

City of Mercer Island

PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION

Thursday · November 7, 2019
Regular Meeting Agenda

6:30 pm Call to Order & Roll Call

6:35 pm Minutes of October 3, 2019 Meeting

6:40 pm Appearances

6:45 pm Regular Business

- | | |
|----------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Director's Report | Ryan Daly (15 min) |
| 2. Department Marketing & Communication Engagement | Lauren Chomiak (30 min) |
| 3. Pros Plan Survey Discussion | Ryan Daly (20 min) |
| 4. ADMP update | Ryan Daly (20min) |
| 5. Next Meeting: December 5, 2019 | Chair (5 min) |

8:15 pm Other Business

8:30 pm Adjourn (estimated)

BOARD MEMBERS

Rory Westberg, Chair
Jodi McCarthy, Vice Chair
Sara Berkenwald
Don Cohen
Lyn Gualtieri
Amy Richter
Vacant Position

STAFF

Ryan Daly, *Director (Interim)*
Tammy Bodmer, *Senior Administrative Assistant*

CITY COUNCIL LIAISON

Mayor Debbie Bertlin





PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES October 3, 2019

Call To Order:

Vice Chair McCarthy called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm at the Mercer Island Community and Event Center, 8236 SE 24th St., Mercer Island, WA 98040.

Roll Call:

Commissioners Don Cohen, Lyn Gualtieri, Amy Richter, and Jodi McCarthy were present. Commissioners Kirk Robinson, Rory Westberg, and Sara Berkenwald were absent.

Mayor Bertlin was absent.

Staff present were Ryan Daly, Parks and Recreation Interim Director; Sarah Bluvas, Arts & Culture Coordinator; Zach Houvener, Interim Recreation Manager; CJ Stanford, Recreation Supervisor; Merrill Thomas-Schadt, Reservations and Customer Service Supervisor; and Paul West, Capital Projects & Planning Manager.

Minutes

Minutes from 9/5/19 meeting were presented. Commissioner Cohen motioned to accept the minutes and Commissioner Richter seconded the motion. Minutes were approved unanimously.

Appearances:

No appearances.

Regular Business:

Director Daly requested to adjust the agenda order to give his Director's Report later in the evening to allow time for set-up and staff to leave early.

1. Update on Mercer Island Community and Event Center and Recreation Programs

Houvener, Stanford, and Thomas-Schadt presented about recreation programs, Community Center operations/rentals, and field/park facility rentals.

2. Director's Report

Director Daly gave the director's report.

- Acknowledged Kirk Robinson's absence
- Skate Park vandalism
- Upcoming Parks & Recreation events
 - Arbor Day on Saturday, October 19, at Homestead Park, 9 am-2 pm
 - Halloween Spooktacular Senior Lunch, Thursday, October 31, at Mercer Island Community and Event Center, 12-1:30 pm
- Upcoming community events
 - Pumpkin Walk on Sunday, October 27
 - Tree Lighting – Still in development
- PROS Plan

3. Aubrey Davis Park Master Plan Open House #3 Recap and Next Steps

West presented major takeaways and feedback from the last open house and online survey. City Council will review the draft master plan at a study session on October 15, 5-6:30 pm, at Council Chambers.

Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 7, at 6:30 pm, at the Mercer Island Community and Event Center.

Other Business:

- Reminder to report volunteer hours

Adjournment: 8:16 pm

CITY OF MERCER ISLAND

Parks & Recreation Department

9611 SE 36TH STREET | MERCER ISLAND, WA 98040

PHONE: 206.275.7870 | www.mercergov.org



Title:

Parks Recreation & Open Space Plan- Community Survey Review

To: Parks & Recreation Commission

From: Ryan Daly, Interim Director

Date: Oct. 31, 2019

BACKGROUND

In September 2019 the Parks and Recreation Department, in collaboration with the Parks and Recreation Commission begin the process of producing an updated Parks, Recreation and Open Space (PROS) Plan. The current plan expires in December of 2019. This is a six-year plan that anticipates the programming and capital projects necessary to meet the community's needs for parks, recreation, and open space, as well as trails, arts, and cultural events. To begin the PROS plan process, Conservation Technix was selected as a consultant through the City's request for qualifications processes to provide deliverables in regards to the PROS Plan.

