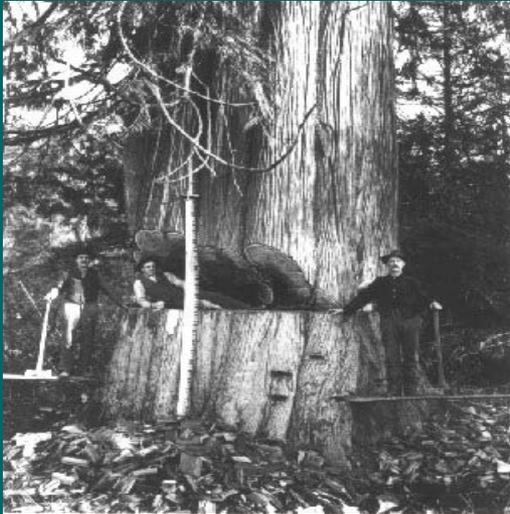


Bellevue Parks & Community Services Department



Natural Resource Management Division – Feb 13, 2018

Natural Resource Management From Old Growth to Greenways



Open Space System Plan 1980's

- Change in public attitude toward quality of life (loss of natural areas, air pollution, water quality)
- 88% to 91% of survey participants indicated open space, greenways, and trails as most important.
- Bellevue's sensitive areas ordinance was adopted.
- 1988 and 1989 bond issues passed focusing on open space acquisition.

Mission

To promote stewardship of Bellevue's natural and cultural resources and provide maintenance and management for Natural Resource Division managed lands

Bellevue's natural resources must be managed with the same diligence and as any other City resource

Natural Resource Lands

- 2,000 acres of open space lands
- 97 miles of property line
- 90 miles of trails
- 214 acres of arterial landscapes
- 10,000+ street trees
- 4 visitor centers
- 46 acres of agricultural lands
- 86 community garden plots

