2014 construction season complete; Expect shorter season next year

King County’s contractor, Goodfellow Brothers Inc., constructed 63 roadside rain gardens on ten blocks in the Sunrise Heights and Westwood neighborhoods this year (blue blocks on map). Next year’s construction schedule will be shorter. Crews moved quickly and were able to complete two blocks originally scheduled for 2015. In addition, crews prepared the five remaining blocks (orange blocks on map) for roadside rain gardens by installing wells and maintenance holes and moving sewer and water lines as needed. Expect to see about six weeks of active construction per block starting next spring as crews excavate planter strips, install irrigation systems, bring in soil and install plants. King County is constructing these roadside rain gardens to keep stormwater runoff out of the combined sewer system. Keeping stormwater out of the sewer system will reduce overflows of sewage and stormwater into Puget Sound during storms.

ROADSIDE RAIN GARDEN MAINTENANCE

King County is responsible for regular maintenance of roadside rain gardens throughout the year. Over the winter months, expect to see crews onsite monthly, with more regular visits around large storm events. Here is what crews will be doing:

- Monitoring plant health and removing weeds
- Monitoring drainage
- Removing debris and trash

There is a 24-hour hotline for neighbors to call: 206-205-9184. Please call the hotline if you see:
- Ponding water that lasts longer than 24 hours after it has stopped raining
- Vandalism
- Other concerns

If you see a small amount of garbage, please pick it up! While crews will be on the lookout for problems when they perform regular maintenance, they are not onsite daily like neighbors. Keeping hotline calls to major issues ensures a prompt response when needed.
Anatomy of a rain garden

Selecting the right plants is essential to building a successful rain garden. Plants and soil work together to soak up and clean rain water. The roadside rain gardens in the Sunrise Heights and Westwood neighborhoods have a mix of plant palettes. A plant palette is a selection of plants grouped together. SVR Design Company, the County’s lead designer, carefully selected Barton’s plant palettes to differentiate the blocks and complement the local conditions. Within the palettes, plants serve different functions. Deciduous and evergreen trees were also planted near roadside rain gardens to help soak up rain water and to meet City requirements for tree cover. The two blocks highlighted below represent different plant palettes and show only a small selection of plants used across the project area. If you have a question about a specific plant not listed below, contact Kristine Cramer (contact information on the back).

3200 Block of SW Kenyon Street
7500 Block of 34th Ave SW

Thank you RainWise participants!

As of November 1, 2014, there are 62 Rainwise rain gardens and/or cisterns in process across the Barton basin. These neighbors took advantage of the RainWise rebate program, which provides rebates of up to 100% of the cost to install rain gardens and/or cisterns on private property. Thanks to participating neighbors, nearly 88,000 square feet of stormwater running off roofs is now captured and cleaned instead of entering the combined sewer system. More than $172,000 in homeowner rebates have been given. If you’ve been thinking about putting in a rain garden or cistern, now is the time! The RainWise program is available to Barton basin properties through 2015. If you are interested in hosting a living room meeting or helping spread the word about RainWise, contact Carl Simson at Urban Systems Design to get going: 206-234-5102 or carl@urbansystemsdesign.com.
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ROADSIDE RAIN GARDEN MAINTENANCE

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“TODAY’S PROJECT COMPLETED – BRICK LAYING COMPLETED AT FAUNTLERAY PARK PROJECT AREA”

FOR MORE INFORMATION
Visit the project web page at [www.kingcounty.gov](http://www.kingcounty.gov) and search for "Barton CSO-GSI.”
Or contact Kristine Cramer at 206-477-5415 or kristine.cramer@kingcounty.gov