Puget Sound
Green Infrastructure Summit
Mountaineers Club, Seattle / 8:30am-5:30pm / February 16, 2017

Residential Retrofits on a Watershed Scale

Eli Mackiewicz
City of Bellingham

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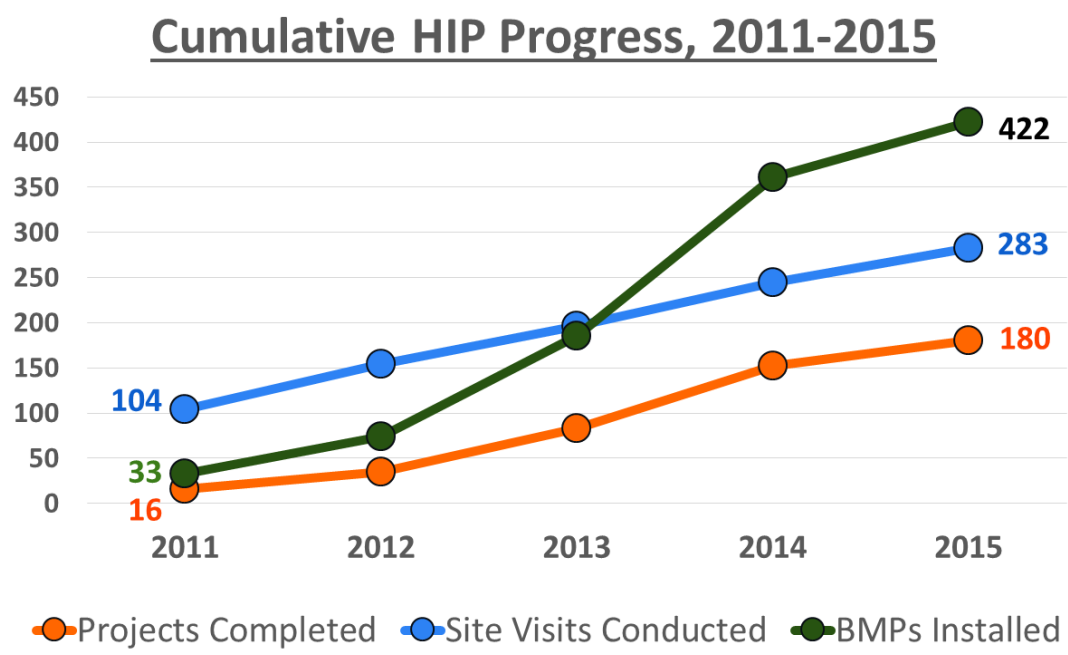
Lake Whatcom Homeowner Incentive Program (HIP)

HIP

Technical and financial assistance to encourage voluntary water quality retrofits on private property



Phosphorus Reduction
24 pounds per year

Flow Reduction
8 million gallons per year

Evolving from a pilot to a full-scale program

Audience Research

- ❑ Surveys
- ❑ Focus groups
- ❑ Staff experience / lessons learned
- ❑ Business interviews
- ❑ Technical Advisory Teams
- ❑ Outreach Advisory Team

Professional Sector Engagement

- ✓ Branding and Logo Development
- ✓ Landscape Design Examples
- ✓ Standard Details and Specifications
- ✓ Professional Certification Course
- ✓ Vendor/Supplier Training
- ✓ Website and Social Media

HIP Changes for 2017 Program Launch

Common Barriers

- ❑ Site Suitability
- ❑ Project Acceptance
- ❑ Cost
- ❑ Permitting/Construction Complexity
- ❑ Distrust of Government
- ❑ Messaging/Expectation Setting

Adopted Solutions

- ✓ Expand Program to New Areas
- ✓ Streamline Projects
- ✓ Revise Incentive Structure
- ✓ Focus Incentive on Highest Impact
- ✓ Certify Private Designers/Contractors
- ✓ Engage Most Trusted Messenger