Natural Resource Division

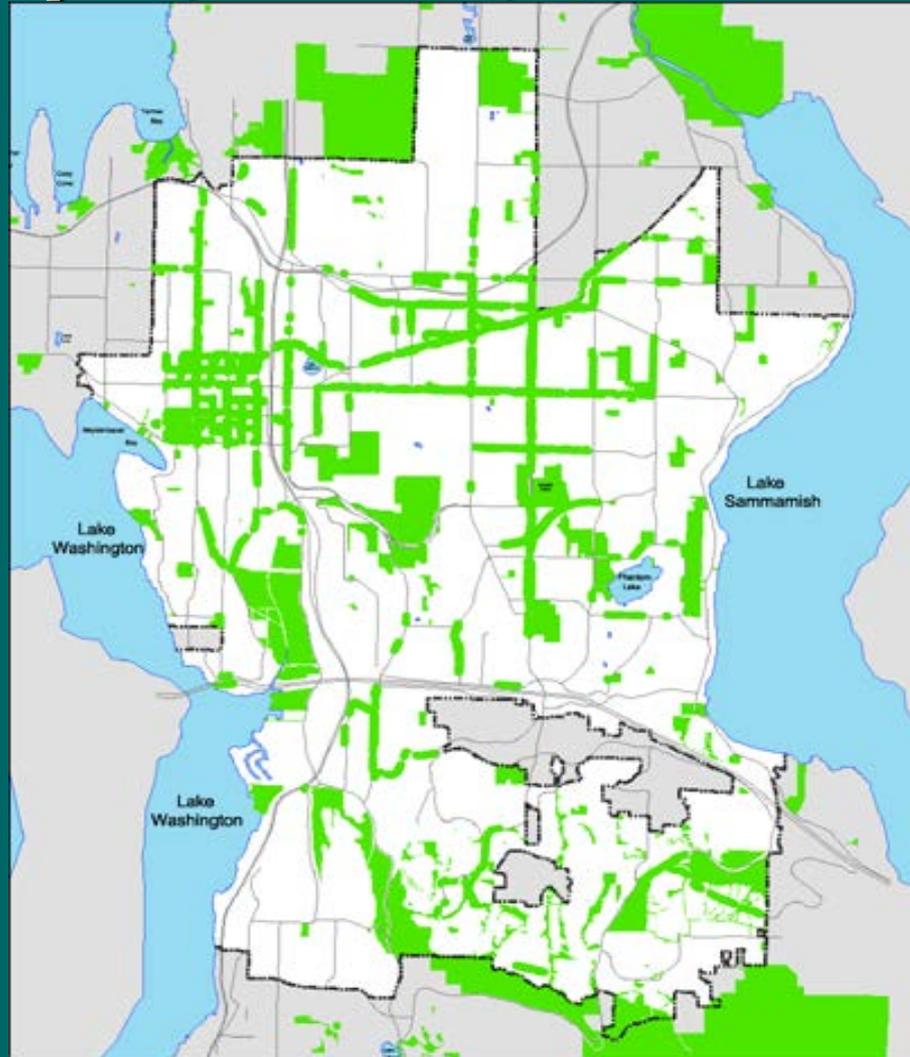
Staffing

21 FTEs, 12 LTEs, 3 variable, 20+ seasonal

Program Areas

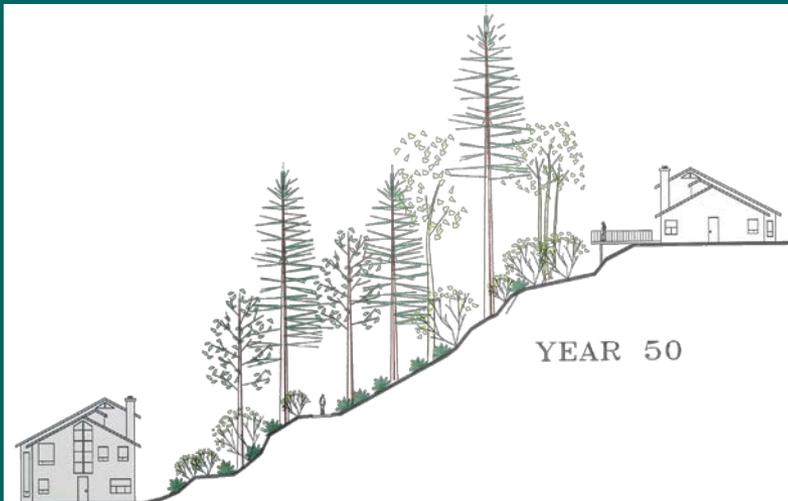
- Forest Management
- Street Tree and Arterial Landscape
- Greenways and Trails
- Nature Parks & Visitor Centers
- Volunteer Program
- Water Conservation & Irrigation

Connecting People, Parks, and Nature



Forest Management

Program Goals & Objectives



- Public Safety
- Forest Health
- Fish & Wildlife Habitat
- Recreation & Education
- Buffer Land Uses
- Protect Water Quality

Forest Management Inventory & Statistics

- 1,951 acres of forested open space, riparian corridors, wetlands and NGPA's
- 97 miles of shared property boundary adjacent to 2,664 private parcels
- Environmental Benefits (I-Tree Analysis):
 - Tree Canopy Cover = 74.3%
 - Pollution Removal = 136 tons/year (\$961,000)
 - Carbon Storage = 72,900 tons (\$1.34 million)
 - Carbon Sequestration = 2,400 tons/year (\$44,000/year)

Forest Management Program

Service Delivery & Stewardship

- Customer Service
- Boundary Inspections
- Tree Risk Management & Inventory
- Forest Enhancement
- Maintenance
- Outreach













Forest Management

Tam O'Shanter Forest Enhancement



- 2014-2017 (3 phases)
- 2.65 acres restored
- 444 trees planted
- 960 shrubs planted
- 160 volunteers
- 400 volunteer hours





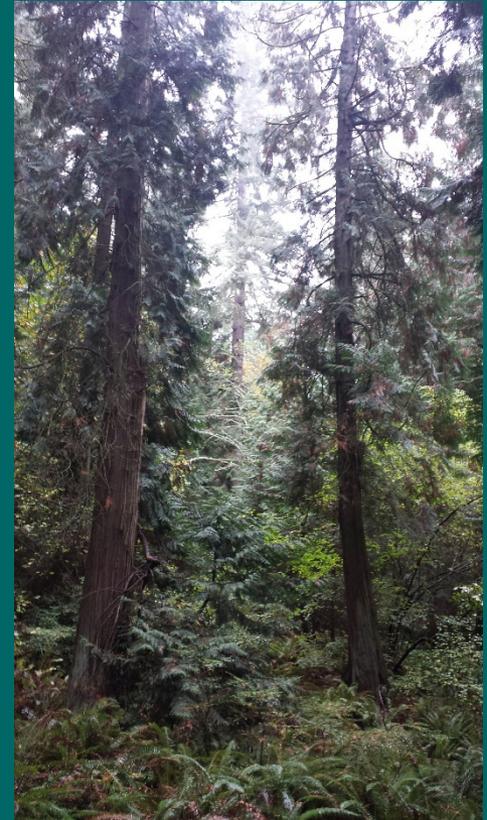


Forest Management

Program Accomplishments

(2016-2018)

