



# OPEN SPACE CONSERVANCY TRUST SPECIAL VIDEO MEETING

Thursday, October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at 5:00 PM

## BOARD MEMBERS:

Chair Carol Lynn Berseth  
Vice Chair Geraldine Poor  
Secretary Hillary Ethe  
Board Members: Lisa Anderl, Marie Bender,  
Thomas Hildebrandnt, and Craig Olson

## LOCATION & CONTACT

Mercer Island City Hall – Zoom Meeting  
9611 SE 36<sup>th</sup> Street | Mercer Island, WA 98040  
Phone: 206.275.7706 | [www.mercerisland.gov](http://www.mercerisland.gov)

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**Registering to Speak:** Individuals wishing to speak live during Appearances will need to register their request with staff at 206.275.7793 or email [andrea.larson@mercerisland.gov](mailto:andrea.larson@mercerisland.gov) and leave a message before 4 PM on the day of the meeting. Please reference "Appearances" on your correspondence. Each speaker will be allowed three (3) minutes to speak.

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- 1) Click [this link](#)
- 2) If the Zoom app is not installed on your computer, you will be prompted to download it.
- 3) If prompted for Webinar ID, enter **825 4892 7688**; Enter Password **074222**

## CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL, 5 PM

## PUBLIC APPEARANCES

### REGULAR BUSINESS

1. Approval of Minutes for the July 21, 2022 Meeting  
**Recommended Action:** Approve the July 21, 2022 minutes
2. Annual Herbicide Application Report  
**Recommended Action:** Receive report
3. Herbicide Use Protocol Amendments  
**Recommended Action:** Approve amendments to the Herbicide Use Protocol
4. 84<sup>th</sup> Ave Parking Decommission Project Update  
**Recommended Action:** Receive presentation
5. Special Events Policy Revisions  
**Recommended action:** Discuss and approve the Special Events Policy revisions
6. Bike Rack Location  
**Recommended action:** Discuss location of new bike rack
7. Engstrom Title Transfer Update  
**Recommended action:** Receive update
8. 2023 Work Plan Draft

**Recommended action:** Discuss Work Plan items for 2023

**OTHER BUSINESS**

9. [Department Report/Updates](#)
10. [Quadrant](#) Reports
11. Topics for Future Discussion
12. [Next](#) Scheduled Meeting – January 19, 2023

**ADJOURNMENT**

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# OPEN SPACE CONSERVANCY TRUST BOARD MEETING MINUTES July 21st, 2022

## CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Chair Hildebrandt called the meeting to order at 5:02 PM

Chair Thomas Hildebrandt, Vice Chair Carol Lynn Berseth, Secretary Geraldine Poor, and Trustees, Marie Bender and Craig Olson participated remotely using a video teleconferencing platform by Zoom.

Trustees Anderl and Ethe were absent.

Staff participating remotely included: Deputy Public Works Director Alaine Sommargren and Parks Operations Manager Sam Harb

## PUBLIC APPEARANCES:

No public appearances

## REGULAR BUSINESS:

### 1. Approve Minutes of the April 21st, 2022 Meetings

Corrections: none

Motion by Hildebrandt; moved by Berseth and seconded by Olson to:  
Approve the Minutes of the November 18th meeting.  
PASSED: 5-0

### 2. Election of Officers

Sam Harb, Parks Operations Manager explained the process for election of officers.

Chair

Hildebrandt nominated Berseth  
There were no further nominations.  
VOTE:  
Passed: 5-0  
Berseth was elected Chair.

Vice Chair

Hildebrandt nominated Poor.  
There were no further nominations.  
VOTE:  
Passed: 5-0  
Poor was elected Vice Chair

Secretary

Hildebrandt nominated Ethe

There were no further nominations.  
 VOTE:  
 Passed: 5-0  
 Ethe was elected Secretary.

Tom Hildebrandt continued to run the meeting as the new chair was unable to conduct it.

### **3. Engstrom Title Transfer Update**

Alaine Sommargren, Deputy Public Works Director reported that the title for Engstrom Open Space was still in the cities name. Found that title should have been transferred and plan to bring a new resolution to council in early fall. Will update at October meeting.

### **4. Permanent Restroom Facility**

Sam Harb, Parks Operations Manager gave a presentation about the current portable toilet situation and what it would take to get a permanent restroom built. Trustee Bender requested discussion of adding a bicycle rack there.

### **5. Special Events Policy Revisions**

Sam Harb, Parks Operations Manager made the requested changes to the Special Events Policy. The Board discussed and requested that staff make some more changes and bring it back next time.

### **6. Off-Leash Dog Update**

Sam Harb, Park Operations Manager updated the board that there hadn't been any law enforcement issues related to Pioneer park and there were not any requests that came up.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

### **Quadrant Reports**

Northwest quadrant – Trails less muddy and some work had been done by crews. Well used by users

Northeast quadrant – Looked great and maintained, dead trees had fallen over were cleared, roots were painted

Southeast quadrant – Everything looks great and dry, nothing dying. Lot of decayed trees falling apart. Saddle club has new form on their website to report horse manure. No manure piles

New quadrant assignments, Bender and Olson assigned to NE quadrant, Poor and Berseth in SE quadrant and Hildebrandt and Ethe for NW quadrant.

