

Hedge for the Commons

is an interdisciplinary field studies campaign designed for students to discover the relationship between City, Wilderness, and the landscape in between. Specifically, students investigate the ecological footprint of their school campus and their broader community. Through their studies they gain insight into how our society affects the ecoregion; rural & urban communities; agricultural & timber lands; natural areas, parks, & open space; and wilderness. This fall, the Eugene Water & Electric Board, Friends of Hendricks Park, and Junction City School District supported field studies at Camas Ridge Elementary, Oaklea Middle School, the Outdoor High School, and Rachel Carson Center for Natural Resources. The campaign will continue for the duration of the school year.



2012 GOAL: integrate Eco-Arts with Field Studies

Building upon the success and evaluation of eight Eco-Arts residencies, implemented 2009-11, Camas and Lane Arts Council seek to improve the ways in which students discover and document observations of ecology with art. To accomplish this, the consulting ecologist will work more frequently with the students, essentially offering an artist-ecologist team to the school during the period of residency. We will pilot the revised residency at Oaklea Middle School (February-June) and Creslane Elementary (April-May).

2012 GOAL: establish TEN hedgerow gardens to improve existing school yard gardens in the metropolitan area

WHITE GARDEN: (2) 1.4X3' PLOTS:

- (3) POTENTILLA GLANDULOSA - PLANT 4" PLUGS, 18" O.C.
- (8) ACHILLEA MILLEFOLIUM - PLANT 4" PLUGS, 12" O.C.
- (3) PHILADELPHUS LEWISII - PLANT 2" BARE ROOT, 18" O.C.
- (7) ANAPHALIS MARGARITACEA - PLANT 4" PLUGS, 9" O.C.

INDIGO GARDEN: (1) 5X2' PLOT:

- (9) LUPINUS RIVULARIS - PLANT 4" PLUGS, 18" O.C.
- (3) SIBYRINCHUM IDAHOENSIS - PLANT 4" PLUGS, 9" O.C.
- (12) IRIS TENAX - PLANT 4" PLUGS, 12" O.C.
- (15) LUPINUS BICOLOR - PLANT 4" PLUGS, 12" O.C.
- + NEVARETTIA SQUAREGOSA - BROADCAST 1/2 OZ. OF SEED

YELLOW GARDEN: (1) 6X3' PLOT:

- (7) DANTHONIA CALIFORNICA - PLANT 4" PLUGS, 12" O.C.
- (6) MADRA SATIVA - PLANT 4" PLUGS, 6" O.C. IN 2 CLUSTERS
- (5) POTENTILLA GRACILIS - PLANT 4" PLUGS, 18" O.C.
- (3) EROPHYLLUM LANATUM - PLANT 1 GALLON PLUGS, 36" O.C.
- (6) ELYMUS TRACHYCAULIS - PLANT 4" PLUGS, 12" O.C. (PLANT ON SMALL MOUND APPROXIMATELY 9" TALL)
- (9) DESCHAMPSIA CESPIITOSA - PLANT 4" PLUGS, 12-18" O.C. + MINILUS GUTTATUS - BROADCAST 1/2 OZ. OF SEED (PLANT WITHIN AN EXCAVATED DEPRESSION - 3" DEEP)
- (7) ELYMUS GLAUDUS - PLANT 4" PLUGS, 24" O.C.
- (15) RANUNCULUS OCCIDENTALIS - PLANT 4" PLUGS, 12" O.C.
- (3) BALSAMORHIZA DELTOIDEA - PLANT 1 GAL. PLUGS, 18" O.C.
- (6) FESTUCA ROEMERI - PLANT 4" PLUGS, 12" O.C.
- (13) LOMATUM NUDICAULE - PLANT 1X5" PLUGS, 6" O.C.
- (5) WYETHIA ANGSTIFOLIA - PLANT 1 GAL. PLUGS, 12-15" O.C.
- (5) BROMUS CARINATUS - PLANT 4" PLUGS, 24" O.C.
- (21) MADRA ELEGENS - PLANT 4" PLUGS, 9" O.C. IN 7 CLUSTERS
- (9) SIDALCEA CAMPESTRIS - PLANT 4" PLUGS, 24" O.C.
- (10) URTICA DIOICA - PLANT 4" PLUGS, 24" O.C.
- (5) LUPINUS POLYPHYLLUS - PLANT 4" PLUGS, 18" O.C.

project spotlight: hedgerow garden plan for Jefferson Arts & Technology Academy

Objective: Increase garden productivity.

Objective: Conduct experiments to identify resource values of plants.

Objective: Quantify water use and implement water conservation strategies.

