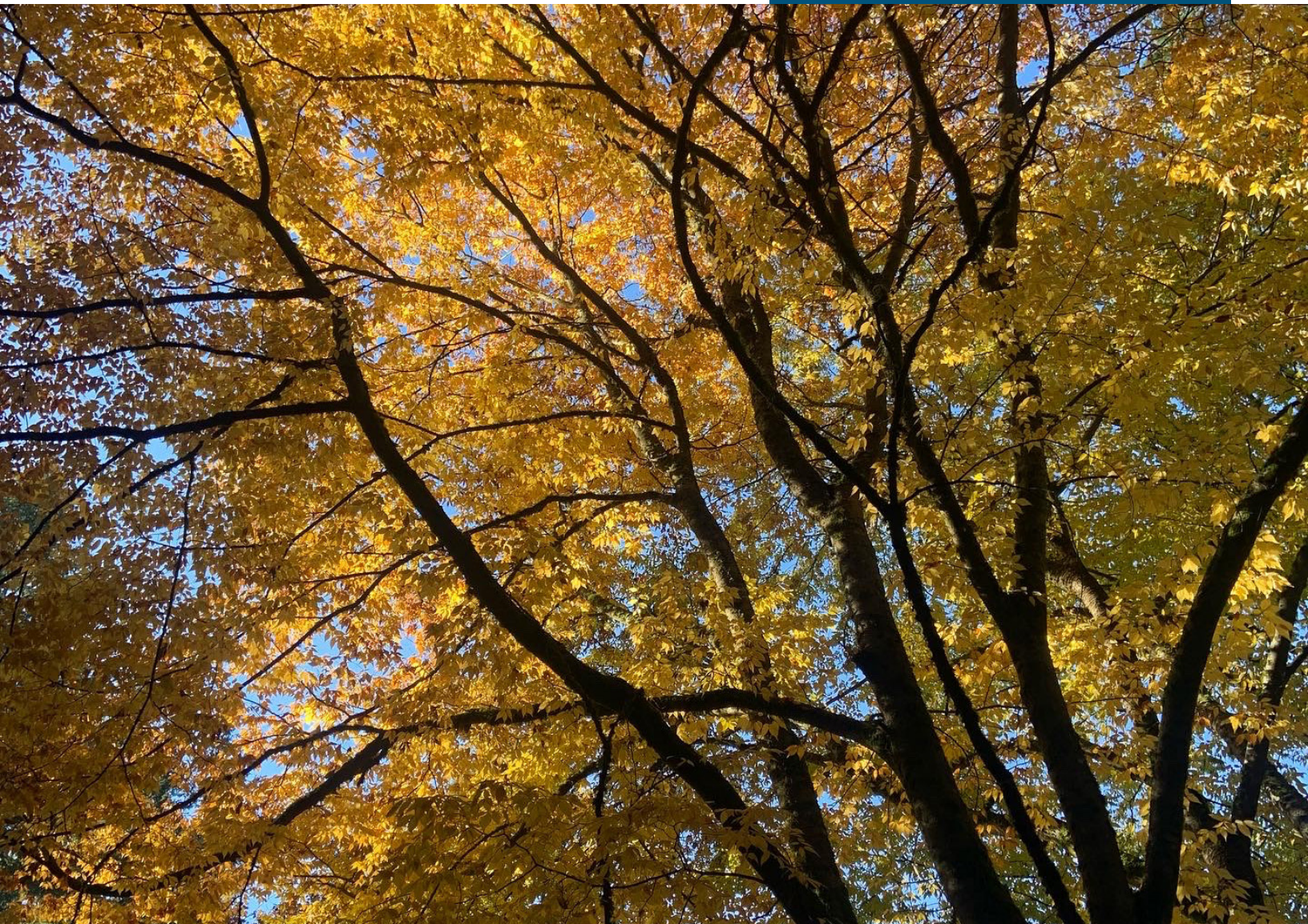


31 rhododendron cultivars
4 species of cedrus
11 magnolia species
80 genera
50 varieties of Japanese maple
15 genera of deciduous trees
180 cultivated species
7 hydrangea species
3 genera of redwood trees
40 conifer species

2022

Annual Report

A sanctuary to inspire, educate and connect us to the natural world.