Board expressed interest in being included in future volunteer events

### **Topics for future discussion**

Bike rack facility in SE corner of NE quadrant. Possible in person or hybrid meeting

**Next Meeting**

The next meeting is scheduled for October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2022, at 5:00 PM.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Open Space Conservancy Trust, the meeting was adjourned at 5:50 PM

\_\_\_\_\_  
Carol Lynn Berseth, OSCT Chair

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Andrea Larson, City Clerk

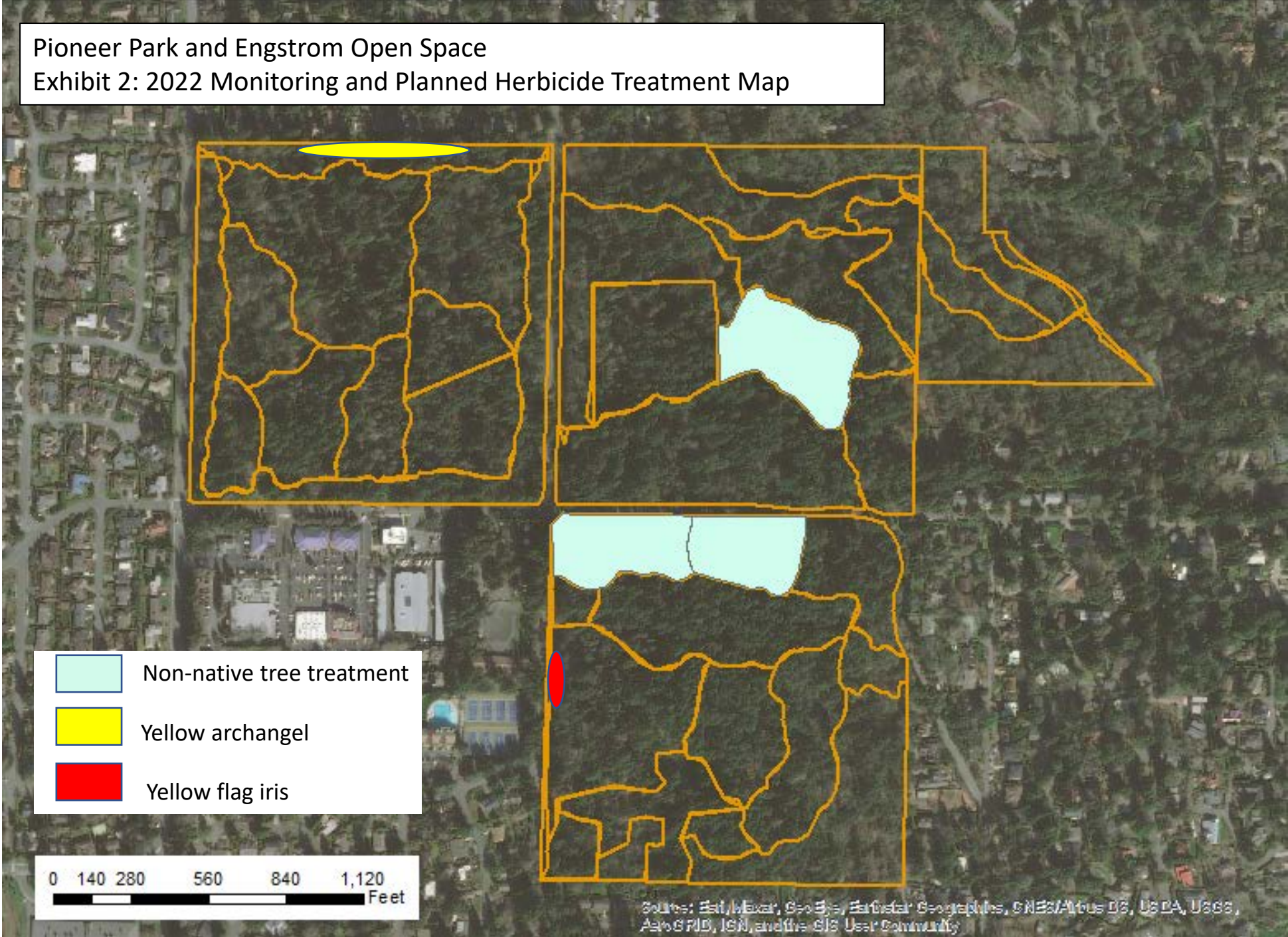
Pioneer Park and Engstrom Open Space  
Exhibit 1: 2021 Herbicide Application Map

Item 2.



Pioneer Park and Engstrom Open Space  
Exhibit 2: 2022 Monitoring and Planned Herbicide Treatment Map

Item 2.





# OPEN SPACE CONSERVANCY TRUST STAFF REPORT

Item 2  
October 20, 2022  
Regular Business

## AGENDA ITEM INFORMATION

<b>TITLE:</b>	Annual Herbicide Application Report	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Discussion Only <input type="checkbox"/> Action Needed: <input type="checkbox"/> Motion <input type="checkbox"/> Ordinance <input type="checkbox"/> Resolution
<b>RECOMMENDED ACTION:</b>	Receive report.	

<b>STAFF:</b>	Lizzy Stone, Natural Resources Project Manager
<b>COUNCIL LIAISON:</b>	Lisa Anderl
<b>EXHIBITS:</b>	1. 2021 Herbicide Application Map 2. 2022 Monitoring and Planned Herbicide Treatment Map

## SUMMARY

In May 2010, the Open Space Conservancy Trust adopted the Herbicide Use Protocol which prescribes the situations in which herbicide may be used on Trust properties. The protocol is updated periodically to reflect changes to best practices, which are driven by research on treatment effectiveness, environmental impact, and other factors. The protocol requires City staff to report to the Trust annually on the recent use and planned uses of herbicides for the year.

