



City of Mercer Island
Public Works Department
9601 S.E. 36th Street
Mercer Island, WA 98040

ACTIVITY IN THE AREA

Date: April 10th — December 2024

Time: 7 AM — 7 PM

Location: Select Parks and Public Rights-of-way



For more information please visit the City website:
www.mercerisland.gov/ivyirings

Good Afternoon,

The City of Mercer Island would like to inform you that City contractors (Olson Environmental) will be performing invasive weed work in select parks, open spaces, and public rights-of-way in the coming months. English Ivy (*Hedera helix*) thrives in the Pacific Northwest to the great detriment of our native species. This vine creeps over low-to-the-ground plants, smothering all competition, and given a tall enough tree to climb, it can reach over 100 feet into the air. The excess weight and leaf mass high in native trees make them susceptible to windthrow. Ivy roots make the soil inhospitable for new seed germination through a process called allelopathy - changing the soil chemistry. The result is the loss of native tree canopy through harming existing trees and making it difficult for new trees to succeed.

Contractors will work only in the public rights of way and park properties, not on private property. They create “Ivy Survival Rings” where ivy vines are cut off from the lower section of a tree, severing the ivy from the roots and causing it to eventually die. Ivy roots are manually dug out from the base of the tree—no pesticides are used in this process. This technique is easy to replicate in your own yard if you have an ivy problem!

If you have questions about this work contact: Urban.forestry@mercerisland.gov or our customer service line at 206-275-7600.

This information can be made available on request to accommodate people with disabilities and those who need translation assistance.
Esta información puede estar disponible a pedido conforme a las necesidades de personas con discapacidad o aquellas que requieran de servicio de traducción.
Эта информация может быть предоставлена по запросу для размещения людей с ограниченными возможностями, а также тех, кому требуется помощь переводчика.
可根據要求提供這些資訊，以幫助殘障人士和需要翻譯協助的人士。