LAKE WILDERNESS
ARBORETUM FOUNDATION

STAFF

2,065 hours this year



SUSAN GOODELL
Arboretum
Director

Over this year of ups and downs, we built a great team of 3 staff and a board with a dedicated leader. Then one of our staff announced retirement and our board leader moved away early. Things will be looking up again as we add a new staff member and vote in a new board president soon.

The projects around the Arboretum have followed a similar pattern. The biggest project is the irrigation update – which got underway in November. And while I am so thrilled for what this will mean next year, I must reconcile that there is still so much to do. At some point we hope to extend new irrigation into the large meadow and the Woodland Garden. Other projects have had similar ups and downs. We have the funds to fix the water feature, but we have not been able to get a contractor nailed down to fix it. The Information Kiosk at the entry has been on our project list for almost two years and yet we keep hitting roadblocks. Hopefully that will change soon.

Through it all, there is a special place to find peace, explore and “get lost” at the Arboretum. It’s full of changing scenes, colors, and light. During the down times, a walk through the gardens helps me to look up. So, as we head into another new year, I will be looking up to what comes next.

Susan Goodell
Arboretum Director



MIKE HELLER
Property
Manager



TODD TSCHIMPERLE
Property
Maintenance
Technician

For staff and board bios visit:
www.lakewildernessarboretum.org/about/

BOARD

987 hours this year



KRISTIN HAAPASAARI
LWAF Board President

It’s my pleasure to represent this engaged membership as LWAF Board President, a community that mirrors my commitment to trees and the environment. As an arborist I appreciate how much has been achieved in 50+ years throughout these acres. Our current staff works hard to maintain safe, captivating grounds for visitors. My special thanks is given to the volunteers and docents who contribute time and talent to uphold our vision.

This year improvements were made to the grounds in the parking and information areas, nursery, seating, and fencing. We also made tremendous impact with our irrigation project, funded by the City of Maple Valley, our generous Water Matters campaign donors, the Good Gardens grant and plant sale patrons. We aren’t done yet and will continue to make efforts toward future funding.

Our partnerships have grown this year to include new programs, events and learning opportunities for LWA visitors – all of which we hope to continue sharing. After a very productive 2022, my hope is that next year finds our members happy, healthy and ready to take on 2023 with as much enthusiasm as I feel for the Lake Wilderness Arboretum!

Kristin Haapasaari
LWAF President

BOARD MEMBERS

KRISTIN HAAPASAARI	President
KARIN TAYLOR	Vice President
DIANE BARNES	Secretary
KIM HOLBEN	Treasurer
RON GROEPPER	
ROXANN HARR	

ADVISORY COUNCIL

A - L	M - Z
JOHANN BAUMGART	NOEL PATERSON
LARRY BAUMGART	MIKE SETTLES
SARAH GILBERT	ANKIE STROES
SHAUNNA LEE	CRISS VEFIK
DICK LOPES	MAGGIE WESTERLUND

MEET OUR TEAMS



“I love the Arboretum. This place is spectacular. The thing that is so great about it is it belongs to all of us. Have you ever wanted to have the coolest garden? Well, you do!”

Vicki Cunningham
LWAF Docent

VOLUNTEERS

2,407 hours this year

GROUPS TEAM

A – M	M - Z
LYNETTE CASE	JAYNE MORVICE
VICKY CUNNINGHAM	SARAH NEWELL
BOB DUNNING	KIM RODRIGUEZ
DEBBIE FUCHS	BILL SLOAN
JIM FUCHS	ANKIE STROES
ANTHONY HAAPASAARI	DIANE STUEBER
KRISTIN HAAPASAARI	BILL PAINE
ROXANN HARR	KARIN TAYLOR
MARYANNE HOBEN	CRISS VEFIK
JUDY GOODING	LEANNE WALTERS
CONNIE MCCLEERY	MATT WILSON
TINA MILLER	

INDIVIDUALS

KATE BANDZMER	Newsletter Producer
COLLEEN CASE	Plant Sale Volunteer
SHAUNNA LEE	Plant Sale Volunteer
NOEL PATERSON	Web Master
ANITA WILLIAMS	Plant Sale Volunteer