School Restoration Program: Phase I draws to a close in March 2012

In the fall of 2009, Camas initiated the School Restoration program to assist school districts to better steward their land. The program provided technical assistance to school districts located in the southern Willamette Valley to elevate development standards and spearhead the path toward sustainability. Under the umbrella of this program, staff and interns researched and profiled school district development trends during the period 2000-2010; created a database of geophysical and land use information to explain how conventional development practices impair ecosystem services; met with school district officials to advocate for alternative practices; hosted a water catchment design-build-teach workshop for educators and community partners; and collaborated with Oak Hill School to document site facilities, monitor site hydrology, investigate stream bed erosion, and map habitat on the school's 65 acre campus.

CHECK YOUR STATUS

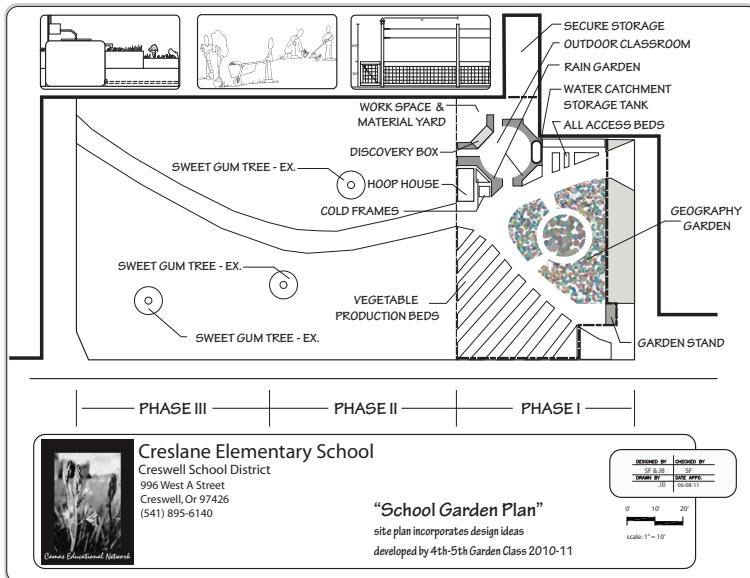


project spotlight: Oak Hill School

With site information in hand, we are now working to draft a Stewardship And Sustainability Plan to complement broader management of the school property. The plan will identify curriculum and instructional opportunities to advance student learning; improve stormwater management practices; specify a fail safe system to guard water quality from contamination should the septic system mis-function; and develop a habitat management plan for the school's campus to benefit critically endangered habitats including creeks and streams, prairie, savanna, wet prairie, and oak woodland.

School Restoration Program: PHASE II begins January 2012

In this next phase of the School Restoration Program, Camas will provide technical assistance to school districts in Benton, Lane, and/or Linn Counties to advance sustainable development and stewardship of school campuses through the development of programs that educate students, teachers, and administrators on how the school grounds affect ecosystem services. Camas will work with selected schools, including Camas Ridge Elementary, Clear Lake Elementary, Churchill High School, Creslane Elementary, and Oaklea Middle School to create site specific designs that enhance, restore, and maintain wildlife habitat; protect surface and ground water quality; and reduce water utilization.



project spotlight: CRESLANE elementary

Imagine the experience of entering an elementary school with a walk through a garden; the mystery of observing plants changing day by day - season by season, the excitement of witnessing strange insects flying about, the bounty of fresh fruits and vegetables ripening before their eyes... well for the students at Creslane Elementary School in Creswell, Oregon this will not be a dream but their everyday reality. With support from Camas, the Creslane Elementary School Garden club will move its gardening endeavors front and center to the lawn at the main entrance to the school.



Site work will begin with construction of a perimeter fence. Next we will retrofit the gutters to direct storm water collected from the school's roof to a storage tank located within the garden. Overflow from the tank will drain into a raised rain garden that will delineate an outdoor classroom where students will gather to discuss garden observations and plans, learn new techniques, and share skills with fellow students mastered while tending to their crops. We will utilize captured water to irrigate plants growing in cold frames and/or the small greenhouse(s) located on-site.

Fourth annual Martin Luther King Community Stewardship Work Party January 16, 2012 at Hendricks Park

As you may know, this January will mark the 4th annual MLK work party at Hendricks Park. A collaborative partnership between the Camas Educational Network, City of Eugene, Friends of Hendricks Park, Northwest Youth Corps - Americorps team, and the Outdoor High School. 75-100 volunteers from local high schools and the University of Oregon will work to remove English ivy (a noxious weed) blanketing the forest floor and control ivy within areas in the forest where it was previously removed.



Camas will partner with the City Of Creswell to promote the project and demonstrate alternative practices to manage storm water and foster habitat in an urban setting.