### 2021 REPORT

In 2021, Mercer Island Natural Resources and King County Noxious Weed Program staff conducted monitoring for knotweed, yellow flag iris, spotted jewelweed, yellow archangel, and shiny geranium in Pioneer Park or Engstrom Open Space. Only yellow archangel and shiny geranium populations were found. All yellow archangel patches were removed manually.

King County Noxious Weed Program staff located shiny geranium (*Geranium lucidum*) populations on the north edge of the SE quadrant. Two small infestations were treated with a formulation of 1% triclopyr and 0.1% Gallery. Additional monitoring showed the treatment successfully controlled the majority of the plants.

Professional contractors conducted invasive tree treatment along the northern edge of Pioneer Park NE. Trees included in these treatments are: English holly (*Ilex aquifolium*), English laurel (*Prunus laurocerasus*), bird cherry (*Prunus avium*), European mountain ash (*Sorbus aucuparia*), English hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*), cherry plum (*Prunus cerasifera*), and Portugal laurel (*Prunus lusitanica*). Invasive tree treatment was performed using the EZ-Ject lance, with Copperhead shells containing the herbicide imazapyr, which were inserted into the trunks of invasive trees. Smaller trees were cut and painted with glyphosate.

### 2022 PLAN



Throughout the spring and summer of 2022, the Mercer Island Natural Resources crew monitored noxious weed populations in Pioneer Park and Engstrom Open Space. The crew surveyed for yellow archangel (*Lamium galeobdolon*), knotweed (*Polygonum* spp.), yellow flag iris (*Iris pseudacorus*), spotted jewelweed (*Impatiens capensis*), and shiny geranium (*Geranium lucidum*). Yellow archangel and yellow flag iris populations were found on Trust property. A few shiny geranium plants were found and removed manually. No knotweed or jewelweed was found.

Yellow archangel was first identified and treated in Pioneer Park in 2010. This initial treatment was very successful and eradicated approximately 90-95% of the infestation. Regular monitoring of the area has resulted in subsequent treatments to manage remaining infestations. In 2022, patches of yellow archangel were identified along the north edge of the NW quadrant and one small patch was identified in the SE quadrant. The patch in the SE quadrant was small enough to be dug up by hand, while the larger patches in the NW quadrant were treated with the following formulation: 2.5% percent glyphosate and 2% AgriDex adjuvant. This aquatic-approved formulation reduces harm to amphibians. All adjacent neighbors were notified of the treatment and informed about yellow archangel identification and management.

The patch of knotweed that has been monitored in the SE quadrant since 2013 was again surveyed in 2022. No stems of knotweed were found. Similarly, spotted jewelweed populations that had been previously identified in the SE quadrant were monitored and no plants were found.

## RECOMMENDED ACTION

Receive report.



# OPEN SPACE CONSERVANCY TRUST STAFF REPORT

Item 3  
October 20, 2022  
Regular Business

## AGENDA ITEM INFORMATION

<b>TITLE:</b>	Herbicide Use Protocol Amendment	<input type="checkbox"/> Discussion Only <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action Needed: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Motion <input type="checkbox"/> Ordinance <input type="checkbox"/> Resolution
<b>RECOMMENDED ACTION:</b>	Approve Herbicide Use Protocol amendments	

<b>STAFF:</b>	Lizzy Stone, Natural Resources Project Manager
<b>COUNCIL LIAISON:</b>	Lisa Anderl
<b>EXHIBITS:</b>	1. Herbicide Use Protocol Draft Changes

## SUMMARY

In May 2010, the Open Space Conservancy Trust adopted the Herbicide Use Protocol which prescribes the situations in which herbicide may be used in Pioneer Park and Engstrom Open Space. The protocol requires that Trust board members review, approve, or reject any new uses of herbicides on Trust properties. The City’s Natural Resources staff follow an adaptive management framework to ecological restoration, assessing and adopting the methods proven to be most effective and efficient to achieve management goals. To this end, staff propose the following amendments to the protocol:

1. Include use of the chemical triclopyr in addition to, or instead of, glyphosate to treat invasive trees, blackberry stems, and difficult to manage herbaceous weeds.
2. Include use of imazapyr in addition to, or instead of, glyphosate to treat knotweed species.
3. Limit herbicide treatment of English ivy to steep slopes.
4. Allow for cut and treat herbicide use on blackberry stems where blackberry is growing through native plants.
5. Add yellow flag iris and shiny geranium to the list of weedy herbaceous plants that can be treated with herbicide.
6. Include an option to treat regulated noxious weeds when they are found on Trust Property using the least toxic effective approach recommended by King County Noxious Weed Control Program.

### Triclopyr versus glyphosate

Triclopyr is a systemic herbicide that is used to control terrestrial and aquatic broadleaf plant species. The chemical comes in different formulations, most commonly the butoxyethyl ester (BEE) and triethylamine salt (TEA) forms. The TEA formulation is approved for use in aquatic habitats and would be the only formulation

used on Trust property. Triclopyr TEA is practically non-toxic to birds, fish, shellfish, and bees. Triclopyr is known to be very effective for brush control and for use on freshly cut stems of woody plants.

With certain plants, triclopyr can provide more effective control than glyphosate alone, in turn allowing for fewer repeat treatments and less herbicide to be used overall. King County Noxious Weed Control Program recommends both triclopyr and glyphosate (among other chemicals) as treatment options for cut English holly stems, but acknowledges that glyphosate is the least effective of the herbicide options<sup>1</sup>. When treating certain persistent herbaceous weeds such as yellow archangel, King County's Noxious Weed Control Program recommends mixing glyphosate with triclopyr to reduce the need for repeat treatments<sup>2</sup>. By allowing for the use of triclopyr as an alternative to, or as an additive with, glyphosate, less herbicide can be used overall while still allowing for effective control of weeds.