DOCENTS

SUE BALDWIN
KATE BANDZMER
VICKY CUNNINGHAM
SHARON DAVIS
ERIC JONES
STEPHANIE HOFFERBER
TINA MILLER
CHERYL PEERENBOOM
DIANE STUEBER

COMMUNITY GROUPS

BOY SCOUTS TROOP #711
CUB SCOUTS TROOP #506
GIRL SCOUTS
LOCAL LATTER DAY SAINTS WARDS
MAKE A DIFFERENCE DAY
KING COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS
TAHOMA OUTDOOR ACADEMY
TAHOMA PLANT SCIENCE CLASS

DONORS

\$12,915 total donations

We appreciate the generosity of our annual donors year-round. These gifts allow us to think bigger and expand our efforts at LWAF.

AMAZON SMILE	\$ 135
ALAN BLAKE CARDER & BOEING MATCH	\$ 1500
IN MEMORY OF GLENN CUNNINGHAM	\$ 100
DES MOINES GARDEN CLUB	\$ 50
ENUMCLAW GARDEN CLUB	\$ 50
FRED MEYER REWARDS	\$ 95
BILL AND MELINDA GATES FOUNDATION	\$ 50
ROXANN HARR	\$ 600
HILL AND DALE DISTRICT GARDEN CLUBS	\$ 100
VERLA MELLEMA	\$ 150
WILLIAM MITCHELL	\$ 200
CINDY OSTERMAN	\$ 500
VALERIE PAGANELLI	\$ 100
UNITED WAY	\$ 267

LWAF is honored to receive The Garden Conservancy Gardens for Good Grant of \$ 5,000, as well as ongoing support from the City of Maple Valley



A handcrafted memorial bench by Dick Lopes was donated this year in memory of Glenn Cunningham, LWAF member and docent.

Thank you to residents of Maple Valley for donating Christmas trees for our bark mulch, and thank you to the Maple Valley Boy Scouts, who collected and delivered the trees.

MEMBERS

160 total members



We signed up 48 new members at our visitor information booth, Shakespeare in the Park, Maple Valley Farmers Market, and Paint the Tunnel with Maple Valley Creative Arts Council. Others signed up for memberships online through our website. Our new membership packages offer plant sale discounts, quarterly newsletters and more.



FINANCIALS

\$159,536 net revenue

All revenue and expense figures represent our year from January through November 2022.

CITY OF MAPLE VALLEY	\$ 77,501.00
SPRING & FALL PLANT SALES	\$ 55,917.32
WATER MATTERS CAMPAIGN	\$ 13,141.18
UNRESTRICTED DONATIONS	\$ 6,341.00
MEMBERSHIP DUES	\$ 2,985.00
MISCELLANEOUS FEES	\$ 2,591.00
MISC. RESTRICTED DONATIONS	\$ 1,060.00
NET TOTAL	\$ 159,536.00

EXPENSES

\$76,413 operations and maintenance
\$57,493 Foundation administration
\$133,906 total expenses

OUR COMMUNITY



"Many simply admire it from afar - that was my view for many years! But if you take the time to stop, listen, participate, absorb, and learn about the Arboretum, it becomes a haven for year-round visits, learning, community and celebration that literally extends its roots into and throughout the community."

Val Paganelli
LWAF Member

PARTNER EVENTS

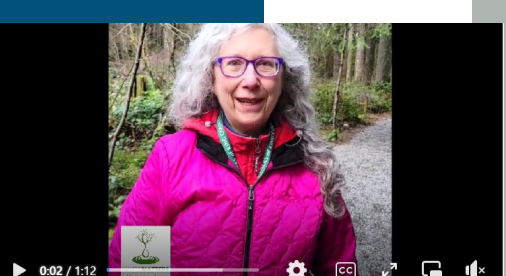
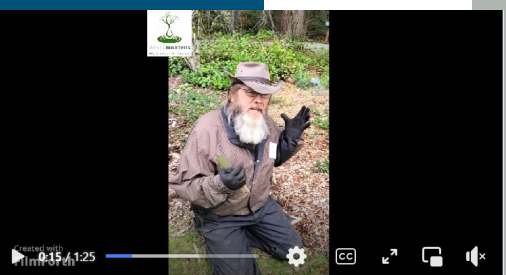
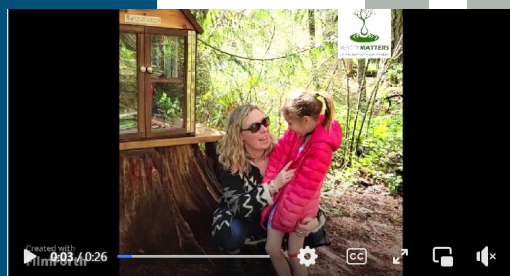
Programs for all ages

