

# Newsplash

FALL 2014



## Salmon Watchers

### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

It's almost that time of year again when salmon return to our local streams to spawn. Join us at a Salmon Watcher Workshop to learn more about our local salmon. You can also sign up to volunteer to help monitor them for the fall.

#### **New to the program? We'll teach you:**

- How to identify the salmon species you may see in our region
- What salmon look for in stream habitat
- What you can do in your daily life to help salmon

#### **Alumni, come for a refresher course!**

Then, if you would like to sign up to watch for salmon and collect data during the fall spawning season, we'll get you all set up.

As a volunteer, visit your stream twice a week for at least 15 minutes, record what you see, and mail in your data from September through December. The information helps us learn more about how salmon use our local streams, monitor fish use of restoration sites, and support professional salmon monitoring and recovery efforts.

*THINK THEY  
SPOTTED US?*



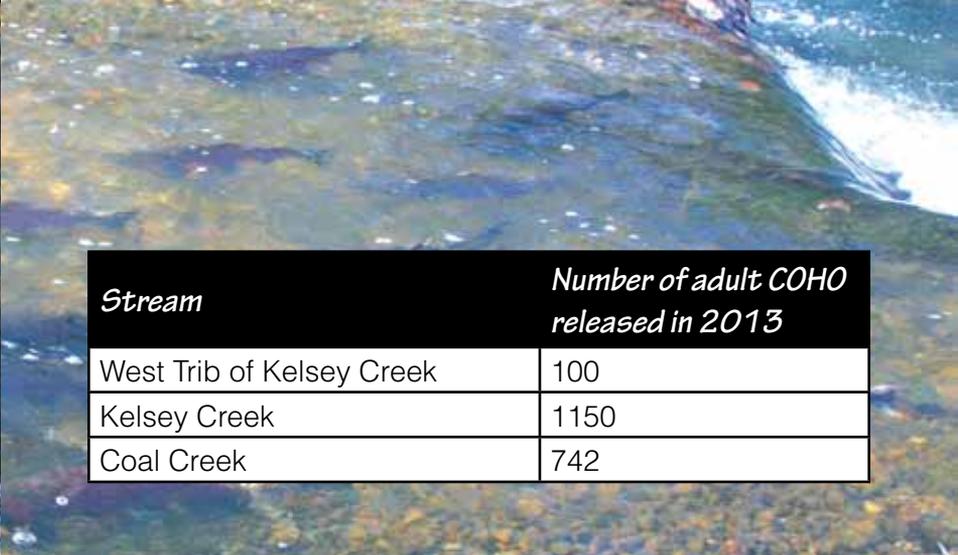
#### **Just attend ONE of our classroom trainings.**

No experience necessary. Registration appreciated but not required. Contact Stream Team to register or ask questions at [streamteam@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:streamteam@bellevuewa.gov) or 425-452-5200.

#### **All trainings are 7-9 p.m.**

- Tuesday, September 9, Renton City Hall \*
- Thursday, September 11, Woodinville City Hall
- **Tuesday, September 16, Bellevue City Hall**
- Wednesday, September 24, Carkeek Park Environmental Learning Center

*\*We're trying something new with the Renton training this year. We will be adding special information about the Cedar River and more about what folks can do at home to help protect water quality and salmon.*



<i>Stream</i>	<i>Number of adult COHO released in 2013</i>
West Trib of Kelsey Creek	100
Kelsey Creek	1150
Coal Creek	742

## Fish by the Truckload

**H**ow do you get 100 adult salmon in your stream in less than 30 seconds? The Muckleshoot fish truck delivers! In late November, 2013, the City worked with the Muckleshoot Tribal Fisheries Department and the State Department of Fish and Wildlife to release 1892 coho from the Issaquah Hatchery into Bellevue streams.

The City of Bellevue has made extensive improvements to Kelsey and Coal Creeks over the last decade and this was a great opportunity to encourage salmon to use the improved habitat. Our salmon numbers have been low,

especially for coho, so we were excited to foster this partnership.

If all went well, eggs from those fish have hatched and the fry will live in our streams for a year before migrating to the Pacific Ocean. In two to three years, the adult fish will return to the same Bellevue streams where they were born.