### **Imazapyr use on knotweed**

Imazapyr is a broad-spectrum, non-selective systemic herbicide that controls terrestrial annual and perennial grasses and broadleaved herbs, woody species, and riparian and emergent aquatic species. It is relatively slow acting and does not readily break down in the plant, making it particularly effective at killing large woody species, as well as other persistent weeds. Imazapyr can be applied as a foliar spray or directly to a cut stump or frill. It was approved for use on invasive trees in the 2016 revision of the Herbicide Use Protocol. Imazapyr has a very low toxicity to mammals and birds, a low toxicity to fish and invertebrates, and is classified as a non-carcinogenic compound by the US EPA. Imazapyr is known to remain soil active for one to five months, particularly when incorrectly over-applied. Overapplication can cause dieback of surrounding vegetation.

King County Noxious Weed Control Program state that imazapyr is the most effective chemical for managing knotweed when plants are too small for hollow stem injection<sup>3</sup>. Glyphosate is the only product labeled for hollow stem injection. The second most effective chemical for foliar spray is glyphosate. By allowing for the use of imazapyr when treating small knotweed plants, fewer follow up treatments may be required, resulting in less herbicide used overall.

### **English ivy treatment on steep slopes**

The original 2010 Open Space Conservancy Trust Herbicide Use Protocol and the 2016 revision allowed for English ivy to be treated with glyphosate where native plants make up less than 50% of vegetation coverage. In the six years since the last Herbicide Use Protocol revision, comprehensive removal of ground ivy, herbaceous weeds, and all other non-native plants was initiated on 8.8 acres in Pioneer Park. This comprehensive weed removal was conducted by contractors and volunteers. Initial comprehensive weed removal efforts showed that, while it is labor intensive to remove English ivy monocultures manually, the well-drained soils and thick layer of organic matter that is common in Pioneer Park allow for vines and roots to be effectively pulled by hand in most areas of the park.

However, steep slopes covered in ivy create a unique challenge for weed removal, as manual removal of ivy will disturb loose soils and can lead to excessive erosion. In these locations, a foliar spray of dilute, aquatic-approved glyphosate and surfactant will minimize soil loss from erosion and reduce English ivy competition with native plants. By limiting use of herbicide on English ivy to these delicate slopes, we greatly reduce the potential use of herbicide in the park, while still allowing for its use where ecologically necessary.

### **Cut treat herbicide use on blackberry**

Himalayan and evergreen blackberry primarily grow in sunny areas, which in Pioneer Park and Engstrom Open Space are the canopy gaps and forest edges. The Pioneer Park Forest Health Plan describes a long-term

approach of planting trees to minimize canopy gaps that create conditions for these fast-growing weedy species. Where blackberry has already formed a thicket, it can be difficult for new trees to establish before being overgrown and outcompeted. Blackberry thickets are managed by cutting stems and manually digging out the roots. This approach minimizes the use of herbicide but can be labor intensive and result in substantial soil disturbance. Where blackberry is growing immediately next to or through native plants, manual removal is not possible without significant damage to the desirable species. In these cases, cutting the blackberry stem to a height of 6 inches and painting or dabbing aquatic approved glyphosate or triclopyr onto the cut stem will control the blackberry while preserving the native plant. This targeted “cut paint” approach minimizes the impacts of soil disturbance on the surrounding vegetation, while still minimizing the use of herbicide in the landscape.

### **Yellow flag iris and shiny geranium**

Continuous monitoring efforts by the City’s Natural Resources staff and King County Noxious Weed Control Program staff identified small populations of yellow flag iris and shiny geranium on Trust properties. Shiny geranium is a Class B noxious weed in King County, meaning that public and private landowners are required to control plants on their property when found. Yellow flag iris is a Class C noxious weed with control recommended, but not required by the County. Spread of these and any other new noxious weed populations should be monitored closely and managed quickly to prevent spread. Published best management practices recommend treatment with glyphosate + adjuvant to treat yellow flag iris. Shiny geranium is best treated using triclopyr or glyphosate, depending on timing and surrounding vegetation.

Other regulated noxious weeds found on Trust property should be managed using the least toxic, effective method recommended by the King County Noxious Weed Control Board.

<sup>1</sup>King County Noxious Weed Control Program. “English Holly- Best Management Practices,” March 2020. <https://your.kingcounty.gov/dnrp/library/water-and-land/weeds/BMPs/English-holly-control.pdf>.

<sup>2</sup>King County Noxious Weed Control Program, “Yellow Archangel- Best Management Practices,” March 2020, <https://your.kingcounty.gov/dnrp/library/water-and-land/weeds/BMPs/yellow-archangel-control.pdf>.

