



WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF

NATURAL RESOURCES

Caring for your natural resources...now and forever

[local project partner logo here]

Urban Forestry Restoration Project

News Release Template for Local Use

Please feel free to add more local detail if you like!

begin message

Helping our trees help us

The Urban Forestry Restoration Project, administered by the Washington State Dept. of Natural Resources (DNR) Urban and Community Forestry Program, is an exciting opportunity to enhance the capacity of urban forests to manage stormwater and improve air and water quality by improving the health and functionality of trees and forested sites in urban settings. Even more exciting is our opportunity to participate in this program here in [name].

A Puget SoundCorps team will work with City staff to remove the English ivy, Himalayan blackberry and [local weed of concern] from [site name(s)]. These invasive non-native plants prevent forested areas from providing our community the full benefits and services of healthy forests by competing for water and nutrients, and in some cases even killing trees. Many undesirable plants that grow in dense thickets also harbor rats and other vermin, creating a public safety hazard as well. Once the unwelcome plants are gone, native vegetation will be planted in its place.

[Quote from local arborist, planner, urban forestry activist; etc. about the impact of the project locally]

[local volunteer recruitment statement]. To learn more about how you can help keep [site name(s)] healthy in the future, contact [local contact name and information].

For more information about the Urban Forestry Restoration Project, contact Micki McNaughton at (360) 902-1637 or micki.mcnaughton@dnr.wa.gov. DNR's Urban and Community Forestry Program is made possible through a partnership with the USDA Forest Service. Puget SoundCorps is part of the broader Washington Conservation Corps program administered by Washington Dept. of Ecology. Puget SoundCorps crews work on projects that help restore and protect water quality in Puget Sound. The Washington Conservation Corps is supported through grant funding and Education Awards provided by AmeriCorps.

end message