping expert (up to 3 hours); and
  - [ ] Permit and application support from City and County staff when needed (1-2 hours). Note that permission will take up to three weeks to process.
- [ ] I understand that in order to receive reimbursement, native landscaping materials and services must be obtained from:
  - [ ] A local nursery within 40 miles of Bellingham;
  - [ ] My property must be located within 40 miles of Bellingham.
- [ ] 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, materials, and other approved materials and services.
- [ ] I must submit a signed and notarized maintenance agreement.
- [ ] I understand that the maximum reimbursement I will receive upon completing the project is $300 per year, improved up to a maximum of $6,000. Any project costs above this amount may 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
Online resources

Email with link to “for homeowners” resource page
Questions?
THANK YOU!