<sup>3</sup>King County Noxious Weed Control Program, “Invasive Knotweeds- Best Management Practices,” March 2020, <https://your.kingcounty.gov/dnrp/library/water-and-land/weeds/BMPs/Knotweed-Control.pdf>

## **RECOMMENDED ACTION**

Approve Herbicide Use Protocol amendments

# Mercer Island Open Space Conservancy Trust Herbicide Use Protocol



Prepared for:

**The Mercer Island Open Space Conservancy Trust**

Prepared by:

**Mercer Island [Public Works](#) | [Parks & Natural Resources](#) and  
[Recreation](#)  
~~December 2016~~ [Updated September 2022](#)**

## Introduction

Pioneer Park and Engstrom Open Space contain non-native plant species that are crowding out native species and preventing native tree regeneration, a condition that was documented in the 2008 Pioneer Park Forest Health Survey. This study showed that large populations of regenerating non-native trees (particularly English holly and cherry laurel) cover the forest floor while English ivy, a non-native vine, was found growing on 20% of the native canopy trees. In addition, there are very few naturally regenerating conifer trees, suggesting that without active management, the conifer-dominated canopy may be lost.

The ordinance that established the Open Space Conservancy Trust charges the trust's board with "protecting, maintaining and preserving" its properties. The Trust's document ***Policies for Protecting, Maintaining and Preserving Mercer Island Open Space Conservancy Trust Properties*** states: "6. Exotic Species...c) Eradication methods must cause minimal damage to surrounding native species and ecological communities" (p. 8). From the results of restoration work over the past [15-18](#) years, the Trust recognizes that in some instances the disturbance resulting from manual removal techniques has more impact on the ecology of the forest than does a low-toxicity herbicide. This protocol identifies instances where this is most likely the case. It guides City of Mercer Island staff in application procedures which have been approved by the Open Space Conservancy Trust. It requires feedback to the Trust so that herbicide use can be reviewed annually and adjusted in consultation with City staff. The Trust has the authority to add new uses or discontinue existing uses of herbicide on its properties.

This document contains Herbicide Use Fact Sheets. Each fact sheet represents a Trust-approved use of herbicide. The fact sheets are to be used as an educational tool for trustees, City staff, City Council, and the public. Fact sheets will be added and removed to this document as the Trust approves or disapproves particular herbicide uses. The associated protocol follows these fact sheets and explains in detail how the application will be carried out. This is for the benefit of all involved, and will be particularly useful to Parks ~~and Recreation~~ staff in contracted work in the future.



# Invasive Trees Herbicide Use Fact Sheet

## What is the problem?

Invasive trees in Pioneer Park and Engstrom Open Space suppress the growth of native plants by creating dense shade and competing for space, nutrients and water. Holly and laurel have been spreading prolifically throughout both properties, creating “deserts” underneath larger trees.

Invasive trees found in Pioneer Park and Engstrom Open Space:

- ~~English-cherry~~ laurel (*Prunus laurocerasus*)
- English holly (*Ilex aquifolium*)
- European mountain ash (*Sorbus aucuparia*)
- English hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*)
- wild cherry (*Prunus avium*)
- Portugal laurel (*Prunus lusitanica*)
- black locust (*Robinia pseudoacacia*)
- cherry plum (*Prunus cerasifera*)
- tree-of-heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*)



Photos courtesy of King County Noxious Weed Control Program

## What non-chemical methods of control have been used and/or considered?

Small trees are cut down and dug out. Larger trees have been cut down, however they re-sprout from their bases and continue to live. Due to their extensive root systems, larger trees are very difficult to manually remove in their entirety. Such removal also causes damage to surrounding native vegetation and creates large piles of brush.

## What type of herbicide application is used to control these species?

Invasive trees are most effectively killed by injecting small shells filled with dry imazapyr using the EZ-Ject lance. No spray is used. The herbicide is taken up and circulated throughout the tree, affecting the entire plant. If a tree is too small to inject (less than 2 inch DBH), trees will be cut and painted with an aquatic formulation of [glyphosate](#) or [triclopyr](#).

## What should park users know to protect their health and safety?

Invasive tree herbicide treatment takes place during the spring and autumn. Because herbicide is directly injected into the trunks of the trees, there is little chance of park users coming into contact with the chemical. Park users should avoid touching copper-colored shells injected into the base of invasive trees. Signs are posted to alert park users after treatment.

## Where can I get more information?

Go to <http://www.kingcounty.gov/environment/animalsAndPlants/noxious-weeds.aspx> for more information about noxious weeds. Call 275-7882 or email [restoration@mercerisland.gov](mailto:restoration@mercerisland.gov) for questions about this project or any other restoration work in Pioneer Park or Engstrom Open Space.



# English Ivy Herbicide Use Fact Sheet

## What is the problem?

English ivy (*Hedera helix*, *H. hibernica*) is an aggressively spreading non-native vine. Its growth in the understory of Pioneer Park and Engstrom Open Space crowds out the growth of native herbs, shrubs and trees. English ivy also grows vertically into trees, creating heavy 'sails' that increase the risk of treefall in wind storms.

## What non-chemical methods of control have been used and/or considered?

English ivy growing on the ground has been removed by hand pulling. Because this plant can re-grow from small pieces of roots or stems, roots must be carefully grubbed from the soil. Complete removal of

English ivy usually takes many years. Manual removal is used in ~~many-most~~ areas of the park ~~where native plant cover is still healthy~~. However, ~~on steep slopes in areas~~ where English ivy is the dominant plant, removing it by hand is very labor intensive and ~~often causes trampling damage to the sensitive native plants in the area, such as trillium and vanilla leaf~~ can lead to ~~severe erosion~~. English ivy that grows into trees is cut at the base of the tree – no herbicide is used in these situations.



Photo courtesy of King County Noxious Weed Control Program

## What type of herbicide application is used to control this species?

Only ~~areas steep slopes~~ (>60% grade) that are covered with more than 50% English ivy are treated with herbicide. A formulation of aquatic glyphosate and an aquatic surfactant is used. These chemicals have been selected because of their low toxicity. They are not toxic to frogs, salamanders and other amphibians. In early spring, the leaves are sprayed with a low concentration mixture just to the point of wetness. Herbicide is applied using a backpack sprayer, which allows the applicator to focus the spray onto targeted plants and minimize damage to native species.

