

Field

2011

Volunteer hours:	83,450
Volunteer occurrences:	20,422
# of parks that hosted GSP volunteer events:	
Volunteer events logged in CEDAR:	619

2012 (through June)

Volunteer hours:	29,418
Volunteer occurrences:	7914
# of parks that hosted GSP volunteer events:	63
Volunteer events logged in CEDAR:	425
Number of worklogs submitted on CEDAR:	284

Wider monitoring

- **Topsoil health:** Developed and are now testing new soil monitoring protocols. Have installed three Soil Monitoring Plots (West Duwamish Greenbelt: Puget Park one plot; Seward Park: two plots)
- **Measure ecosystem services:** Baseline monitoring plots are now being evaluated for ecosystem services (dollar value per acre/year) related to stormwater filtration, carbon filtration, and air filtration, using i-Tree ECO model on a plot level.
- **Bird Surveys:** Working with some local birders to monitor Coopers Hawks nest to minimize impact of restoration activities. Some Forest Stewards have been implementing their own bird counts and monitoring. No overall coordinated bird or wildlife monitoring programs have been developed yet as it pertains to GSP.

Continue to monitor what we are maintaining, add more plots, and recruit more monitoring team volunteers

Forest monitoring report (2011 –June 2012)

Volunteer participants:	170 volunteers; 1,100 volunteer hours
Total GSP forest monitoring plots:	152
Total parks with plots:	52

Place(s) to share best practice information, data, and reports

- **CEDAR:** Forest Stewards can access basic work log reports for their park
- **Interactive Habitat Map:** GSP monitoring reports are now on interactive habitat map
- **GSP website:** Resources such as the Forest Steward Field Guide version 2, updated in 2011 are posted on Forest Steward Resource page - <http://greenseattle.org/forest-steward-resources-1/forest-steward-field-guide>
- **Forest Steward Facebook page:** 33 Forest Stewards are members.
- **GSP Forest Steward e-newsletter:** 3-4 times a year, articles submitted by Forest Stewards.

Understand the plant species that make up a site:

- Monitoring efforts currently track species percent cover of current conditions

- Target Forest Types for restoration sites have been developed to guide restoration goals. They are posted on GSP website - <http://greenseattle.org/target-forest-types>. A training for Forest Stewards is set for mid-August 2012

Draw comparisons from other cities

- Initiated Green Cities Network and are implementing same monitoring protocols across five cities (Tacoma, Kirkland, Redmond, Kent, and Seattle). Monitoring teams are now being trained. Data sharing expected in 2013.
- Green Cities Summit in June 2012 provided opportunity for Green Cities to share ideas on field practices, community engagement, and funding strategies, and discuss needs and methods for future information sharing.

Rate of conversion to coniferous forest [from deciduous-dominated]

- Inventory and monitoring data should be able to show this overtime. Updating tree age to show this change over time is in the works.
- Developed a map that shows what phase of restoration each restoration site is in (base on best available information from inventory and monitoring data).

Trails locations

- Trail maps (official trails) for individual parks have been posted to the Park's [website](#)
- A citywide map of natural area trails can also be found now on the [Interactive Habitat Map](#)
- Look for the 2012 Trails Vision Plan by the end of 2012.

Herbicide harm vs. other products/methods:

- GSP currently testing herbicide injection method to invasive trees that would minimize public exposure impacts of other herbicide practices, and make the work more time efficient.

Research and analysis of social and demographic data on volunteers

- Several studies over the past year have taken a closer look at the volunteer and neighborhood demographics and motivation of volunteers.
 - **Using GIS to Characterize Neighborhoods and Sites Underserved by Green Seattle** Partnership, by Oliver Bazinet, MS & MPA Candidate, University of Washington
 - **Spatial and Statistical Analysis of Green Seattle Forest Stewards**, by Kory Kramer, UW GIS Masters Candidate & WNPS Native Plant Steward

Community Engagement

Build a diverse audience and provide education and promotion in different languages

- Outreach efforts, Forest Steward and Monitoring Team recruitment and contracted restoration projects focused on targeted neighborhoods (Rainer Valley, White Center, SE Seattle, Bitterlake, Columbia City, Rainer Beach, Beacon Hill, South Park, Delridge, Highland Park, Holly Park);

- Parks has hired EarthCorps to assist Forest Stewards with volunteer recruitment. Each geographic area will have a specialized project based on feedback from Forest Stewards. Some of those projects will work also address the need to reach out to more diverse groups.
- Forterra has hired a consultant for a Youth and Families project funded by USFS with the Green Redmond Partnership. This is aimed at attracting a more diverse audience for education and volunteer opportunities. The outcomes and tools developed from this project will be shared with other Green Cities in 2013.
- Working with Department of Neighborhoods in North Beacon Hill, specifically for Jose Rizal and East Duwamish Greenbelt, in coordination with Mayor's Office.
- Have not had GSP materials translated into other languages.
- Added three Forest Stewards to the GSP Public Engagement Committee, representing South and North Seattle.

Neighbor education and relationships, non-work educational events

- **Tree Ambassadors:** As part of the Seattle ReLeaf program, Tree Ambassadors promote education about trees on both private and public lands. Many of the Tree Ambassadors work in coordination with GSP to promote and support forest restoration efforts with neighbors.
- **Volunteer Naturalists:** Parks launched the Seattle Volunteer Naturalist program. These trained Volunteer Naturalists provide public programs about forests, as well as hands-on, introductory and intermediate forest field experiences to K-12 teachers and classes at environmental learning centers and parklands. .
- **Urban Forestry Training for Teachers:** Parks and Seattle School District staff demonstrate and train teachers how to enhance their classroom lessons with forest restoration activities in their community. An award-winning urban forestry K-12 curriculum aligned with state education standards was created in collaboration with Seattle School District and is available online free of charge to educators .
- **Forest Stewards:** Many Forest Stewards and implementing partners do non-work events such as bird, plant, forest walks, etc.

