Be RainWise rebates for rain gardens & cisterns

Seattle Public Utilities

King County

Big Roof Case Study

Congregation Beth Shalom

6800 35th Ave NE

The rain garden brings beauty and function to the building.

Congregation Beth Shalom is located in northeast Seattle.

Contractor: HomeGrown Organics

Seven cisterns
One rain garden

9,241 ft^2 of roof captured

$30,806 rebated

Completed in 2019

Project Summary

Located in Bryant neighborhood of northeast Seattle, Congregation Beth Shalom is a participatory, egalitarian congregation affiliated with the United Synagogue for Conservative Judaism. They've cultivated a community which values diversity and engagement and nurtures ways to connect with one another. With these values in mind, they went through the RainWise program. Congregation Beth Shalom's RainWise installation includes seven cisterns and a beautiful rain garden, managing rainwater runoff from a total of over 9,000 square feet of roof area. The project

- keeps nearly 50,000 gallons of stormwater out of the combined sewer system every year,
- allows the synagogue community to be a part of the solution for stormwater pollution,
- captures and filters stormwater run-off from the roof, and
- protects Puget Sound from combined sewer system overflows.

The project was completed in April 2019, with a total of $30,806 covered by the RainWise rebate program.

For more information, please visit: rainwise.seattle.gov

Alternative Formats Available—Call 206-633-0224 or TTY:711

Congregation Beth Shalom

Project Specifications

Congregation Beth Shalom includes two sites that were eligible for RainWise: the main synagogue and an adjoining house. RainWise contractor, HomeGrown Organics, installed six cisterns and one rain garden to capture rainwater that falls on 8,504 square feet of the synagogue's roof. Most of the roof is captured by five 530-gallon cisterns and one 205-gallon cistern. The rain garden capture rainwater that falls on 1,113 square feet of roof, which overflows to the sidewalk. At the house, one 530-gallon cistern captures 737 square feet of rooftop. Once captured, the cistern overflows into the side sewer.

Two 530-gallon cisterns near the playground at Beth Shalom.

Two 530-gallon cisterns side by side capturing the large roof.

One 205-gallon cistern near an entrance.

An informational sign about the rain garden.

Environmental Stewardship

In May 2019, the RainWise Program celebrated Congregation Beth Shalom's commitment to clean water with a dedication and ribbon-cutting ceremony. The synagogue urges other faith-based organizations, school and community centers in eligible basins to take advantage of the RainWise program.

"The committee at Beth Shalom were a pleasure to work with. They were eager to move things forward and made decisions quickly."

John Coghlan, HomeGrown Organics

Project partners include synagogue leadership, City of Seattle staff, RainWise outreach staff and the creative design talents of the RainWise contractor, HomeGrown Organics. All stakeholders worked together to keep thousands of gallons of rainwater out of the sewer system each year.

About RainWise

RainWise is a joint program between Seattle Public Utilities and King County Wastewater Treatment Division that provides rebates for rain gardens and cisterns to private property owners in eligible areas. Rain gardens and cisterns help control stormwater, reducing sewer overflows and the erosion of hillsides and stream banks. We'll help you determine if your property qualifies.

For more information, please visit: rainwise.seattle.gov

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Case study completed by Urban Systems Design. Contact us at 206-678-2604 or email at Sonja.rainwise@gmail.com.