## What should park users know to protect their health and safety?

Treatments take place in the spring. Areas of English ivy within 20 ft. of trails are not sprayed. If English ivy is treated within 30 ft. of a trail, signs are posted ~~at the trail edge~~ to alert park users. The herbicide is usually taken up by the plant within 24 hours. As a precaution, dogs and people should stay out of treated areas for a week after treatment.

## Where can I get more information?

Go to <http://www.kingcounty.gov/environment/animalsAndPlants/noxious-weeds.aspx> for more information about noxious weeds. Call 275-7882 or email [restoration@mercerisland.gov](mailto:restoration@mercerisland.gov) for questions about this project or any other restoration work in Pioneer Park or Engstrom Open Space.





# Knotweed Herbicide Use Fact Sheet

## What is the problem?

Knotweed (*Polygonum* spp.) is an aggressively growing, non-native perennial that forms large thickets. The dense shade created by the large leaves and the dense underground root system block the growth of native species. Populations are able to grow rapidly and are difficult to control.

Several types of knotweed are present on Mercer Island – in parks, on private land, and along roadways. Control of knotweed should begin as soon as a population is found.

## What non-chemical methods of control have been used and/or considered?

On other sites, knotweed has been controlled by digging out the roots. However, because knotweed regrows from very small root fragments, manual removal usually removes only a portion of the plant. The plant regrows prolifically within a year.

## What type of herbicide application is used to control this species?

~~The For knotweed with larger stems, the~~ first treatment ~~for knotweed~~ is a stem injection of small amounts of concentrated aquatic approved glyphosate. This method forces the herbicide directly into each bamboo-like cane, and eliminates herbicide drift to desirable plants. If knotweed regrows after the injection treatment, ~~or if the stems are~~ very narrow, the regrown leaves are sprayed during the following summer with a low concentration mixture of aquatic glyphosate or imazapyr and an aquatic surfactant, just to the point of wetness. These chemicals have been selected because of their relative low toxicity. ~~They are not toxic to frogs, salamanders and other amphibians.~~



Photos courtesy of King County Noxious Weed Control Program

## What should park users know to protect their health and safety?

Knotweed is treated in June, ~~July and August - September.~~ ~~Clumps of knotweed within 20 ft. of trails will only be treated using the injection method.~~ If knotweed is treated within 30 ft. of a trail, signs are posted at the trail edge to alert park users. The herbicide is usually taken up by the plant within 24 hours. As a precaution, dogs and people should stay out of treated areas for a week after treatment.

## Where can I get more information?

Go to <http://www.kingcounty.gov/environment/animalsAndPlants/noxious-weeds.aspx> for more information about noxious weeds. Call 275-7882 or email [restoration@mercerisland.gov](mailto:restoration@mercerisland.gov) for

questions about this project or any other restoration work in Pioneer Park or Engstrom Open Space.

## Himalayan and Evergreen Blackberry

### Herbicide Use Fact Sheet

#### What is the problem?

Himalayan blackberry (*Rubus bifrons*, syn. *Rubus armeniacus*) and evergreen blackberry (*Rubus laciniatus*) are non-native shrubs that can form impenetrable thickets that reach up to 15 feet in height. These thickets prevent native plants from regenerating and can outcompete understory plants that are already established. Blackberry populations can be spread by seed or vegetatively by sprouting from their extensive root systems and forming new roots from stem tips when in contact with soil.



#### What non-chemical methods of control have been used and/or considered?

Most non-native blackberry plants are cut down and their roots are manually dug out. Manual removal requires multiple years of follow up, as plants can sprout from root fragments remaining in the soil. In large monocultures of blackberry and when blackberry is growing up through native plants, digging roots can cause significant soil and root disturbance, damaging existing native vegetation and creating disturbed soil conditions that invite new weedy species.



Photos courtesy of King County Noxious Weed Control Program

#### What type of herbicide application is used to control these species?

In areas where blackberry is growing up through native plants, stems are cut and immediately painted with an aquatic formulation of glyphosate or triclopyr. No spray is used. These chemicals have been selected because of their relative low toxicity. Herbicide is applied using a paint brush or dropper, which allows the applicator to treat only the cut stems of targeted plants and minimize damage to native species.

#### What should park users know to protect their health and safety?

Cut and paint treatment takes place in the summer and early fall. If ~~they~~ blackberry plants are treated within 30 ft. of a trail, signs are posted at the trail edge to alert park users. The herbicide is usually taken up by the plant within 24 hours. As a precaution, dogs and people should stay out of treated areas for a week after treatment.

#### Where can I get more information?

Go to <http://www.kingcounty.gov/environment/animalsAndPlants/noxious-weeds.aspx> for more information about noxious weeds. Call 275-7882 or email [restoration@mercerisland.gov](mailto:restoration@mercerisland.gov) for questions about this project or any other restoration work in Pioneer Park or Engstrom Open Space.

Rev. 09/26/2022



# Invasive Herbaceous Plants Herbicide Use Fact Sheet

## What is the problem?

Several species of invasive herbaceous plants are beginning to grow in Pioneer Park and Engstrom Open Space. Although their populations are currently small, control will become very difficult and costly if they are allowed to spread. These species grow aggressively and compete with native plants for light and water, and eventually blanket entire areas!