Why do you volunteer?

Justin Hellier's [Ecologists and Organizers: Participatory Research for Shared Understanding in the Green Seattle Partnership](#)

Build relationships with businesses and corporations as a resource; more corporate community service days

- GSP is working with REI as a part of one of their grants to trying to measure the success of REI outreach and advertising to GSP events.
- While there is not a formalized corporate engagement program specifically for GSP, we continue to get significant volunteer involvement from corporations supporting our implementing partners and Forest Stewards, or via United Way day of caring, Green Seattle Day, and other citywide volunteer days.

Get volunteers from various organizations (Seattle Pacific University, United Way of King County, King Conservation Corps, faith-based organizations, high school service hours, social justice programs, YMCA, Seattle Works, etc.)

- All of these organizations (and other not listed) are already involved and working with GSP either at a citywide programmatic level, or on a project level with their local Forest Steward. Many of these relationships could be stronger and streamlined for broadcasting of general GSP event promotions.
- Almost all GSP events are open to youth, and count as service hours. Many Forest Stewards make connections with individual schools. Outreach efforts market events to students and parents as opportunities for service hours. Seattle School District's Service Learning Coordinator is on GSP Education Committee.
- Still need to connect with more existing race and social justice groups. One example that is currently working with GSP via EarthCorps is Global Visionaries.

Social Media -use neighborhood blogs, Forest Stewards Facebook account, and YouTube

- Started GSP Forest Steward Facebook page (in addition to the existing GSP Facebook page). Forest Stewards can share their YouTube videos on the GSP or GSP Forest Steward Facebook page.
- Blog on greenseattle.org
- Have some videos on YouTube, but not utilizing to its full potential.
- Created online training videos for Forest Stewards.

Maintain a consistent infrastructure and vision/success going forward

- We have not cut services, trainings, materials, nor support to Forest Stewards
- We are re-evaluating the Treeiage structure and delievery systems to improve the overall delivery of the program.

System of appreciation

- We have continued to provide free training opportunities, BBQ, field trips, plants, tools, and materials to retain and appreciate forest stewards. Green Seattle Day marketed as a day of volunteer appreciation with some type of give-away and recognition. GSP has experimented with concerts in the past but they are time-intensive to coordinate.
- Need more specific ideas on good ways to appreciate volunteers and Forest Stewards.

Develop a method to engage youth in the program

- Worked with 107 youth through Goodwill/Zoo Teens/SCA summer youth program
- Implemented K-12 Urban Forestry Curriculum and held one teacher trainings in August 2012
- Held 4 Green Teen Camps with 60 youth
- In total 2011-2012 (July) hosted 25,472 youth and 89,929 hours of service.
- Implemented the Green Corps employment program through Goodwill for 10 youth from Sept. 2011 to June 2012

Form Community Outreach group within GSP

- Expanded GSP Public Engagement Committee to include implementing partner representatives from EarthCorps and Nature Consortium and three Forest Stewards representing south and north Seattle.

Fundraising

New Partnerships

- **REI – funding support directly:** REI is supporting GSP and Implementation Partners with several grants.
- January through April 2012 – Pints for Parks at The Noble Fir. Donations received from the pub totaled \$1,094. The donation went to Seattle Parks Foundation on behalf of GGREAT and the restoration efforts at Golden Gardens.
- **Seattle Parks Foundation:** Now offering fiscal sponsor services to GSP Forest Stewards. Current sponsorships include groups/parks: Southwest Queen Anne Greenbelt; Friends of the Burke Gilman Trail Sandpoint; Friends of Madrona Woods; GGREAT; Friends of North Beach; Friends of John C Little.
- **Non-profit advocating for city funding:** Forterra is working with community members, non-profits, and volunteers to advocate for the necessary GSP funding, also sending hundreds of postcards of support.
- **Department of Corrections as a labor resource:** Seattle Parks has worked with these groups on a couple projects. Crews need GSP staff or Forest Steward supervision

New City Funding:

- **Sewage bills to pay for trees, drainage rates, utility rate increase, link forest health with Puget Sound health (e.g. stormwater), match ecosystem values for the city:** Pursuing and/or investigating drainage rate option, metro parks districts, and new Parks Levy. More data and research needed to demonstrate ecosystem services cost and benefits to the City.
- **Another parks levy:** This options is under discussion and evaluation by several groups
- **Connect with Seattle Parks Foundation funding efforts:** GSP is working in coordination with Seattle Parks Foundation. If the proposal for a Metro Parks District is pursued it would include additional funding for GSP.
- **Charging developers, such as mitigation measures, fees to remove trees goes to park restoration:** Possible Sound Transit funding for Thornton Creek area restoration.

Private Funding:

- **Carbon offset for businesses:** Forterra has been working with Pearl Jam to implement some carbon mitigation projects, two at Discovery Park over the past two years. Another program called C3 has been developed for businesses to fund trees for restoration projects or private lands (not a carbon offset program).
- **Explore opportunities with large private foundations:** We have had some significant foundation supporters in the past. GSP is establishing a Project Funding committee to pursue these sorts of ideas.
- **Corporate sponsoring and matching programs, (i.e. United Way giving program, Microsoft, Starbucks, etc.):** This is happening on a smaller project-by-project level with some Forest Steward/Friends Of groups, and individual implementing partner organizations, but not for GSP as an entity.