



MAKING A GREENER VOLUNTEER PARK

The Volunteer Park Sustainability Coalition



Did you know?

Over 7,800,000 gallons of city water are purchased a year by the park at a cost of \$60,000. 68% of this water is used for irrigation of the grounds and plants. Operation of the popular wading pool uses an additional 1,700,000 gallons of this water. Over 32,000,000 gallons of rainwater fall in the park and largely enters the storm sewers and is processed at the city water treatment plants at a cost of \$92,000 annually.

What is the opportunity?

Harvesting and storing rainwater can greatly reduce the use of city water for irrigation and reduce the associated cost.

Installing an up-to-date water filtration and treatment system for the wading pool can largely eliminate the current water use and cost of this popular amenity.

Installing rain gardens and other rainwater retention devices can reduce costs and the burden on the water treatment facilities.

Who are we?

With a shared goal of making Volunteer Park more environmentally sustainable a group of stakeholders has formed. The **Volunteer park Sustainability Coalition** is comprised of the Asian Art Museum, the Volunteer Park Trust and the Friends of the Conservatory and enjoys the support of Seattle Parks and Recreation.

What have we done to date?

With the help of a Small and Simple Neighborhood Matching grant from the Seattle Department of Neighborhoods we have commissioned two studies which have identified opportunities for water conservation and collection, storm water management and energy conservation. We have also set priorities and identified costs for design and construction. As part of this process public meetings were held to present sustainability opportunities to the community and gain their input.

What are the next steps?

The coalition now needs to raise the funds, estimated at \$1.8 million dollars, to complete the design and to construct the improvements. We are now in the process of applying for grants to this end.

How can you help?

We are asking you, as Volunteer Park community members, for your help in identifying sources of funding and technical assistance you may be aware of that will help us reach our goal. We greatly appreciate your interest and suggestions.

You can contact us at the following:

**Volunteer Park Sustainability Coalition
C/O Friends of the Conservatory
1400 East Galer Street
Seattle, WA 98112**