Invasive herbaceous species currently found in Pioneer Park and Engstrom Open Space:

- yellow archangel (*Lamium galeobdolon*)
- reed canarygrass (*Phalaris arundinacea*)
- bindweed (*Calystegia sepium*, *Convolvulus arvensis*)
- yellow flag iris (*Iris pseudacorus*)
- shiny geranium (*Geranium lucidum*)

[In addition to these identified weeds, Mercer Island Natural Resources staff is continuously monitoring for new populations of regulated noxious weeds throughout Open Space properties. These plants fit into Class A, Class B, or regulated Class C designations, meaning that control is required in King County.](#)

## What non-chemical methods of control have been used and/or considered?

The tops of these plants can be manually removed. However, because of their deep and extensive root systems, the plants begin to grow again very quickly. Excavating their root systems is extremely disruptive to surrounding vegetation, and rarely results in adequate control of the plant. Small areas can be smothered by cardboard or plastic. This also kills any native plants in the area.

## What type of herbicide application is used to control these species?

[In spring or summer](#) [During the growing season \(specific timing varies for each species\)](#), the leaves are sprayed with a low concentration mixture of aquatic glyphosate and an aquatic surfactant, just to the point of wetness. [For certain plants that are particularly difficult to control, \(i.e. yellow archangel and shiny geranium\) a low concentration of aquatic-approved triclopyr may be used on its own or added to the glyphosate mixture to improve control.](#) Herbicide is applied using a backpack sprayer, which allows the applicator to



Photos courtesy of [Washington and King County Noxious Weed Control Programs](#)

focus the spray onto targeted plants and minimize damage to native species. [Any new regulated weed infestations will be treated using the least toxic, effective method recommended by the King County Noxious Weed Control Program.](#)

## What should park users know to protect their health and safety?

Timing of treatment varies with the target plant, but is generally in early to mid-summer. ~~Areas with invasive herbaceous plants within 20 ft. of trails are not sprayed.~~ If invasive herbaceous plants are treated within 30 ft. of a trail, signs are posted [at the trail edge](#) to alert park users. The herbicide is usually taken up by the plant within 24 hours. As a precaution, dogs and people should stay out of treated areas for a week after treatment.

## Where can I get more information?

Go to <http://www.kingcounty.gov/environment/animalsAndPlants/noxious-weeds.aspx> for more information about noxious weeds. Call 275-7882 or email [restoration@mercerisland.gov](mailto:restoration@mercerisland.gov) for questions about this project or any other restoration work in Pioneer Park or Engstrom Open Space.

# Mercer Island Open Space Conservancy Trust

## Herbicide Use Protocol

### 1. Purpose

This protocol is intended to guide City of Mercer Island (City) staff in application procedures approved by the Open Space Conservancy Trust (Trust) for managing vegetation in Pioneer Park and Engstrom Open Space. Pioneer Park and Engstrom Open Space contain non-native invasive plant species that are crowding out native species and preventing native tree regeneration. The Trust desires to use the lowest impact approach to managing invasive plants. The Trust recognizes that in some instances the disturbance resulting from manual removal techniques has more impact on the ecology of the forest than does a low-toxicity herbicide.

### 2. Scope

This application protocol provides guidelines for City staff and City-hired contractors in the methods and restrictions of herbicide application. It also provides guidelines for when City staff must inform and/or request approval from the Trust board for new and existing herbicide uses.

### 3. Applicable Regulations and Standards

All herbicide applications must conform to Washington State Department of Agriculture (WSDA) pesticide regulations. The intent of this protocol is to meet or exceed the criteria set by Salmon-Safe Certification Standards for Parks and Natural Areas.

### 4. Definitions

**Application** – means the use of the product as a fumigant, direct surface spray, treatment, drench, injection, incorporation, side-dressing, pre-emergent, furrowed spread, or broadcast agent.

**Commercial Applicator** - A WSDA licensed pesticide applicator owning or managing a business of applying pesticides to the land or property of another. This land can either be publicly or privately owned.

**Commercial Operator** - A WSDA licensed pesticide applicator employed by a WSDA-licensed Commercial Applicator to apply pesticides to the land or property of another.

**Direct On-site Supervision** – A Public Operator (or Commercial Operator, if services contracted) is physically present and available, on-site.

**Herbicide** – A common pesticide focused on killing weeds and other plants that grow where they are not wanted.

**Manufacturer's Label** – The main source of information on how to use the product correctly, safely, and legally. The main sections of a label are: common name and brand name, active ingredient, EPA registration number, signal words, first aid, directions for use, and storage/disposal.

**Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS)** – An information sheet provided by a chemical manufacturer describing chemical qualities, hazards, safety precautions, and emergency procedures to be followed in case of a spill, fire, or other emergency.

**New Use** – The use of an herbicide on a target species not identified in Section 7 (below), or the use of a herbicide formulation that is not identified in Section 7.

**Pesticide** – Defined by the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) as "...any substance or mixture of substances intended for preventing, destroying, repelling, or mitigating any insects, rodents, nematodes, fungi, weeds, or any other forms of life declared to be pests, and any substance or mixture of substances intended for use as a plant regulator, defoliant, or desiccant.

**Public Operator** – A WSDA licensed pesticide applicator who, while acting as an employee of a governmental agency, applies restricted use pesticides by any means or any pesticide by power equipment on public or private property.

**Restricted Use Pesticide** - Any pesticide that is classified as restricted use by the Environmental Protection Agency or the Washington State Department of Agriculture (WSDA) at the time of registration. All pesticides applied to water are designated as state restricted use by WSDA.