This updated community driven plan will help guide the City in providing parks and recreation services in our community and map out priorities for the next 5-10 years. This plan is a requirement for the city's eligibility for grant funding through the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) and must be updated every six years. From 2014-2019, we received \$673,000 in grant funds through the RCO.

Community Survey

The PROS plan is a community driven plan that will evaluate the needs of the community. An initial method of engagement will be administering a community survey. This survey will ask questions regarding park amenities, usage, programs, demographics, and availability of services.

Working closely with staff and the Parks and Recreation Commission, Conservation Technix will design and implement a mixed sample mail- and online based survey to identify general community sentiment and preferences, needs, demand and the general use of parks and

recreation facilities. This tool will inform and guide the initial direction and development of the Plan. The survey will be prepared for mail distribution. A random sample of 2,500 residents will be gathered using a random address sample from a third-party consumer address firm for the mail survey. Reminder postcards and phone calls will follow to ensure response. The goal is to have at least 300 surveys completed by resident households to ensure a statistically valid sampling.

Additionally, a parallel online version of the mailed survey will be prepared for the general public and segregate the datasets. Conservation Technix will compile and analyze the data and prepare summary findings as a technical memorandum to highlight key subgroup responses (age, gender, etc.) and core attitudes toward parks and recreation issues.

Additional details:

- Two separate SurveyMonkey collectors (each with unique web link) – one is the for the mail survey and another is for the general community-wide survey
- The printed mail survey will show a QR code that directs recipients to the mail-version of the SurveyMonkey survey; the printed mail survey also shows a unique URL (miprosplan.com) which is a re-direct to the mail-version of the SurveyMonkey survey. That URL will serve no other purpose in this project.
- The printed mail survey also will show a unique ID# that recipients will need to enter when they initiate an online response in SurveyMonkey. These ID#s are unique to each of the 2500 randomly selected addresses, so Conservation Technix can cross-check to see if there are duplicates or illegitimate entries.
- Once a mail survey respondent initiates the online SurveyMonkey survey, they have two forced questions to answer before they start the actual parks survey questions. Q1 asks whether they received a print version in the mail (Y/N). If Yes, then the next required question asks for the unique ID# from the printed survey. Once this is entered, they begin the parks survey. If the respondent answers No to the first question, they are immediately redirected to the community-wide, online only SurveyMonkey survey site. It looks identical and is seamless.
- Internet Protocol (IP) address tracking enabled, and Conservation Technix can sort the data for responses from the same IP address, if need be
- We have the “multiple responses” option turned off – meaning that once a respondent completes the survey from their IP address, they cannot take it again.

NEXT STEPS:

Staff requests the following:

1. Parks & Recreation Commissioners review the attached survey questions (Exhibit 1).
2. Consider any public comment.
3. Provide direction to staff regarding recommendations or changes to the survey questions.
4. Staff will return on December 5th with final survey draft for Commission approval.

Exhibit 1- PROS PLAN SURVEY DISCUSSION**Dear Mercer Island Resident:**

The City of Mercer Island is kicking off a community-led process to update its citywide Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Plan (PROS Plan). With your participation, this Plan will help guide the City in providing parks and recreation services in the community. As an initial step in the process, the City is conducting this short, random-sample survey to assess the community's recreation and facility needs. Additional public engagement, including another survey available community-wide, will follow, and final review of the Plan is tentatively targeted for the end of 2020. Your participation is important to the City.

The survey has 21 questions and will only take a few minutes to complete.

Thank you in advance for participating!