- 305 customer contacts
- 15.16 acres of degraded forests restored
- 4,761 trees planted
- 8,266 shrubs planted
- 150 illegal dumping/
encroachments cleared



Street Tree and Arterial Landscape Program

- 10,000 + trees and 214 acres of formal landscape – Parks and Transportation
 - Information and Outreach
 - Bellevue's Street Trees
 - Trees of Bellevue
 - Guide to Planting Trees in Bellevue, WA
 - Preferred Tree List
 - Internal city subject area resource

Streetscape & Arterial Landscapes Design

- Comprehensive Plan
- Bellevue Parks & Open System Plan
- Enhance ROW & Urban Boulevards



STREET TREES & ARTERIAL LANDSCAPES

Resource Base

- Maintain 11% of formal City ROW landscaping
- Transportation CIP
- Developer Installed Frontage Improvements



STREET TREES & ARTERIAL LANDSCAPES

Program Activities

Landscape and Tree Maintenance

- Contracted landscape maintenance
- Pruning
- Watering
- Site enhancement & renovation
- Tree replacements
- Subject area resource



STREET TREES & ARTERIAL LANDSCAPES

Program Activities

Transportation CIP Project Coordination

- Design & Plan Review
- Construction Inspection
- Standards & Specification Development
- On-site consultation



STREET TREES & ARTERIAL LANDSCAPES

Program Activities

Utility Coordination

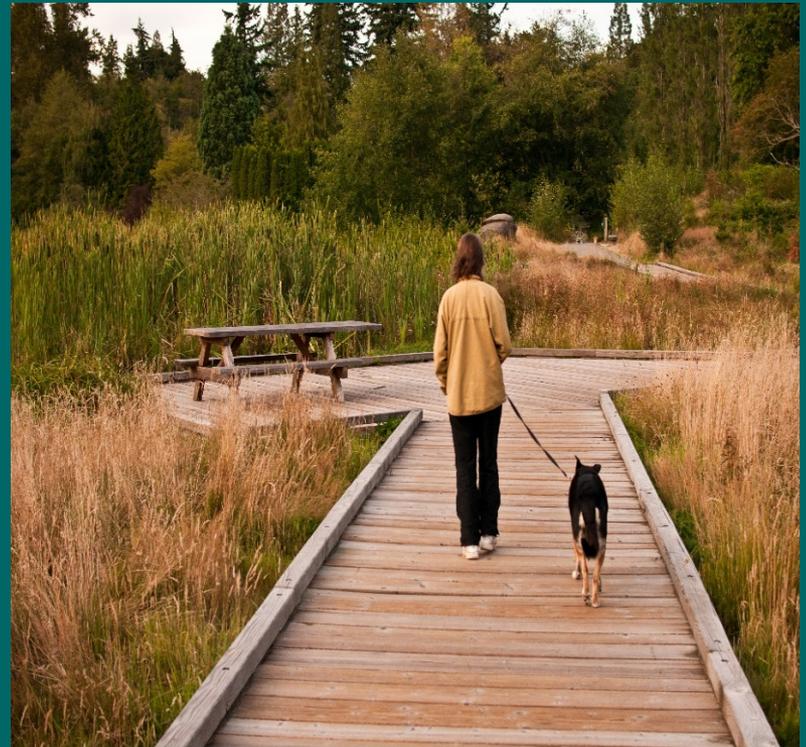
- Review power and telecommunication franchise tree trimming
- Construction impacts to landscapes & irrigation



Greenways and Trails Program

Program Goals

- Provide recreation opportunities for walkers, bicyclists, joggers and birdwatchers.
- Provide system connectivity and accessibility to Parks, Open Spaces and surrounding neighborhoods through a network of 90 miles of trails