The fish delivery is also a unique way to bring essential nutrients from the ocean to our streams. Each salmon has spent a few years in saltwater bulking up on carbon, nitrogen, and phosphorus from the ocean. When they die after

spawning, their carcasses offer a boost of nutrition to the local food web.

If the Issaquah Hatchery continues to have a surplus of fish, we will hopefully continue to get these special deliveries. While salmon still face a lot of challenges in our urban streams, perhaps all of our hard work will pay off one day in the future and more coho will return here all on their own. For now, we appreciate the work that the Tribe and State are doing to help keep salmon spawning in Bellevue streams.

## Earth Day Update

On May 3rd, Stream Team volunteers gathered along Kelsey Creek to restore the banks with native plants where Utilities had done a Capital Improvement Project the previous summer.

**30 VOLUNTEERS**

**73 HOURS** (of volunteer time donated)

**410 PLANTS** (dogwoods, sword ferns, and Oregon grape)



# Congratulations!

## You have waterfront property

Sure, they're not as pretty as our local streams and lakes, but storm drains deliver water directly to them, every time it rains. Without treatment many storm drains are marked with a disk that says they drain to our local streams and lakes. Dirty car wash water, pet waste, yard chemicals, and vehicle leaks all pollute our local water bodies and Puget Sound. All of these problems add up fast in urban areas. Your choices make a difference!



Here's the good news: *peer pressure works*. Sure, there are folks out there who won't listen to anyone, but studies show that your family, friends, and neighbors generally care about what you think, especially of them! Be a good example and talk to others.

- Tell them how awesome it is that commercial car washes treat their water instead of sending it to our streams and lakes untreated.
- Share a pet waste bag to protect water quality.
- Pull a lawn chair up to your nearest storm drain and talk to folks who pass by about how important it is that only rain goes down our storm drains.

OK, maybe that last one is going too far, but anything you can do to encourage others to protect water quality is appreciated. People listen to you more than you might think.



## Volunteer in Bellevue's Waterwise Demonstration Garden

Why join? Adult volunteers keep the garden blooming for visitors and in return:

- Learn natural gardening techniques that can be used in their own garden.
- Get hands-on experience planting, soil building, composting, and caring for plants through the growing season.
- Meet people who share an interest in gardening and being outdoors.
- Have fun while contributing to resource conservation goals.

Volunteer days are the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month from 1-3 p.m. from spring to fall. No experience necessary— just a willingness to dig in and have fun growing. The garden is located within the Bellevue Botanical Garden at 12001 Main Street.