1. When you think about the things that contribute to the quality of life in Mercer Island, would you say that public parks and recreation opportunities are... (CHECK ONE OPTION)

Essential to the quality of life here
Important, but not really essential
More of a luxury that we don't need
Don't Know

2. When it comes to meeting your needs for parks, amenities and activities, would you say there are... (CHECK ONLY ONE BOX IN EACH ROW)

	More than Enough	About the Right Amount	Not Enough	Don't Know
Parks with playgrounds, sports areas, restrooms	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Walking / biking trails	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sport fields & sport courts	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Shoreline access	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Forested open space	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Indoor recreational facilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Community events (such as Movies in the Park)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Recreation programs (camps & classes)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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3. How often do you visit or use a city park or recreation facility, including Community Center?

At least once a week

Two or three times a month

About once a month

Two or three times over the year

Did not visit a park / facility

Don't know

4. What would you say are the main reasons you visited Mercer Island parks and open spaces this year? (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)

Fitness

Trails

Playgrounds

Sport fields

Sport courts

Beach / Waterfront

Boating

Fishing

Dog walking

Mercer Island Community & Event Center

Community events / concerts

Family gatherings / picnics

Private event / celebration

Farmers market

Relaxation

Wildlife viewing

Class, camp or league activity

Public meeting

Public art viewing

N/A - I didn't go to Mercer Island parks or open spaces this year

Other: _____

5. Please CHECK ALL the reasons why your household does not use City of Mercer Island parks or facilities more often.

Parks do not have the right equipment

Parks and facilities are not well maintained

Concerned about interactions with off-leash dogs

Inaccessible for my physical abilities

Do not feel safe in park or facility

Parks and sport courts are too crowded

Parks are too far from my home

Too busy to go to parks and facilities

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Use parks or facilities provided by another city, organization or private club

I do not know what is offered

None / I regularly use local parks or recreation facilities

Other: _____

6. Please indicate how well your household needs are met locally AND if you have a need for more of each of the following park and recreation amenities.

	Very Well Met	Somewhat Met	Fully Unmet	Have Need for More	Have No Need
Picnic shelters / Small gathering spaces	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Multi-use walking & biking trails	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Off-leash dog areas (enclosed dog parks)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Sport fields for soccer, football & lacrosse	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Sport fields for baseball / softball	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Basketball courts	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Paddle / Racquet sport courts (tennis, pickleball)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
All-inclusive playground equipment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Indoor fitness and exercise facilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Adventure sport facilities, such as climbing, parkour	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
BMX / Pump track	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Skate park	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Outdoor water spray parks / splash pads	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

7. Rate your satisfaction with the overall value your household receives from the City of Mercer Island for parks and recreation amenities.

Very Satisfied

Somewhat Satisfied

Somewhat Dissatisfied

Very Dissatisfied

Don't Know

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8. From the following list, please CHECK ALL the organizations that you or members of your household have used for parks, recreation facilities and program offerings during the past year.

Mercer Island parks & facilities
 King County parks
 State or Federal parks / lands
 School facilities
 Youth sports associations
 Stroum Jewish Community Center
 Mercer Island Boys & Girls Club
 Homeowners association/apt. complex
 Neighboring communities
 Private Clubs (golf, tennis)
 Health Clubs (fitness)
 Church / faith center facilities
 None
 Other: _____

9. Please indicate if your household has an interest in each of the programs or activities below, **AND** for each you marked as having an interest, please indicate how well your needs are met locally.