Greenways and Trails Program

Stewardship

- Customer Service
- Trail Maintenance
- Trail Design and Construction
- Trail inventory, Wayfinding and Mapping
- Working with Volunteers through outreach (Arbor Day, Stewardship Saturdays and Eco-Fridays)

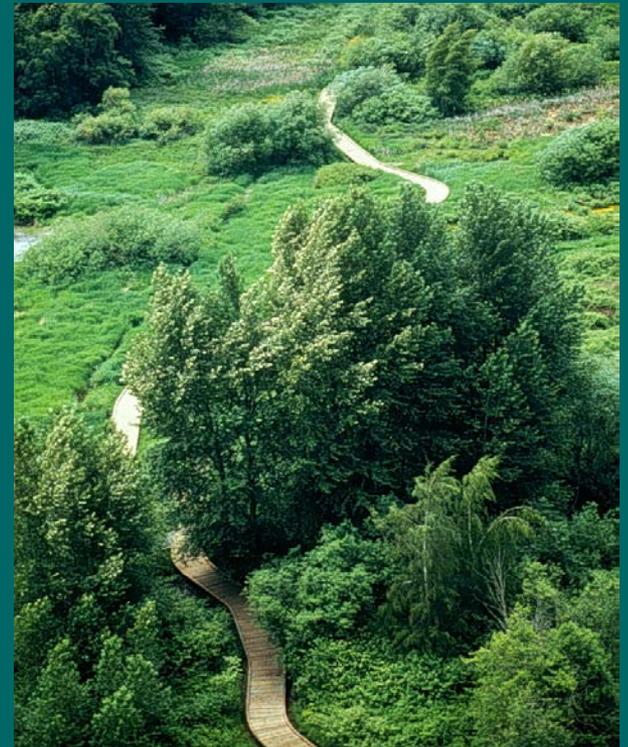


Greenways and Trails Program

Lake to Lake Trail & Greenway

The Lake to Lake Trail and Greenway is the backbone to over 60 miles of multi-use trails connecting Lake Washington to Lake Sammamish.

- The Trail and Greenway provides access to the City's pristine Park & Open Space System.
- It captures the very essence of Bellevue's vision of a "City in a Park"
- Provides interconnectability, accessibility and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Bellevue

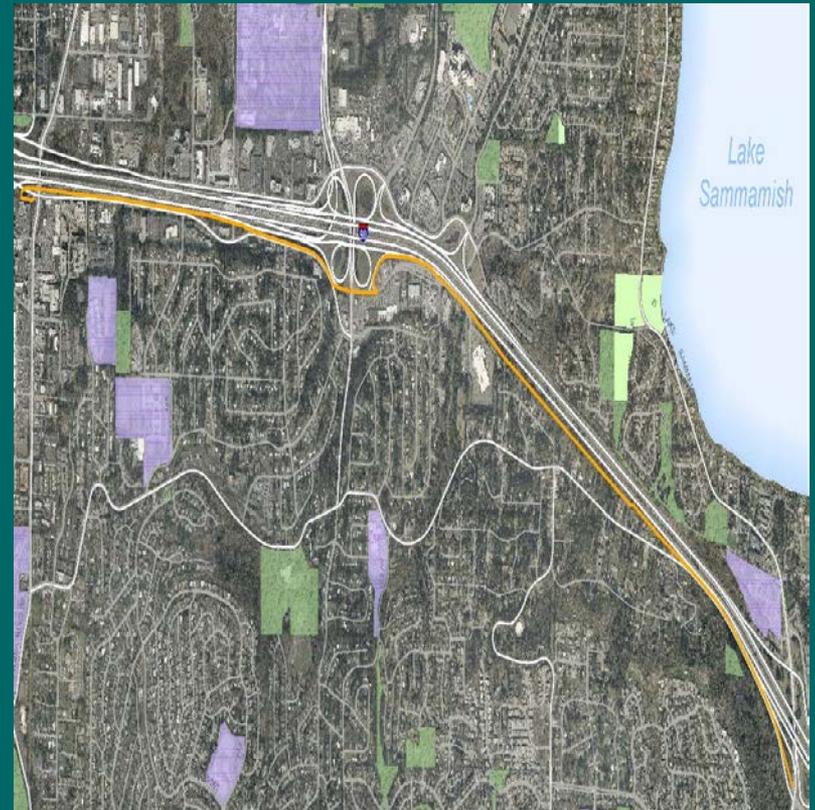


Greenways and Trails Program

Mountains to Sound Greenway

A regional Trail system that stretches from the Puget Sound to the Cascade Mountains.