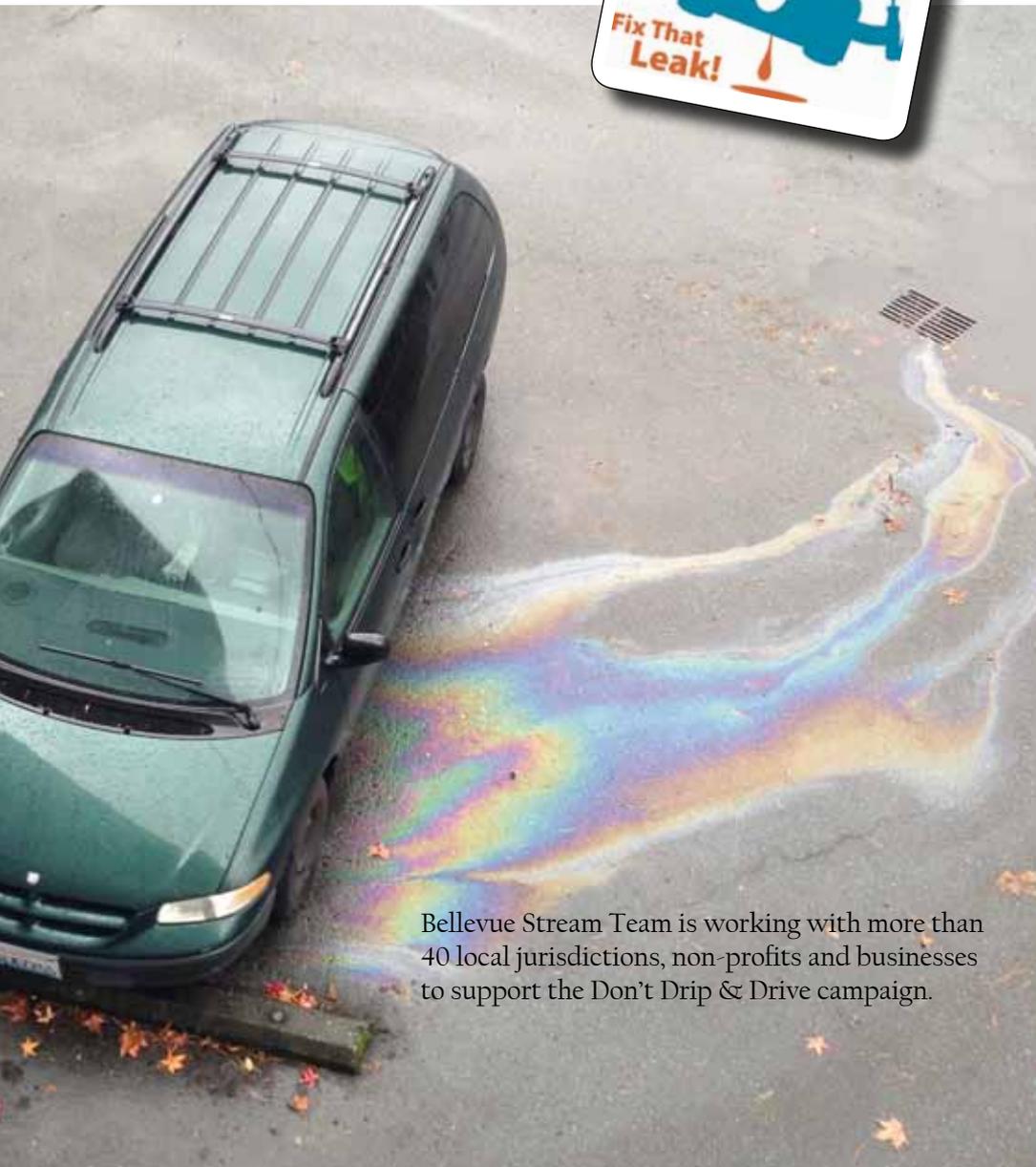
To learn more, contact Patricia Burgess at [pburgess@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:pburgess@bellevuewa.gov) or call 425-452-4127.



# Don't Drip & Drive

Don't miss your chance for a free vehicle leak inspection! Improve your car's safety and reliability by checking for vehicle leaks. This July through September, visit any participating repair shop and get a free visual leak check, at a value up to \$80! And if repairs are needed, it's 10 percent off (up to \$50). That's a total savings up to \$130! See participating shops in Bellevue at right, and more around Puget Sound at [www.fixcarleaks.org](http://www.fixcarleaks.org).

The more you wait the more you're losing. Take advantage of this limited offer—it's free and it's easy! Visit [www.fixcarleaks.org](http://www.fixcarleaks.org) to find a participating mechanic near you!



Bellevue Stream Team is working with more than 40 local jurisdictions, non-profits and businesses to support the Don't Drip & Drive campaign.

**Bellevue Auto Service & Electric**  
14320 NE 21st St  
Bellevue, WA 98007  
(425) 747-6800

**Autohaus Vick**  
14121 NE 24th St  
Bellevue, WA 98007  
(425) 644-7100

**Northwest Auto Center**  
13910 NE 20th St  
Bellevue, WA 98004  
(425) 747-3402

**Park Place LTD Service**  
13730 NE 20th St  
Bellevue, WA 98005  
(425) 746-5447

**Len's Automotive**  
1620 136th PI NE  
Bellevue, WA 98005  
(425) 641-4880

**SA-GO Auto Repair**  
13234 Bel-Red Rd  
Bellevue, WA 98005  
(425) 746-3008

**Auto Dynamix**  
13245 NE 20th St  
Bellevue, WA 98005  
(425) 283-5766

**Eastside Autoworks**  
12404 SE 38th Ste A  
Bellevue, WA 98006  
(425) 746-0162

**Eastside Transmission**  
1900 132nd Ave NE  
Bellevue, WA 98005  
(425) 455-1144



## Vehicle Leak Test Kit

Would you rather test for leaks at home? Request a free vehicle leak test kit! It's a giant piece of paper to slip under your car to check for leaks. Attached to the sheet is a color and description guide to help identify any leaks. Just send your mailing address to [streamteam@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:streamteam@bellevuewa.gov) to request your test kit.

