Be RainWise rebates for rain gardens & cisterns

Seattle Public Utilities

King County

Big Roof Case Study

Highland Park Elementary

1012 SW Trenton St, Seattle, WA 98106

Highland Park Elementary installed two RainWise rain gardens.

RainWise contractor, HomeGrown Organics, stands with other stakeholders that made the project possible.

Contractor: HomeGrown Organics

Two rain gardens

1,656 ft^2 of roof captured

$XX rebated

Completed in 2019

Project Summary

Located in the Highland Park neighborhood of south Seattle, Highland Park Elementary serves a diverse population of underserved children, with nearly 80 percent of students qualifying for the free and reduced-price lunch program. Highland Park Elementary's RainWise installation includes two rain gardens, managing rainwater runoff from a total of nearly 2,000 square feet of roof area. The project

- keeps 25,500 gallons of stormwater out of the combined sewer system every year,
- maintains a habitat for pollinators and native plants,
- provides an educational opportunity for students to learn about clean water, and
- protects the Duwamish Waterway from combined sewer system overflows.

The project was completed in September 2019, with a total of $XX covered by the RainWise rebate program.

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

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

Highland Park Elementary

Project Specifications

RainWise contractor, HomeGrown Organics, designed a site plan for Highland Park Elementary that includes two rain gardens installed in two triangular shaped lawns. Soil excavated for the rain gardens was then turned into a berm, similar to a terrace, creating a new, dynamic landscape. Rainwater falls onto the school's roof top, flows through downspouts and into the rain gardens. One rain garden captures 1,026 square feet of roof area, while the other captures 630 square feet. In very heavy rains, the larger rain garden overflows into the small rain garden, which overflows to the sidewalk and continues into a catch basin in the school's driveway. Together, the rain gardens capture rainwater from 1,656 square feet of roof area and keep 25,500 gallons out of the storm system every year.

The larger rain garden.

The smaller rain garden.

Students helped with the planting of the two rain gardens.

Environmental Education & Stewardship

Highland Park Elementary is the first school with Seattle Public Schools to go RainWise! Students helped HomeGrown Organics with the rain garden design and even helped plant most of the rain garden plants. This collaboration between stakeholders is one of the many reasons to become RainWise.

"We really enjoyed watching the students study Rain Garden plants and come up with their own design ideas."

John Coghlan, HomeGrown Organics

Project partners include school leadership, Seattle Public Schools, King County 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

RainWise
Seattle Public Utilities
King County

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