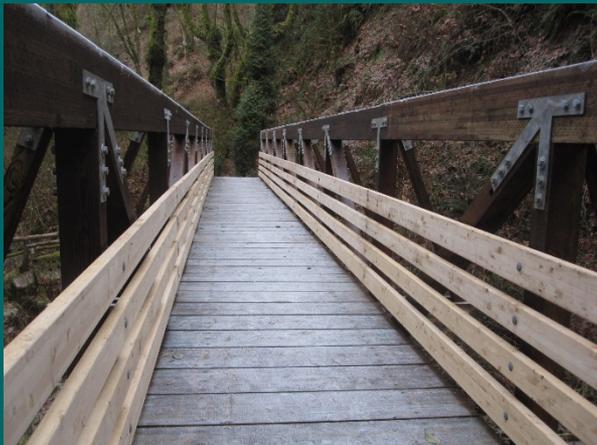
- Enters Bellevue at Enatai Park crosses Mercer Slough and currently ends at Factoria.
- Eastgate Gap Project (3.6 mi missing link from Factoria to Lakemont Blvd)
- Chris Masek in Transportation is part of the team to develop this link .



Greenways and Trails Program

South of I-90 Greenway System

Coal Creek
Natural Area
Primrose Loop
120 ft. bridge
construction



High lead system
used to get materials
to bridge site 350 ft.
below

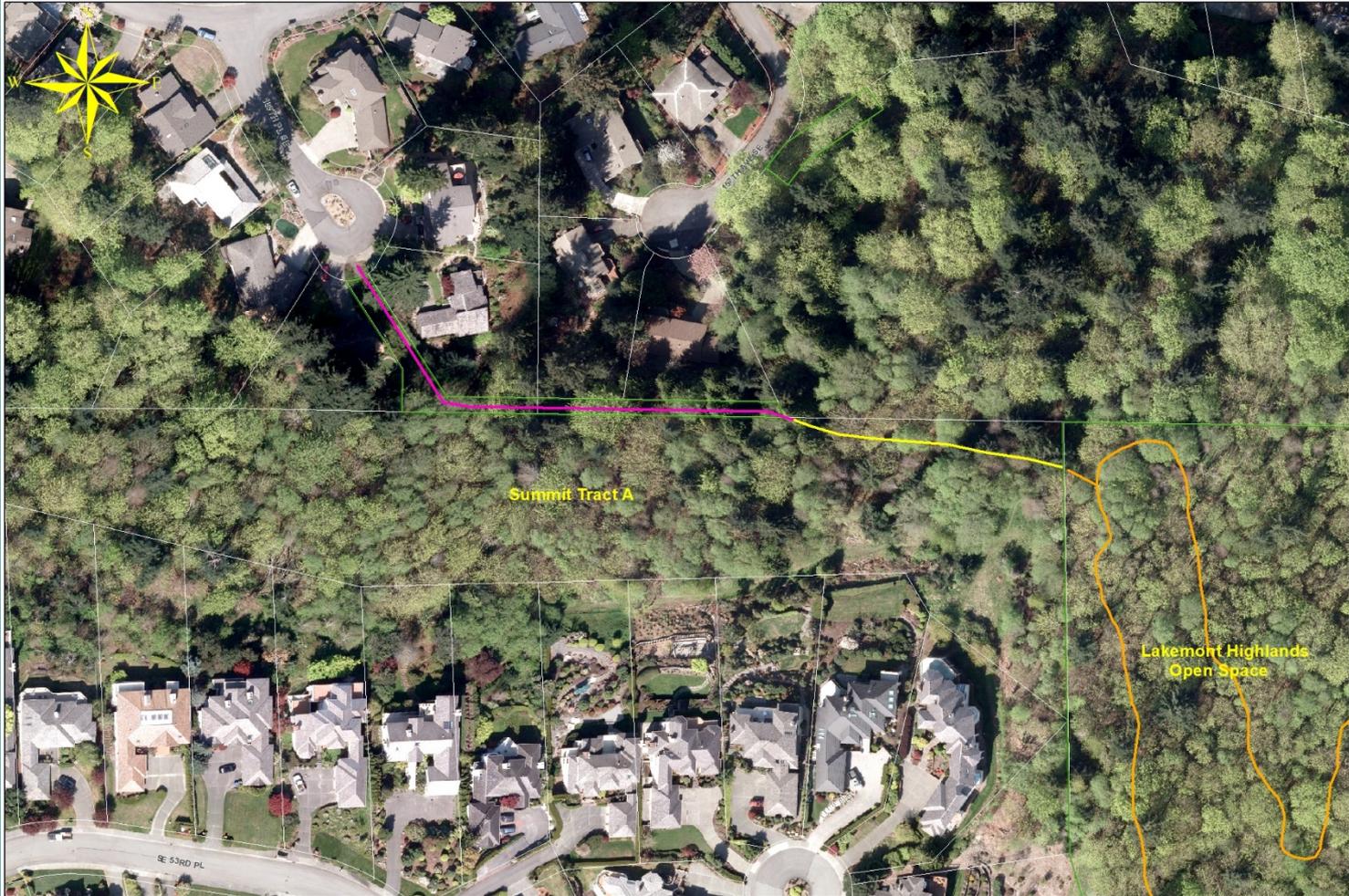


Greenways and Trails Program

Summit Trail Connection Project

- Worked with Horizon Crest HOA , Summit HOA and Parks Property & Acquisition Manager on the acquisition of a trail easement through Summit Tract A for a public trail connection.
- New trail will provide a connection from the Horizon Crest neighborhood to Lakemont Highlands Open Space trail and South of I-90 Greenway trail system.
- Trail will be constructed in Summer 2018 and will be built by our Well-Kept program staff with technical guidance provided by our in-house trails staff.

Summit Trail Connection



City of Bellevue
Parks & Community
Services Department
Plot Date: 10/5/2015
Scale: 1:674

LEGEND
 — Parks Property
 — Trail on Parks Property
 — 10' Easement Granted By Summit
 — Lakemont Highlands OpenSpace Trail

Summit Trail Construction Site Detail Map
 Trailhead Address: 5129 155th Pl Se.
 745 lineal Feet 4 Foot Wide Bark Trail



Prepared By Chris Vandall
 16023 Ne 8th st
 Bellevue WA. 98008
 425 452-7679



Nature Parks & Visitor Centers

Instilling Community Stewardship Through Citizen Education and Involvement

- Environmental Education and Interpretation Program
- Volunteer Program
- Community Farms and Garden Program