**SAVE UP TO**  
**\$50.00**

If your car is leaking oil, it not only means your engine may be at risk – it also means that leaking oil is going directly to the Puget Sound. **Don't Drip & Drive. Fix That Leak!** Use this coupon by September 30, 2014 to receive a **FREE visual Leak Inspection** and receive **10% off (up to \$50)** on leak repairs at participating repair shops. Visit [www.fixcarleaks.org](http://www.fixcarleaks.org) to find a location near you.

**Don't Drip & Drive**  
  
**Fix That Leak!**

*Coupon expires September 30, 2014.*

[www.fixcarleaks.org](http://www.fixcarleaks.org)

Storm Member 2014



**CUSTOMER: fill out all fields to receive free inspection or repair discount. Please print clearly.**

*(You may be selected to receive a short survey about your experience. Your contact information will not be shared, sold, or used for any other purpose.)*

**Date of shop visit (MM/DD/YYYY):**  /  /  2 0 1 4

**Why did you come into the shop today?**  
 Routine maintenance    Leak check    Leak repair    Other repair

**How did you learn about the free leak inspection and repair discount?** (Select all that apply)

Internet ads    Leak check event    Campaign website    Auto shop website  
 Auto shop told me    Other (where?) \_\_\_\_\_

**Customer name:**

**Customer email address:**

**Customer phone number:**  
 (  )  -

Before you tackle the yard this fall, join us for...

# Natural Yard Care Classes



TAKE  
ROOT

Join us at Bellevue's urban oasis, the newly renovated Bellevue Botanical Garden! Learning about natural yard care in this green sanctuary's brand-new education center will inspire, delight, and demonstrate the possibilities of Northwest gardening.

**Workshops  
are fun,  
informative,  
and FREE!**

## Garden Design & Healthy Soil

**Wednesday, September 17, 7-9 pm**

Healthy soil is the key to growing everything, and fall is the perfect time to hit the dirt. **Landscape architect Doug Rice** will discuss the benefits of natural garden design and landscaping. **Lisa Taylor of Seattle Tilth** will show you how to improve your soil and take advantage of fall leaves and yard trimmings. Get the facts on how natural design, home composting and mulching can pay off all year long.

## Fall Yard Care

**Wednesday, September 24, 7-9 pm**

Fall is an ideal time to tackle the yard. **Ladd Smith from In Harmony Sustainable Landscapes** will show you how to get your lawn and garden back in shape after the dry summer months. Learn how to deal with problem lawn areas, garden clean-up, moss, weeds and pests. Ladd will share tips and techniques to help you rejuvenate your yard now and grow healthy, attractive plants next spring.

## Fall Planting

**Wednesday, October 1, 7-9 pm**

Time to revamp all or part of your yard? Fall is the best time for planting and planning for improvements. **Horticulturist Peggy Campbell** will show you how to choose the right plants for your space and give them a good start. Take home tips about high impact, low fuss plants that are proven performers for year-round color and interest.

## Edibles, Weeds & Pest Control

**Wednesday, October 8, 7-9 pm**

Edibles are a perfect fit for any natural yard, but they do need special care. **Landscape designer Emily Bishton** will help you find the right site for your edibles, choose plants that are well-suited for our climate and grow them successfully. Learn about organic care, crop rotation, beneficial insects and pollinators, and other natural pest, weed and disease control strategies for your whole yard.



## Win free Natural Yard Care products!

At each workshop we will randomly draw from the names of everyone present for great natural yard care items. Earn an entry at every workshop you attend for the final drawing for a natural yard care consultation. *(Must be present to win.)*

These workshops are funded by:



Local Hazardous Waste  
Management Program  
in King County, Washington



## Meet the Speakers



**DOUG RICE** is a landscape architect. He has taught garden design for more than 15 years at the Seattle Community College and more recently at the Center for Urban Horticulture. Doug is one of the original creators of King County's natural yard care program, and has co-hosted KCTV's Yard Talk. He'll share a wealth of advice and tips on natural yard care design.