Type of Program / Activity	Do you have interest?		If you have interest, how well met are your needs for each?		
	Yes	No	Very Well Met	Somewhat Met	Not At All Met
Children's activities, such as supervised after-school & summer day camps	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teen activities, such as drop-in facilities, trips & camps during school breaks	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Youth activities, such as fitness, music, arts & crafts	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Youth sports programs and camps during school breaks	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Programs for youth, teens and young adults with special needs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Performing arts / community theater / concerts	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Programs for adults 55 and over, such as drop-in activities, trips & health	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Educational classes, such as technology, natural history, safety & health	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Adult sports leagues, such as soccer & softball	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Adult classes, such as art, crafts & music, fitness classes & wellness	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Swimming & water safety, such as classes and for fitness	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sailing & boating programs and outdoor classes	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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10. Below is a list of improvements and facilities that may be considered in the new Plan. Each one would be funded by your tax dollars. For each item, indicate whether you think that type of facility should be a Top Priority, a High Priority, a Low Priority, or Not a Priority at all. Costs are estimated as: \$ (somewhat expensive); \$\$ (moderate); \$\$\$ (very expensive)

	Top Priority	High Priority	Low Priority	Not a Priority
Acquire open space next to Pioneer Park / Engstrom Open Space (\$\$\$)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Install synthetic turf at Island Crest Park South (\$\$)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Repair and renovate older parks, such as Roanoke Park and Slater Park (\$\$)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Complete Upper Luther ravine trail or construct Hollerbach trail (\$\$)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Renovate an existing beach restroom or add new restroom at Aubrey Davis Park off West Mercer Way (\$\$\$)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Repair and renovate the waterfront docks and boiler house at Luther Burbank Park (\$\$)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Develop additional group picnic shelters (\$)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Develop walking trails through open space that link to other trails (\$\$)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Expand recreation programs for youth and teens (\$\$)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Renovate/improve access to existing beaches (\$\$\$)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

11. Currently the City provides access to the Mercer Island Community and Event Center and park facilities for certain groups at reduced or no cost. How supportive are you of the City offering reduced cost or no cost access to these facilities?

Very Supportive
Somewhat Supportive
Somewhat Unsupportive
Not at All Supportive
Don't Know

12. From the following list, please CHECK ALL the Parks & Recreation special community events you and members of your household value and would participate in?

Summer Celebration Festival
Mostly Music in the Park concerts

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Movies in the Park
Shakespeare in the Park
Egg Hunt
Holiday Lights/Firehouse Munch
Argosy Holiday Ships
Leap for Green Sustainable Fair
Senior Events & Lunches
Themed Family Nights
Fun Run

13. Please check ALL the ways you would prefer to learn about Mercer Island's parks, recreation facilities, programs and special events?

City website
Mercer Island Weekly (City e-news)
Facebook
Instagram
Mercer Island Reporter
Parks & Recreation Guide publication
Parks & Recreation e-newsletter
NextDoor
Flyers at City facilities
Community event signs
None
Other: _____

The following questions help us understand whether we have a cross-section of the community responding to this survey. It's important that you provide a response to each question. Please remember your answers are confidential.

14. How many children under age 18 live in your household?

0
1
2
3 or more

15. What is your age?

Younger than 20
20 to 34
35 to 44
45 to 54

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55 to 64
65 and older

16. If you are a Mercer Island resident, how long have you lived on the Island?

0 - 5 years
6 - 20 years
20 - 40 years
40+ years

17. Using the map, in which section of Mercer Island do you live?

(A) North of SE 40th
(B) Between SE 40th and SE 68th
(C) South of SE 68th
Don't live on Mercer Island

CITY OF MERCER ISLAND

Parks & Recreation Department

9611 SE 36TH STREET | MERCER ISLAND, WA 98040

PHONE: 206.275.7870 | www.mercergov.org



Title:

Herbicide Use on Mercer Island

To: Parks & Recreation Commission

From: Ryan Daly, Interim Director

Date: Oct. 31, 2019

BACKGROUND

Staff has received communications regarding concerns in the application and reasoning for the use of herbicide in open space and park areas. The following is a brief overview which explains the reasoning and protocols for utilization of this restoration tool. Staff plans to provide a comprehensive overview in the future of our open space management practices.