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ECOSS

Bridging Cultural and Language Divides

Judith Panlasigui

ECOSS Fund Development

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The ECOSS Approach

- Addresses the imbalance of resources and services
- Hires from communities served
- Builds partnerships
- Connects residents, industry and governments
- Meaningful results from creative engagement

ecoss.org

Contractor Pool Expansion

- Promotes economic development in communities of color
- Overcomes barriers for contractors and communities
- Introduces new audiences to GSI solutions

ecoss.org

ECOSS

Sustainable Solutions for All

Demonstration Sites

- Community-driven teaching tools
- Engaging through knowledge and stewardship
- Creating valued community assets
- Active GSI solutions

ecoss.org

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From Research to Action:

A Social Justice Approach to Community Engagement

Andrew Schiffer, MA
bricktree66@gmail.com

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JustHealthAction

DUWAMISH RIVER CLEANUP COALITION
Technical Advisory Group

city habitats

Community Participation in Project Selection

- Participatory Learning In Action - an iterative process
- Community's concerns direct research
- Presented research and concrete, effective, realistic options for action
- Accessible to multiple language communities, age groups

Continuous Engagement

- ✓Regular community reports
- ✓Attended existing community meetings
- ✓Used multiple outreach methods
- ✓Hired community members and groups
- ✓Invited community to participate on planting day

Key Points for Working in EJ Communities

1. Never assume you know what is best, what they want, or what they need
2. Pay attention to the other battles the community is fighting
3. Listen to what the community is saying directly and indirectly
4. Be precise and brief with your information and your requests
5. Partner with community members and groups, and pay them for their time
6. Be conscious and respectful of the cultures of the community
7. Actions must reflect that you've listened to community input
8. Our next projects are driven by feedback we heard during this process

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Cultivating Green Infrastructure Careers

Cari Simson
Urban Systems Design
DIRT Corps

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Duwamish Infrastructure Restoration Training (DIRT Corps) provides on-the-job training for young adult workers, specifically encouraging **women, people of color, and underemployed adults** to join the program and then lead.

With a focus on equity and environmental justice, DIRT Corps teaches rain garden and cistern design/build, operations and maintenance (O&M), urban forestry, vegetation management and ecological restoration.

Developed as a community partnership program in 2015 to create year-round curriculum and run a paid training program, while also monitoring and maintaining green infrastructure sites

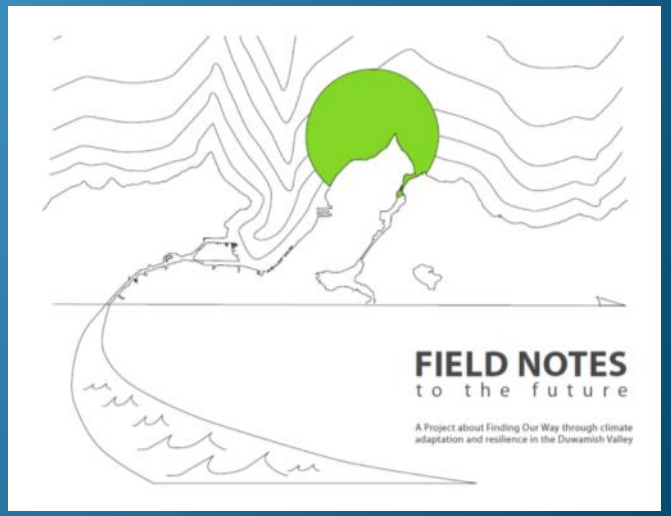
Participants can continue for multiple quarters, building skills towards becoming Crew Leaders and Project Coordinators.

DIRT Crew members have been hired by King County WTD, as well as local landscape and RainWise contractors.

DIRT Corps' experiential curriculum is project based:

- Ongoing care for the existing roadside rain gardens in Georgetown and South Park
- Design/build residential rain gardens/cisterns
- Hosting community events for forest stewardship
- Planning Hamm Creek restoration
- Designing Vegetated Walls

Field Notes to the Future (Summer 2016) connects people to historic and future landscapes of our bioregion; response to climate resilience



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URBAN SYSTEMS DESIGN

DUWAMISH INFRASTRUCTURE RESTORATION TRAINING

DIRT CORPS

community leadership. job training.