

Value of Urban Forests

Urban forests provide many benefits to citizens of the Puget Sound Region including:

- Recreation and a connection with nature
- Habitat for animals and plants native to the region
- Clean air
- Retention and filtering of stormwater runoff

Get Involved

Visit us online and subscribe to **The Understory**, the newsletter of Seattle Urban Nature.

www.seattleurbannature.org



Support SUN

As a non-profit organization, Seattle Urban Nature relies on your support. Consider making a donation to SUNP via our website.

www.seattleurbannature.org

We also accept in-kind services.
Thank you for your support!



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Seattle Urban Nature



A Community Resource for
Urban Forest Restoration

Who We Are

The mission of Seattle Urban Nature (SUN) is to create tools to empower stewards for healthy urban ecosystems.

SUN was founded in 1998 to survey and map the vegetation and wildlife habitat on 8,000 acres of Seattle's public land. Currently, this data serves as a resource for Seattle Parks Department and community groups working in the city.

Today, SUN assists community groups, government, non-profit organizations and private citizens in their efforts to survey, map, restore and maintain urban forests in the Puget Sound region.



SUN Staff working with Friends of Deadhorse Canyon

Serving the Community

SUN works directly with community groups throughout Puget Sound to improve urban forests. We accomplish this by providing groups with the tools and information to be effective stewards of the land. We provide detailed site inventories, restoration monitoring and management recommendations along with GIS maps of project sites. SUN funds these efforts through a combination of grants, donations and fee-for-service work.



Partnering with Community Groups

SUN teamed with the Friends of Deadhorse Canyon in Southeast Seattle and Friends of Llandover Woods in Northwest Seattle to conduct vegetation surveys and produce detailed habitat maps of their parks of interest.

SUN used these surveys to develop management plans that will help each group to prioritize their restoration activities. SUN also created outreach materials for each group.

These resources will help the groups to more effectively restore their local parks and monitor their projects in the future. These efforts were funded in part by the City of Seattle and the King County Natural Resources Stewardship Network.

Citywide Focus

In 1998, SUN surveyed 8,000 acres of Seattle's public land to determine what types of vegetation and habitat exist within the city's boundaries. This two-year effort resulted in production of an atlas featuring habitat maps for over fifty areas in Seattle and a data disc for public use.

This unique survey has served as a valuable resource for city agencies such as the Seattle Parks Department, as well as community groups and individuals interested in the state of Seattle's habitats.

SUN is continuing its citywide focus on urban forests through implementation of the Citywide Habitat Assessment. The purpose of this project is to assess the state of Seattle's forests over time. This information will provide city managers and community groups with the information they need to most effectively manage Seattle's urban forests.



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