Herbicide Use on Mercer Island

The City of Mercer Island is home to over 300 acres of forested parks and open spaces. Mercer Island Parks and Recreation's Open Space Vegetation Management program works to ensure the ecological health and sustainability of these natural areas which includes forests, ravines, watercourses, wetlands, and shoreline. Like most of the Puget Sound region, Mercer Island was historically dominated by a diverse conifer forest, however Mercer Island's open spaces have been significantly altered over the last 150 years by urbanization, forest clearing, agricultural development, and road construction. The remaining forests and natural areas were in degraded condition, and native plant communities and healthy ecological functions have been displaced by exotic invasive species and depleted soils.

INVASIVE PLANT IMPACTS – IF WE DO NOTHING

The problems associated with non-native invasive plants persist today. English ivy vines create dense carpets that outcompete native plants for nutrients and sunlight. In addition, ivy climbs up trees and chokes out the canopy - causing limbs to break under their weight. Himalayan

blackberry thickets are especially aggressive, creating ‘monocultures’ that decrease the diversity of habitat and food sources available to Pacific Northwest wildlife. Invasive trees such as English holly and cherry laurel also create thickets and threaten the future tree canopy of the Island. As non-native invasive plants replace native plant communities, they reduce the environmental benefits a healthy forest provides such as shading and cooling, erosion control, stormwater retention, and carbon sequestration. If invasive species are allowed to spread unmanaged, Mercer Island will be left with a shrinking tree canopy and a desert of ivy and blackberry.

RESTORATION APPROACH

For over 15 years, Mercer Island Parks and Recreation has been working to remove invasive weeds from the Island’s open spaces and replant with native trees and shrubs. This process, known as ecological restoration, keeps invasive plants from taking over and allows forested open spaces to recover. Native soils have also been heavily impacted from development and land clearing, resulting in poor soil conditions and depleted stores of native seeds that would ordinarily contribute to forest regeneration. To address this, native plant installation and mulching is an important component of our restoration efforts.

INVASIVE REMOVAL AND TREATMENT

Invasive weed removal is primarily accomplished through manual removal practices such as cutting and removal of roots. Large-scale and technical projects are accomplished by professional restoration crews hired by the City. The City also hires EarthCorps and Mountains to Sound Greenway to oversee the management of volunteer work parties. Volunteers manually remove invasive plants, install native trees and shrubs, and mulch in easily accessible upland forest sites of select parks. In addition, the Parks and Recreation department supports a small forest steward program of individuals doing work in their neighborhood parks.

Although the majority of invasive plant removal is accomplished through manual techniques, there are very distinct and limited instances where the use of herbicides is far more effective, efficient, and less impactful on the environment than manual removal. Most of the City’s herbicide work is accomplished through injection or a cut/paint application. Only a very small percentage of our herbicide applications involve foliar spray. In all aspects of herbicide use, staff and contractors are very targeted in the application and follow best practices to avoid off-target exposure to park users, pets, native plants, pollinators, and wildlife. City staff and contractors are licensed by, and follow all safety protocols set by, the Washington State Department of Agriculture for herbicide application.

In addition to adhering to strict safety protocols, the City only uses aquatic formulations of herbicide. For example, when the use of glyphosate (the active ingredient in Roundup) is the best fit for the target plant, the City uses an aquatic formulation of glyphosate that contains no surfactants. A surfactant is a chemical additive to herbicides that helps the herbicide stick to the leaves, which increases a plant’s uptake. POEA (i.e. polyethoxylated tallow amine) is a

surfactant known to be harmful to aquatic organisms, including amphibians, at high concentrations. For this reason, the City has elected to eliminate the use of POEA. In many cases, the City adds an aquatic-approved surfactant to their treatments to ensure the treatments have maximum efficacy.

Instances where the City may use herbicide include:

1. When manual removal contributes to further spread of the invasive plant population. Examples include yellow archangel and knotweed which regenerate and spread from root and stem fragments.
2. Invasive trees such as English holly, cherry laurel, and one-seeded hawthorn. Cutting alone does not eradicate these invasive trees. These species easily regenerate from cut stems.
3. To avoid soil disturbance on steep slopes or other critical areas.