- Ashlar Way, Maple Leaf Movement, and Steamboat Studios summer camps
- Emerald Theater's Shakespeare in the Garden
- King County Library System and SoCo-Culture Tree Tour 2022
- Maple Leaf Yoga sessions
- Maple Valley King County Library's Story-Walk® Read-Alongs
- Maple Valley Rotary's Taste of the Valley
- Music in the Garden and Slug Hunt by Maple Valley Creative Arts Council
- Northwest Flower and Garden Show, South Sound Gardens booth
- NW Fuchsia Society judged plant show
- NW Perennial Alliance Open Gardens 2022 season
- SoCoCulture Less is More advertising campaign
- Tahoma High School Outdoor Academy volunteer days
- Tahoma High School Plant Science class pruning sessions
- Tinkergarten and Steamboat Studios outdoor workshops

NEW IN 2022

In-person and digital

- Water Matters, an online fundraiser for irrigation in our gardens
- ADA parking spots, entrance path and porta-potties
- Our information on Puget Sound Gardens website
- Additions and maintenance to garden hardscape features



THE RIPPLE EFFECT

LWAF supporters came together in March to launch Water Matters, our first completely online fundraising campaign. We received over \$7,100 in donations and began installation of a new irrigation system throughout the Legacy and Perennial Gardens. Improving irrigation at LWA will reduce waste, improve water availability for our plantings, and help the efficiency of our staff. These are our sustained objectives as we continue to pursue adequate watering systems throughout the Arboretum.



WATER MATTERS

Help to preserve a local treasure

This project is made possible in part by the \$80,000 toward our funding goals from the City of Maple Valley.

ANONYMOUS	\$500.00
KATE BANDZMER	\$ 25.00
SHARON CHASTAIN	\$ 50.00
GLENN & VICKI CUNNINGHAM	\$ 40.00
SHARON DAVIS	\$50.00
DEBBIE FUCHS	\$ 100.00
KRISTIN HAAPASAARI	\$ 25.00
ROXANN HARR	\$ 300.00
KIM HOLBEN	\$ 50.00
ERIC JONES	\$ 100.00
JON MJELDE	\$100.00
VALERIE MOORE	\$ 50.00
NOEL PATERSON	\$ 50.00
AMANDA RAINES	\$ 10.00
ANDREW & MARCIA REBMANN	\$ 5000.00
CHARLENE ROBERTSON	\$ 500.00
HAYDEN WILLIAMS	\$ 50.00

We appreciate our Arboretum friends, volunteers and visitors who contributed to the campaign by recording what Water Matters means to them. Thank you to the donors who made it possible to begin this essential project.

COMMUNITY VOICES

“Every single time we pass by my kids ask if we can go to the Arboretum, which is a testament to the fact that the Arboretum is adored and appreciated by all ages. I love being there with my kids and family, but I also love being there by myself, for rare moments of stillness and reflection. It is a peaceful setting, which makes it different from meeting up at fast paced parks, or high energy recreation areas. I thrive on the energy and connection I feel when I gather there with friends and yoga class members. So, no matter which dynamic I find myself enjoying the Arboretum, I feel gratitude for that experience and crave it again and again, which keeps me coming back.”

Ricole Brown
Maple Leaf Yoga Instructor

“The First thing I noticed is that people here smile a lot, a whole lot. Must be something in the air. The Staff/Volunteers are dedicated to their work. They are welcoming and gracious. They are creative. They are easy to work with as collaborators. The Arboretum Foundation and Maple Valley Creative Arts Council together produce our Summer Night Music Concerts at the Arboretum. Staff/Volunteers are interested in making things better and willing to do the work required for excellence. They even help me load-in equipment for the Summer Night Concerts which I greatly appreciate.”

