

PUYALLUP WATERSHED

Small Grants Awards – 2018

Nine small grants were awarded for a total of \$20,000 to implement projects in the watershed, summarized below.

1. [Pierce Conservation District](#): **8th Ave NW Green Street Rain Garden Rehab, awarded \$2,500**

The Green Street in Puyallup is a two block section that includes a pervious asphalt road, a pervious concrete sidewalk, and a pervious paver sidewalk. Eight residential rain gardens and 11 right of way rain gardens also line the street. In 2009-2013 rain gardens were still new enough that professional had not vetted each plant suggested for rain gardens. At that time an emphasis was placed on installing native plants to benefit wildlife. Since this time professionals have learned that many of our natives, when planted in rich rain garden soil, overgrow their native norm. Pierce Conservation District, the City of Puyallup, and the Pierce County Master Gardeners are working together to rehab these residential and Right-of-way rain gardens to bring them back into favor. This grant funds will support Phase II and III. Phase II: weed, remove dead/dying plants, remove aggressive plants, remove larger oversized plants, plant installation, mulching. Fall 2018. Phase III: weed, remove dead/dying plants, mulching to be completed in Spring 2019.

2. [Pierce Conservation District](#): **South Prairie Knotweed Control, awarded \$2,497.29**

This grant will increase the effectiveness of our work to conduct landowner outreach and to treat knotweed stands where they are threatening to spread to the lower watershed. Through this funding the District will retain a work crew for a week. This grant will extend the effectiveness of current funding from the Washington State Department of Agriculture. This project will increase landowner recognition of this harmful noxious weed, clear acres of knotweed infestation, and increase native riparian vegetation in this highly important portion of the watershed.

3. [Citizens for a Healthy Bay](#): **Sisterhood in the City, awarded \$2,500**

This grant supports a free two-day environmental justice camp in August for up to 15 girls in middle and high school. This camp is organized in partnership with the Tacoma Urban League, and CHB will provide a boat tour of Commencement Bay with education and historical toxicology concerns. Participants will also co-author an op-ed, participate in a beach cleanup and marine debris sculpture projects.

4. **Puyallup Historical Hatchery Foundation: Salmon Homecoming Celebration, \$2,500**

This grant supports event equipment and supplies rental costs for an annual celebration of the return of salmon to spawn in the Puyallup Watershed. This is a free family-oriented educational outdoor one-day event that brings in 1200-1800 people each year to the Historic Puyallup Hatchery, organized by the hatchery foundation, Puyallup River Watershed Council, WDFW, and Lead Entity. A major hatchery construction project this year requires the event location to be moved this year only. It will be held nearby at DeCoursey Park in Puyallup, which is also located next to Clarks Creek, where salmon return on their way to the hatchery. The event will be on Saturday,

October 6, 2019. There will be about 20 nonprofit booths offering educational games, lessons, activities and information for adults and youth, along with storytelling and hands-on (fish) casting demonstrations for adults and youth.

5. [The Ikkatsu Project](#): Puyallup Fresh Water Microplastics Sampling, awarded \$2,500

Supporting continuation of work with Lakeridge Middle School in Sumner to take waters and sediment samples along the Puyallup and White Rivers, analyze them to determine microplastic levels. Students will create field reports and learn lab procedures, and develop possible solutions to the problem of microplastic pollution. Funds will purchase lab and field equipment.

6. [Blix Elementary School](#): Salmon in the School, awarded \$2,500

Blix Elementary, a P-5th grade elementary school, will educate students about the salmonid life-cycle. WDFW provides salmonid eggs to the school to be reared in an aquarium in conjunction with science curriculum. Purchase of aquarium equipment and tools needed to successfully rear salmon eggs. When fish reach the fry stage, students from the school will release their fish in a local watershed. Students will be working in a hands-on environment to help manage the salmonid eggs while recording data, maintaining a healthy growth environment, and releasing the fish. While doing this, they will learn about the effect of human impact on local resources. Students will work to understand their impact on our local watershed, as well as ways they can work to lessen their impact. The expected outcome is to educate the school and wider community of the salmonid life cycle as well as how water/storm water pollution affects salmon in Puget Sound.

7. [Humane Society for Tacoma & Pierce County](#): Get the Scoop! Pet Waste Awareness Campaign, awarded \$1,500

Increases Pet-owners' awareness about pet waste disposal and its impacts on the watershed. The Society will give away pet waste bag dispensers to 500 attendees at Salmon Homecoming Celebration in Puyallup on October 6th; public and distribute 500 "Get the Scoop" brochures at the event and in new adoption packets and publish a link on their website and social media.

8. [Bryant Montessori School](#): Salmon in the School, awarded \$2,500

Same project as #6 above at a preK-8 public school located in Tacoma's Hilltop neighborhood.

9. [Lutheran Community Services](#): Senior Media Services - Seniors Caring for the Environment, awarded \$1,000

Supports publication of 'Seniors Caring for the Environment' column in the monthly newspaper "Senior Scene," which is aimed at a 55-and-up audience. The articles will inform and educate older adults and other community members about surface water management and ways that they can limit their impact on waterways and the overall environment by being conscientious in their day to day activities involving their automobiles, their lawns, landscaping and gardens in support of organizations dedicated to protecting waterways from pollution.