The City of Mercer Island forest restoration program is deeply committed to protecting and enhancing the ecological health and sustainability of our parks and open spaces. Staff use the best available science and practice, and value the community which we serve.

For more information about the City's forest restoration program and how the City uses herbicide, please check out the following websites:

- [Q&A of the Day – How is herbicide used by the City?](http://www.mercergov.org/Page.asp?NavID=3271#Herbicide)
<http://www.mercergov.org/Page.asp?NavID=3271#Herbicide>
- [Mercer Island Open Space Vegetation Plan 10-Year Evaluation and Update](http://www.mercergov.org/Page.asp?NavID=2776)
<http://www.mercergov.org/Page.asp?NavID=2776>
- [Mercer Island Parks and Recreation – Natural Resources Program](http://www.mercergov.org/Page.asp?NavID=1515)
<http://www.mercergov.org/Page.asp?NavID=1515>
- [Noxious Weeds in King County](https://www.kingcounty.gov/services/environment/animals-and-plants/noxious-weeds.aspx)
<https://www.kingcounty.gov/services/environment/animals-and-plants/noxious-weeds.aspx>

NEXT STEPS:

Staff requests the following:

1. Receive information.
2. Address questions to staff in preparation for Dec. 5th Commission Meeting.
 - a. Staff will be presenting on Natural Resource Management

NOTICE OF HERBICIDE APPLICATION

This area has been treated with

Date: _____ Time: _____

Targeted plant: _____

Application Method: ☐ Injection ☐ Cut/Paint ☐ Foliar



For more information
please call 206.275.7882



INVASIVE TREE CONTROL IN PIONEER PARK

- Invasive trees such as **ENGLISH HOLLY** and **CHERRY LAUREL** compete with our native trees for vital resources, while altering the habitat birds and wildlife need to thrive.
- Manual methods have limited efficacy and can create unwanted disturbance in a sensitive ecosystem.
- Through careful chemical control of these undesirable trees, in conjunction with contracted and volunteer efforts to remove other invasive species, we can help restore the coniferous forest that makes Pioneer Park so special!

Do these **brass shells** look familiar?



DON'T TOUCH!

With the use of a spring-loaded injection device, these little brass shells (containing a dry, stable form of herbicide) are inserted directly into the base of unwanted trees.

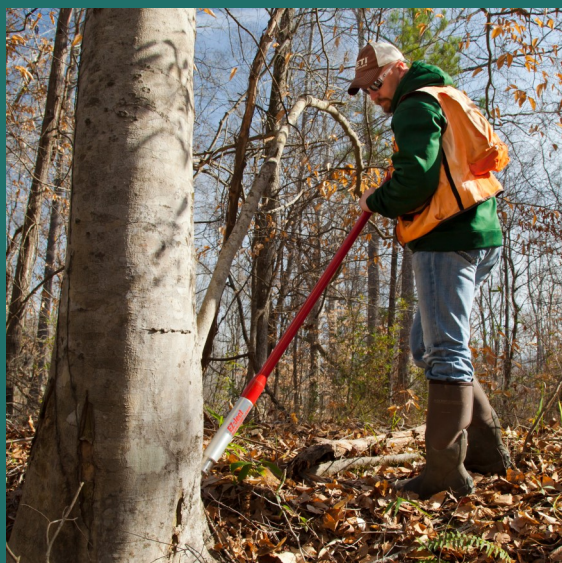


The chemical rapidly absorbs into the roots, kills the tree, and makes way for native restoration re-planting!



Questions? Please contact Kim Frappier, Natural Resources Specialist, at kim.frappier@mercergov.org

Herbicide treatment with the **EZ-Ject Lance** is...



SAFER for the applicator and park patrons,

SELECTIVE to the targeted tree, avoiding injury to nearby native plants,

EFFECTIVE via direct absorption through the trunk down to the roots, and an

EFFICIENT use of time and resources, eliminating waste and allowing for year-round, all-weather treatment.