**LISA TAYLOR** is Seattle Tilth's children's education program manager and author of "Your Farm in the City: An Urban Dweller's Guide to Growing Food and Raising Animals." She speaks frequently on soils and compost, and is passionate about teaching children and adults where their food comes from. Lisa will discuss the importance of healthy soil, how to improve your yard's soil, and how to grow more attractive, robust plants by mulching, food waste composting and top dressing.



**LADD SMITH** is co-owner of In Harmony Sustainable Landscapes in Bothell. In Harmony has offered natural lawn care, tree and shrub care, and landscape design and build services for more than 17 years. Ladd holds a bachelor's degree in ornamental

horticulture, has 25-plus years as a professional horticulturist, and is a sought-after speaker. He'll discuss lawn and garden care, slow release fertilizers and other natural ways to grow a beautiful, healthy yard.



**PEGGY CAMPBELL**, a professional horticulturist and seasoned public speaker, has a bachelor's degree in ornamental horticulture. Her own garden is beautifully low-maintenance, with something almost always in bloom. Offering fun, practical and environmentally-friendly tips, Peggy specializes in finding striking plants that will thrive in your yard's conditions. She'll help you combine the right plants in the right ways for a steady stream of color and interest all year long.



**EMILY BISHTON** is a professional landscape designer and educator, and owner of Green Light Gardening. She helps people grow healthier, more sustainable gardens through practical gardening skills that make maintenance enjoyable. With a degree in horticulture/landscape design, Emily will help you find the right site for your edibles, grow them successfully and avoid garden weeds and pests naturally.

Learn more at:

[www.bellevuewa.gov/naturalyardcare.htm](http://www.bellevuewa.gov/naturalyardcare.htm)

### Program Details Apply to all classes

**Time:** 7-9 pm

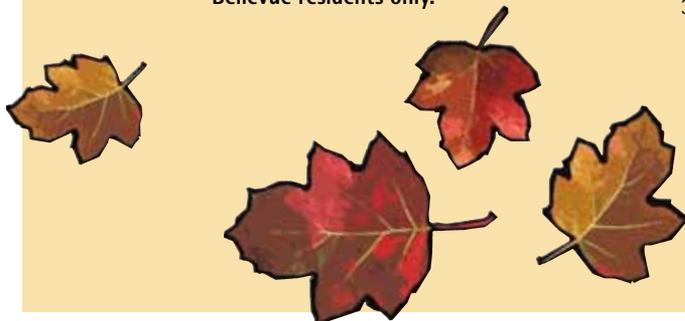
**Place:** **Bellevue Botanical Garden Education Center**  
12001 Main Street, Bellevue, WA 98005  
*For directions:* [www.bellevuebotanical.org/location.html](http://www.bellevuebotanical.org/location.html)

**Registration:** **Required by September 12.**  
**Bellevue residents only.**

#### Three Ways to Sign Up:

1. Visit our online registration page at [www.naturalyardcare.info](http://www.naturalyardcare.info) and click: "Workshops."
2. Email: [register@naturalyardcare.com](mailto:register@naturalyardcare.com) with "Bellevue Take Root" in the subject line and provide the name, address and phone number of each individual attending.
3. Call **425-974-2100** and leave the name, address and phone number for each individual attending.

Alternate formats available:  
Voice 425-452-6800 or TTY relay: 711



**TAKE ROOT**  
CITY OF BELLEVUE NATURAL YARD CARE



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7/2014



City of Bellevue Utilities  
450 110th Avenue NE, Bellevue, WA 98004



Bellevue Utilities  
Stream Team Program  
PO Box 90012  
Bellevue, WA 98009-9012



[streamteam@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:streamteam@bellevuewa.gov)  
425-452-5200

*If you are no longer interested  
in receiving Stream Team  
mail, please call or email the  
contact information above.*

printed on post-consumer recycled paper using soy inks.  
Layout by: Danielle Pulliam

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

**Salmon Watchers**  
**Tuesday, September 16**  
**Bellevue City Hall, 7-9pm**

Register at [streamteam@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:streamteam@bellevuewa.gov)  
or 425-452-5200.



*WE'RE JUST BABIES.  
THINK THEY WILL RECOGNIZE  
US WHEN WE COME BACK  
AS ADULTS?*

