The Puget Sound green infrastructure summit: convening and coordinating across a region and across sectors (.com, .gov, .org, .edu)

Aaron Clark
Stewardship Partners, United States, ac@stewardshippartners.org

Follow this and additional works at: https://cedar.wwu.edu/ssec

Part of the Fresh Water Studies Commons, Marine Biology Commons, Natural Resources and Conservation Commons, and the Terrestrial and Aquatic Ecology Commons


This Event is brought to you for free and open access by the Conferences and Events at Western CEDAR. It has been accepted for inclusion in Salish Sea Ecosystem Conference by an authorized administrator of Western CEDAR. For more information, please contact westerncedar@wwu.edu.
Puget Sound Green Infrastructure Summit
Connecting the “dots” for our shared clean water future

Aaron D. Clark Ph.D.
Stewardship Partners
Outline:

• Background – **why** a green infrastructure summit for Puget Sound?

• Strategy– **how** do we accomplish it and make it successful?

• Impacts– is it **worth** it?
Summit Background

- GrIP (since c. 2010)
- Sightline Institute & The Russell Family Foundation Stormwater Report- 2014: “Groups working to reduce polluted runoff are not well coordinated and do not work towards clear or common goals.”
- 12,000 Rain Gardens Campaign (since 2011)
- City Habitats network began forming- 2015
Summit Background

• Green Infrastructure vs. Stormwater
Strategy

• One clear vision:
  • Diverse leaders from Puget Sound cities and towns convene to map the strategic role of urban green infrastructure in our shared clean water future
Strategy

• Cross sector: connecting the dots - .com, .org, .gov, .edu
Strategy

- Cross sector host committee
Strategy

• Racial Equity
  • What is the role of green infrastructure in race and social justice?
  • Using the City of Seattle’s Equity and Environment Agenda as a guide and a starting place for making environmental impacts a force for equity and justice.
Strategy

• A City Habitats Event
  • A shared brand
  • An open invitation to non-stormwater people
  • An emphasis on multiple benefits to meet people where they are.
  • An open invitation to solutions and ideas as yet unknown.
Strategy

• Themes:
  • Intersectional Strategies
  • Innovation
  • Getting Growth Right
  • Multiple Benefits and Co-Benefits
  • Racial Equity
  • Climate Resilience
Strategy

• Lots and lots of good food and coffee
• Happy hour with hosted drinks
• Carpooling website
Impacts and Outcomes

• Increased public-private collaboration
  • e.g. Developers and non-profits and governments
  • e.g. Governments and non-profits
Impacts and Outcomes

• Increased cooperation within and between governments
  • Silos within a government
  • Information sharing between different cities
Impacts and Outcomes

• Three years of attendee and sponsor growth
  • 150 → 180 → 220
• Multiple Co-created and shared resources
  • Infographics
  • Case studies
  • Videos
  • Presentations