- Summer Ranger Program
- Well KEPT Program

Nature Parks & Visitor Centers

Environmental Education and Interpretation

- **MSEEC, LCVC, LHGB Ranger Station**

- ***42,532 total visits***

- **Environmental Programs**

- ***Family Discovery and Adult Enrichment Series***

- ***PSC, EHC, Master Gardeners***

- ***738 programs delivered***

- ***26,236 total participants***

- **Interpretive Signs and Kiosks**

- ***85 signs and Kiosks***



Nature Parks & Visitor Centers Volunteer Program

- Stewardship Saturdays
- Eco-Fridays
- Arbor Day Event
- Park Stewards
- Master Naturalists
- Partnerships
 - 1,734 volunteers
 - 13,708 hours
 - \$411,792 savings



Nature Parks & Visitor Centers

Community Farms and Gardens Program

- Mercer Slough and Larsen Lake Blueberry Farms
- LHGB Ag Land
- Seasonal Produce Stands
- P-Patch Program
- Master Gardener Demonstration Garden



Nature Parks & Visitor Centers Park Ranger Program

- 6 Seasonal Summer Patrol Rangers
- Memorial Day – Labor Day
- 7 days/week; 8am – 12pm
 - *3,731 parks patrols*
 - *1,019 assistance contacts*
 - *125,299 good will contacts*



Nature Parks & Visitor Centers

Well- KEPT Program



- 20 Seasonal Youth Employment Positions
- Job Skills and Career Development Training
- Environmental Focus
 - completed park improvement projects at 15 park sites
 - removed 2.5 acres of noxious vegetation from natural areas
 - installed 918' of new trail
 - resurfaced 9,760' of existing trail

Water Conservation & Irrigation

- 79 developed parks sites
- 52 streetscape sites
- 225 irrigation controllers
- 2,250 separate zones
- Central control (Maxicom)
- ET based watering
- Annual backflow testing
- Plan & design review



Natural Resource Division

Thank You