



MEMORANDUM

Phone: 452-5377
Date: May 7, 2012
To: Mayor Lee and City Councilmembers
From: Patrick Foran, Director 
Subject: Bellevue Public Gardens Day

This year, in celebration of National Public Gardens Day, the City and Bellevue Botanical Garden Society will host several activities to facilitate public awareness of and involvement with Bellevue Botanical Garden.

Monday, May 11: Bellevue Public Gardens Day

At the May 7 Council meeting, Mayor Lee will declare May 11 as Bellevue Public Gardens Day, in keeping with National Public Gardens Day. National Public Gardens Day is an annual celebration of the nation's public gardens to raise awareness of the important role botanical gardens play in promoting environmental stewardship, plant and water conservation, green spaces, and education in communities nationwide. Like many public gardens around the nation, Bellevue Botanical Garden will celebrate with fun activities throughout the weekend.

Saturday, May 12: Washington Native Plant Society Sale

The community is invited to learn about native plants that thrive in Bellevue home gardens, 10am-4pm at Bellevue Botanical Garden.

Sunday, May 13: Ravine Grand Opening Celebration

At 12:30pm, City Councilmembers and the Bellevue Botanical Garden Society will join the community and generous donors in celebrating the grand opening of the "Ravine Experience.... take a walk on the wild side!": a new nature trail crossing a deep ravine into the most pristine of our wild spaces. A 150' suspension bridge spans the ravine, allowing visitors to observe unique topography, native understory, wildlife, and soaring conifers without disturbing the forest floor. Funded through a combination of private donations and 2008 Bellevue Parks and Open Space Levy funds, this project is the first of several botanical garden improvements planned during the 2008 Master Plan Update. We will meet at the entrance to the new suspension bridge, accessible from the Lost Meadow Trail. Please dress for the weather and wear comfortable walking shoes.

Sunday, May 13: Mother's Day Social

Immediately following the Ravine Grand Opening, we will honor mothers at the Bellevue Botanical Garden Society's Annual Mother's Day Social, from 1-4pm in the Shorts Visitor Center. This free community event is a great time to enjoy flowers in bloom, refreshments, and music by Interlake High School.

We hope you can join us in celebration of this year's special events.

cc: Parks & Community Services Board

CITY OF BELLEVUE, WASHINGTON

PROCLAMATION

Whereas: The City of Bellevue is dedicated to providing educational opportunities that achieve greater environmental awareness, appreciation, and stewardship of our natural, cultural, and historical resources; and

Whereas: The citizens of Bellevue wish to reside in an area with a healthy environment, and comfortable, secure places for people to live, work, and play; and

Whereas: Public gardens are indispensable as places to recreate, learn responsible gardening practices to protect the environment, and observe the beauty of nature; and

Whereas: Public gardens enhance the City's economic vitality and beautify our community; and

Whereas: National Public Gardens Day is an annual celebration of the nation's public gardens to raise awareness of the important role botanical gardens play in promoting environmental stewardship, plant and water conservation, green spaces, and education in communities nationwide; and

Whereas: The Bellevue Botanical Garden is an award-winning public garden celebrating its 20th Anniversary; and

Whereas: The Bellevue Botanical Garden is free and accessible to the citizens of Bellevue year-round;

Now, therefore, I, Conrad Lee, Mayor of the City of Bellevue, Washington on behalf of the City Council do hereby proclaim May 11, 2012 as:

Public Gardens Day

in Bellevue, and encourage citizens to observe this time by visiting Bellevue Botanical Garden to enjoy the beauty of the gardens while learning about the garden's commitment to education and environmental stewardship.

Conrad Lee
Mayor