

City of Edgewood – Summary of Public Education and Outreach Resources

Low Impact Development – Rain Garden Handbook:

In 2012 the City purchased several hard copies of the *Rain Garden Handbook for Western Washington* for distribution to Edgewood residents who come to the City to undertake small development projects. The City provides this resource to residents seeking alternatives to conventional stormwater systems and provides the resource for no charge.



Educational Programs:

The City has sponsored Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department's Natural Yard Care seminar series. The goal of this project is to increase the use of natural yard care practices in the City of Edgewood and regionally. This interagency work is designed to help increase the adoption of natural yard care (NYC) practices by residents to reduce stormwater pollutants and stormwater impacts to surface water by implementing safer practices, including:

- Reduce use of pesticides and fertilizers.
- Reduce generation of organic waste and increase backyard composting.
- Increase use of slow-release fertilizers.
- Reduce water use.

The City has joined the Pierce County Conservation District and has plans to utilize their resources in holding workshops and providing educational materials for future events.

Stormwater-related Code, Regulation, and Development Review and Programs:

The City of Edgewood provides public notice for all plans and codes that are being reviewed or updated, in particular those related to our adopted stormwater codes, plans and capital programs. The City's Planning Commission reviews formal proposals and provides both formal and informal public review opportunities. Recommendations of the Planning Commission are forwarded to the City Council for final review, additional public consideration, and action. Most formal code amendments or changes related to the City's surface water programs, stormwater codes and compliance with our Phase II Municipal Permit follow this process for public review. Larger programs and projects, such as the updated Comprehensive Surface Water Management Plan, typically include more in-depth public involvement process, such as workshops and surveys.

Other Educational Opportunities:

City staff continually offers information and general stormwater education at the front counter, regarding Best Management Practices (BMPs), Stormwater Pollution Prevention (SWPPP), and the necessity of stormwater management in general for various audiences: Edgewood citizens, landowners, development professionals, and the general public. The goal has been to build awareness of stormwater management and impacts on downstream properties and surface waters, by encouraging consideration of how stormwater runoff is affected by development activity and adoption of lower-impact practices and behaviors.

The result is continued interest in stormwater management in the City of Edgewood. Staff has seen an increase in the application of LID strategies and practices in recent years. Through these outreach strategies, the City is reaching the appropriate target audiences and realizing practical behavior change.