

Tell us your garden story!

Have you recently transformed a corner of your garden, a parking strip or your entire yard into a beautiful, waterwise landscape? Have you created wildlife habitat near streams, lakes, or Puget Sound or found a way to get rid of invasive plants without using toxic methods? Do you have a fabulous fruit or vegetable patch maintained without pesticides?

Seattle Public Utilities and the Saving Water Partnership are looking for people to share their inspirational, informative garden stories with other gardeners in our region. If your story is chosen for publication, we will collaborate with you to share your story on our web site, www.savingwater.org, and in our newsletters, brochures, class handouts and more!



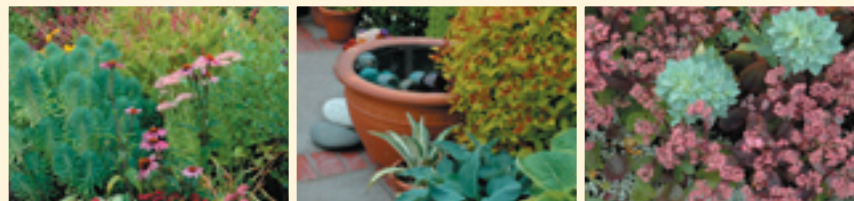
What should my garden story be about?

We're looking for stories about gardens that are friendly to the environment and the people who live in it! So when you submit your garden story, please be sure that it includes any or all of the following practices:

Organic soil building—including mulching, making compost, amending soil with compost, grasscycling and organic fertilizers (only when needed).

Pesticide-free landscaping—landscapes that are free of pesticide use and demonstrate practices that help prevent pest and weed problems.

Water-conserving landscaping—landscapes that minimize the need for watering by mulching, using drought-tolerant plants, grouping plants by water needs, etc. and landscapes that use water efficiently when needed by incorporating soaker hoses, drip irrigation, or an automatic irrigation system that is maintained and uses technology to reduce waste.



How to Submit your Garden Story

You can submit your garden story via email, by mailing to liz.fikejs@seattle.gov or via regular mail by sending to Liz Fikejs, Seattle Public Utilities, 700 5th Ave Ste 4900, PO Box 34018, Seattle, WA 98124-4018. Submissions must include:

- Your info—Name(s), address, phone, email (if available)
- “Before”—Description (and photos if available) of the garden problems and challenges you faced.
- “After”—Description and photos of the solutions you created or the ultimate result in your changed garden.
- Key lessons—The techniques you used and lessons you learned in transforming your garden.



All garden owners who submit their garden stories agree to the use of their names and photos of their gardens by Seattle Public Utilities for use on www.savingwater.org and other educational venues such as brochures, articles, advertisements and presentations. Entries can be mailed through US mail or via email. Photos sent through US mail will not be returned. Seattle Public Utilities staff will select garden stories that best exemplify a variety of gardening solutions as described above and will notify the owners that have been selected. Arrangements will be made to have the garden photographed.

Photo Credits: Jacqui James Photography, taken at the garden of Stacie Crooks Garden Design.