

Campus Sustainability Fund

Re: Prairie Rain Garden Small Projects grant application

12/9/14

The Prairie Rain Garden, in the interest of improving on-site water infiltration, has the expressed support of *Sustainable Stormwater*. It is an excellent demonstration of a low-cost installation that utilizes native plants and microtopography to work with natural hummock/hollow design. Most of the materials and labor have been volunteer or in-kind, and support from CSF to complete the installation phase is critical so this shining example remains functioning for years to come.

Once successfully established as a functioning site, the potential to install an educational sign (recognizing the CSF and other partners) explaining the rain garden to the public is exciting due to the constant pedestrian and bicycle traffic on Wahkiakum Lane. The potential for hydrology and restoration ecology classes to utilize the Prairie Rain Garden as an outdoor example of restoration is also inspiring. At a key location by the Center for Urban Horticulture, this project could be a perfect stop on a future 'green campus tour'.

Sustainable Stormwater will work with Malcolm Howard in any capacity needed, including to ensure quality assurance on any water testing, sourcing of testing equipment, and to corroborate the accuracy of lab results with the testing that we will be already conducting at other sites on campus. I look forward to hearing more about the success of this endeavor and the continued commitment of the CSF to innovative campus projects.

Sincerely,

Matt Schwartz

Sustainable Stormwater Coordinator

Kincaid Ravine Project Manager