

LAKE WILDERNESS ARBORETUM FOUNDATION

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

2023

Annual Report



WHAT'S NEW

- Volunteers constructed an information kiosk to serve as a hub for news, information and tour groups at the parking lot entrance.
- LWAF Board financed roof replacement on 2 greenhouses and a new cedar fence for the Smith-Mossman Garden.
- Thanks to supporters of WaterWise campaign and City of Maple Valley, Perennial and Legacy gardens received new irrigation.
- LWAF Board members and Director gained valuable insights on a tour of Bellvue Botanical Garden, and developed a long-term vision plan for the Foundation.

VISITORS

- Tours were led by docents and by Director Susan Goodell for the public, City of Maple Valley staff, and special interest groups.
- Docents made 3,920 contacts with Arboretum visitors.
- Spring and Fall plant sales drew 1,829 attendees.
- 52.1K visitors came to LWA November 2022 - October 2023, spending an average of 51 minutes per visit.

PARTNER EVENTS

- Book Tasting, Out in the Open, and StoryWalk® Read-Alongs by King County Maple Valley Library
- Lake Wilderness 2nd grade field trip led by Master Gardeners
- Make a Difference Day, REI Volunteer Day
- Maple Valley Days Arts Festival, Music in the Garden, and Slug Hunt by Maple Valley Creative Arts Council
- NW Fuchsia Society judged plant show, NW Perennial Alliance Open Gardens
- Outdoor Academy volunteer days and Plant Science class pruning sessions by Tahoma High School
- Shakespeare in the Garden by Emerald Theater
- Summer camps by Ashlar Way and Steamboat Studios
- Taste of the Valley by Maple Valley Rotary
- Yoga sessions and summer camp by Maple Leaf Movement

STAFF

Susan Goodell, Arboretum Director
Todd Tschimperle, Property Manager
Shaunna Kipling, Gardener Assistant

BOARD

930 hours

Kristin Haapasaari, President
Ron Groepper, Vice President
Kim Holben, Treasurer
Diane Barnes, Secretary
Karin Taylor
Vicki Cunningham
Stephanie Hofferber

VOLUNTEERS

5,005 hours

- more than 425 volunteers
- wide range of roles: grounds crew, docent, plant sale cashier, outreach assistant, photographer, newsletter editor, special events assistant, and many more

OUR 2024 VISION

We acknowledge the value of our existing community, history, and natural specimens while continuing to extend our reach. As our organization grows and advances, LWAF Board and Director have been building strategies in 2023 to fortify our long-term vision for years to come . . .

Maintain public gardens within the framework of Maple Valley Parks System while preserving our plant collections and building a dynamic physical interface for visitors.

Develop educational programs and signage that encompasses plant identification, local history, tribal heritage, and environmental awareness.

Grow regional recognition using digital communications, marketing materials, and existing networks of organizations with common goals.

Engage new and existing volunteers and members through meaningful opportunities to contribute, community-building events, and cultural expression through the arts.

Strengthen fundraising and development by continuing plants sales, creating a program that supports the donor cycle, and exploring new opportunities for financial growth.

DONORS & MEMBERS

Charles Perkins in memory of Cathy Perkins	\$1,500
Cascade Mineralogic Society	\$75
Costco EE Giving Fund	\$576
David Ball	\$125
Des Moines Garden Club	\$100
Enumclaw Garden Club	\$50
Make a Difference Day	\$1,205
Maple Trails Garden Club	\$35
Microsoft Employees	\$169
Membership Dues	\$1,135
Other	\$1,224
Stock Shares (30)	\$9,869
Stephen George Hosford	\$50
Visitor Donation Box	\$228
WA State Federation of Garden Clubs	\$1,000

LWAF is honored to receive \$400,000 from the Washington State Department of Commerce through the Local Land Community Projects Grant, which was awarded to the City of Maple Valley.

FINANCIALS

REVENUE	
City of MV Ops & Maintenance	\$103,200
Donations	\$16,206
Facility Usage & Storage Fees	\$3,091
Interest	\$87
Membership Dues	\$1,135
Miscellaneous	\$263
Spring Plant Sale	\$43,093
Fall Plant Sale	\$12,967
Total Revenue	\$180,042

EXPENSES	
Board	\$4,841
Make a Difference Day	\$1,205
Ops & Maintenance	\$103,302
Plant Sales	\$36,855
Special Projects	
Irrigation	\$32,946
Fencing	\$5,220
Greenhouse Roof Replacement	\$3,485
Memorial Benches	\$1,165
Total Expenses	\$189,019

NET	
Revenue	\$180,042
Expenses	\$189,019
Net Revenue	-\$8,977