

Yard by Yard:

A Grass Roots Model for Increasing Homeowner Stewardship of Watersheds

Presentation to FHNA 2/28/2024

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King County

Department of
Natural Resources and Parks

Wastewater Treatment Division

Great News!

**FHNA and Pollinator Pathway
NW received grant funding
from King County WaterWorks
to test a grassroots approach
to conserving our local
environment~**

***by providing support for
homeowners to incorporate
native plantings into their
yards***

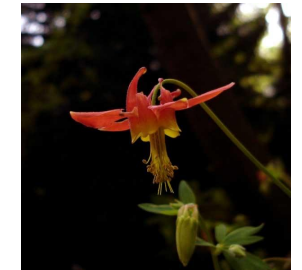
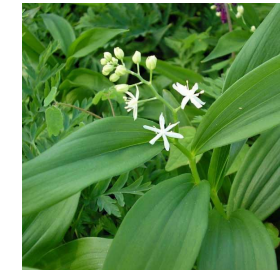
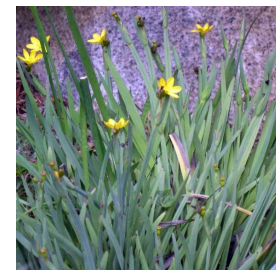
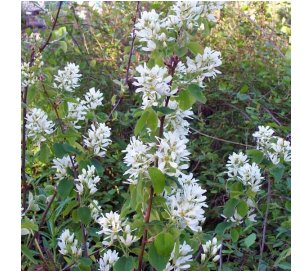
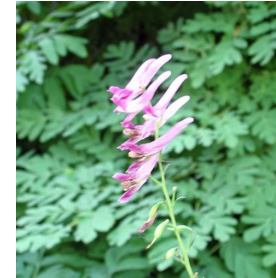


Who is PPNW?

A volunteer organization that provides education and encourages habitat protection and restoration to help pollinators thrive. Our goal is to create corridors of plantings from garden to garden—the Pollinator Pathway.



“Native plants are the most powerful tool in our conservation toolbox; without increasing their use and protection, we will fail in our conservation efforts,” ~Doug Tallamy



Finn Hill's Residential Development

- Loss of forested & open lands that historically filtered rainwater runoff & provided food and cover for wildlife
- Diverse nurturing habitats replaced by monocultural lawns & non-native plant species, frequently maintained using fertilizers and pesticides



Denny Creek's Watershed Report Card



Elevated Nitrogen



Elevated Phosphorous



Elevated Water Temperature



Stream Bugs' Health - Fair



“We can each make a measurable difference...”

- ❖ Ecological Gardening
- ❖ Conservation Gardening
- ❖ Wildlife Gardening
- ❖ Ecological Horticulture
- ❖ Habitat Gardening
- ❖ New Perennial Movement

Yard by Yard, Individual Homeowners Can Help!

Ecological Gardening



Clean Water

Plants adapted to local conditions require less fertilizer & pesticides

Deep plant roots trap storm water, slow percolation & increase filtration of nutrients

Reducing lawn area reduces pollutants associated with mowing, leaf blowing, fertilizing, killing “weeds”



Healthy Wildlife

Creating diverse plant environments attracts greater animal diversity

Collective individual action creates habitat corridors for pollinators & provides local fauna with food and shelter

Model For Inspiring Stewardship

Education

Motivation & confidence result from in-depth knowledge and learning by doing

Installation

Face-to-face support from experts for design & planting; coaching for ongoing care

Celebration

Celebrate results & build enthusiasm for planting natives in every yard

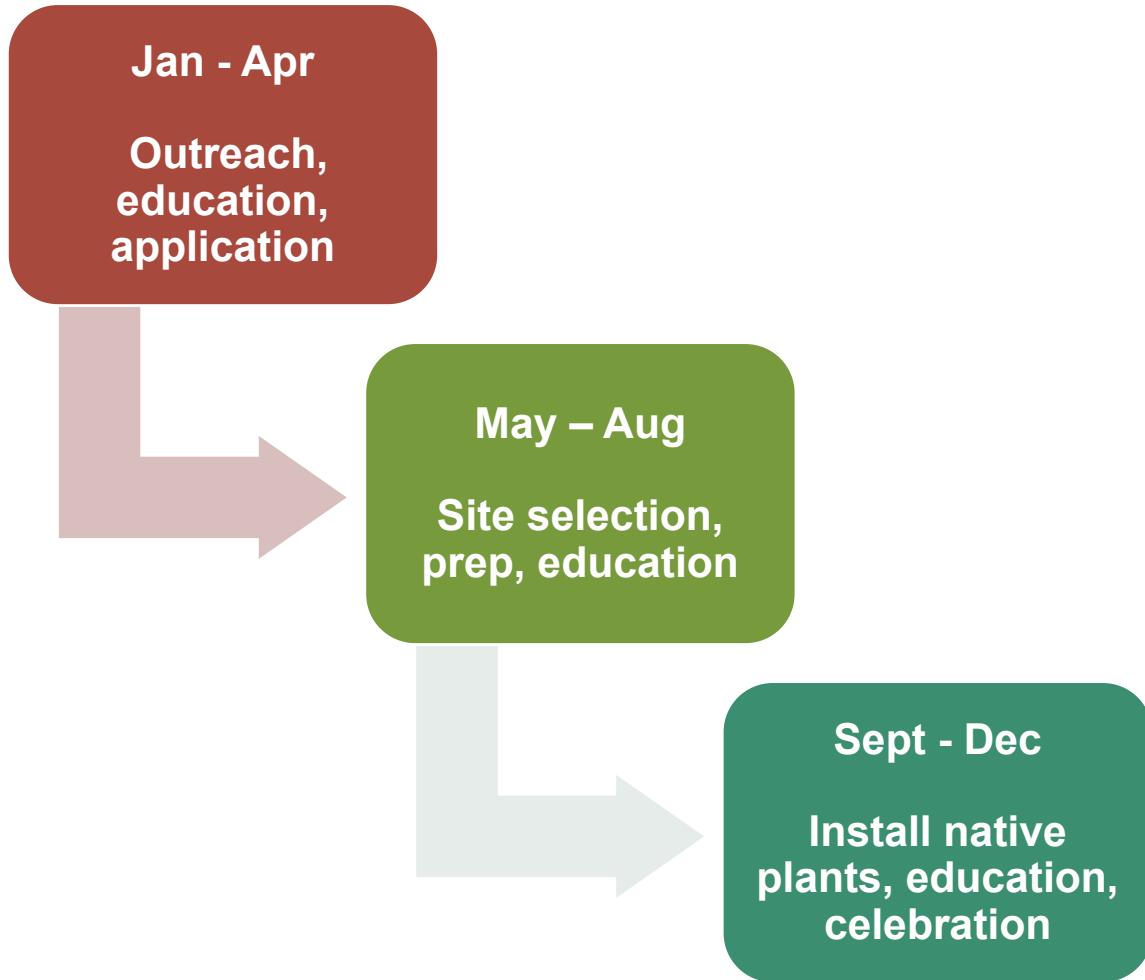
How to Participate



Sign up

- Participants agree to complete educational workshops & to educate neighbors at follow-up neighborhood events.
- Priority to homeowner teams (at least 2 neighbors) to maximize benefit & visual impact, foster peer support, & optimize installation time & costs.

Proposed Timeline



(2 rounds – 2024, 2025)





Thank You!

*"We have never been so empowered.
We can each make a measurable
difference." D. Tallamy*

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