Ed Corrigan
Performing Arts Director
Maple Valley Creative Arts Council

“I love the gazebo where I can sit and rest and look at the beautiful surroundings. Communities need places for its residents to relax and unwind. I can learn about names of plants and decide what might work in my own yard and garden. I can wander the garden and read the placards or ask a volunteer at the information center. The staff and volunteers at LWAF not only work to maintain the arboretum, but to make sure it remains part of a vibrant community. They were wonderful to work with collaboratively during our theatre’s use of the space for outdoor performances.”

Earlene DeLeon
Emerald Theatre Managing Director



“Space itself is a gift. Our lives may not seem so confined when we experience the sense of freedom standing in the open meadow at the Arboretum, or wandering the endless trails that take us from garden to garden.”

Diane Stueber
LWAF Lead Docent

“I remember gathering with my Story Time families to read and sing together surrounded by the garden. Then hearing their happy voices ringing out from the trails as they explore and engage with nature. I like that memory so much I tend to repeat it every year.”

Sharon Chastain
Maple Valley King County Librarian

“I especially enjoy the Tribal Life Trail because of how it defines so much of the history of our area and what we’ve used these native plants for. So many of these plants offer us more than just one thing. It gets me excited, educates me and connects me to nature. There are also a lot of people I enjoy being around here in association with these plants.”

Gary Rheum
King County Master Gardener

“Watching the azaleas bursting out week-to-week on our Sunday afternoon walks to the Arboretum, I was overwhelmed by the diversity and beauty of the color and variety of these amazing trees. I had never seen anything like it!”

Glenn Cunningham
LWAF Docent

OUR 2023 VISION

Standing Strong and Moving Forward

The entryway at LWA is becoming more welcoming each year with additions such as the archway, information booth and in-progress information kiosk. Our membership has grown substantially as has our online following, and we now gather in person at the close of each season to share and reflect. We are rethinking what it means to rally our community in support of our financial goals, as we did in the Water Matters campaign. Our local partnerships have created joyful new traditions, such as Shakespeare in the Park. All these things have put us in strong standing as an organization and a destination, and now is the time to advance with what we have. In 2023, we will apply protective finish to a variety of our beautiful hardscape features, enhance our long-standing member relationships with a new tracking system, furnish our well-used staff buildings with new roofing, and nourish our plant collections with water from new irrigation lines. Arboretum friends and visitors can expect to find that their favorite parts of LWAF have been renewed with care.

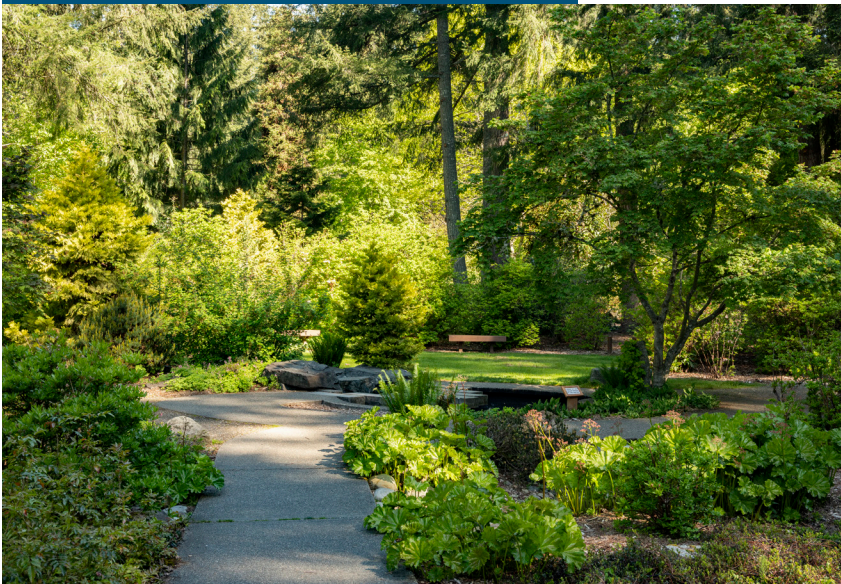


Photo credit: Jen Kistner

PNW

Community

Joy

Wonder

Inclusion

Learning

Storytelling

Stewardship