**Storm Event** – A weather event that produces more than 0.25 inch of precipitation.

## 5. Responsibilities

### A. Open Space Conservancy Trust shall:

1. Review and approve or reject any new uses of herbicides in its properties.
2. Receive reports each year on what herbicides have been applied to specific plant species.
3. Receive reports of issues, problems or emergencies related to the use of herbicides on Trust properties at the meeting that follows the date of the incident and as new information is available on such incidents.

### B. Parks Natural Resources Staff shall:

1. Implement this protocol on Trust properties.
2. Propose updates to the protocol as new research or site conditions warrant.
3. Propose new uses of herbicides as new research or site conditions warrant.
4. Report to the Trust each year on areas where herbicides have been applied.
5. Report to the Trust each year on areas where herbicides are expected to be applied.
6. Include protocol requirements in contracts that include or may include herbicide application on Trust properties.
7. Communicate protocol specifications to contractors and field staff verbally before an application begins.
8. Provide on-site quality control for applications by City staff and contractors.
9. Keep copies of the Public Operators' and Commercial Operators' records on file in City office.

### C. Pesticide applicators shall:

1. Be certified as, or under the supervision of, a Public Operator or Commercial Operator and be properly trained to work with herbicides.
2. Follow manufacturer's label instructions and this protocol. When such instruction is in conflict with this protocol, the label instructions will be followed.
3. Ensure that only approved herbicides are applied on Trust properties.
4. Follow the policies and procedures established in this application protocol.
5. Report any unsafe work practices to their respective supervisors.

## 6. Environmental Conditions

Environmental conditions (weather and site conditions) required for application of herbicides are dependent upon label and WSDA pesticide regulation requirements. Conditions are determined by visually observing the area and by collecting information from recognized weather forecasting organizations. Minimum environmental requirements: herbicides will not be applied on a site experiencing winds of greater than 10 mph or forecasted to receive a storm event within 12 hours, or label restrictions, whichever is more restrictive.

## 7. Application Specifications

### A. Invasive Trees

Species: English laurel (*Prunus laurocerasus*), English holly (*Ilex aquifolium*), European mountain ash (*Sorbus aucuparia*), English hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*), wild cherry (*Prunus avium*), Portugal laurel (*Prunus lusitanica*), black locust (*Robinia pseudoacacia*), cherry plum (*Prunus cerasifera*) and tree-of-heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*)

Primary Method of application: EZ-Ject lance. Herbicide injected into the truck of the tree.

Time of year: Year-round, but most effective in the spring and fall: April 1 – June 1; September 1–November 1

Product: Imazapyr shells (EZ-Ject Copperhead Herbicide Shells)

Suggested application rate: One shell for trees with dbh less than 2 inches; then one shell every four inches around the trunk of the tree. Signage/trail buffer: ~~No signs will be posted near areas with invasive tree treatment.~~ Information about invasive tree herbicide treatments will be posted [anywhere that treatment comes within 30 ft. of a trail, notification signs will be posted every 50 ft on the trail edge. Notification signage will be posted at nearest trail entrance. at kiosk and map signs during treatment periods.](#)

Area limits: Per label limits.

Secondary method of application for resprouts: Cut-stem

Method of application: Cut through stem completely with pruners, no more than 6" above grade or attachment to stump/trunk. Apply herbicide within 1 hour of fresh cut.

Time of year: April 1 – July 1

Product: Aquatic approved glyphosate or [equivalent triclopyr](#) (50-100% concentration)

Signage/trail buffer: [Information about invasive tree herbicide treatments will be posted anywhere that treatment comes within 30 ft. of a trail, notification signs will be posted every 50 ft on the trail edge. Notification signage will be posted at nearest trail entrance.](#)~~No signs will be posted near areas with invasive tree treatment. Information about invasive tree herbicide treatments will be posted at kiosk and map signs during treatment periods.~~

Area limits: Per label limits.



**B. English ivy**

Species: English ivy (*Hedera helix*)

Method of application: Backpack sprayer, low pressure

Time of year: Feb 1 – May 1

Product: Aquatic glyphosate formulation (maximum 3% concentration) with aquatic surfactant (maximum 5% concentration)

Suggested application rate: Spray-to-wet. Do not spray to run-off.

Signage/trail buffer: Areas within 20 ft. of maintained trails will not be treated.

Anywhere that treatment comes within 30 ft. of a trail, notification signs will be posted every 50 ft on the trail edge. Notification signage will be posted at nearest trail entrance.

Area limits:

1. Only ~~areas~~ steep slopes (>60% grade) with greater than 50% ivy cover on the ground will be treated.
2. Total herbicide application for English ivy is limited to 5 acres/year.

**C. Knotweed**

Species: Knotweed (*Polygonum* spp.)

Method of application: Injection tool, backpack sprayer (for regrowth only)

Time of year: June 1 – September 1

Product:

Stem injection: Aquatic glyphosate (100% concentration)

Foliar spray: Aquatic glyphosate or aquatic imazapyr (2% concentration), with an aquatic surfactant (maximum 2% concentration)

Suggested application rate:

Stem injection: 5 mL/stem

Foliar spray: Spray-to-wet. Do not spray to run-off.

Signage/trail buffer: ~~Areas within 20 ft. of maintained trails will only be treated using injection tool.~~ Anywhere that treatment comes within 30 ft. of a trail, notification signs will be posted every 50 ft on the trail edge. Notification signage will be posted at nearest trail entrance.

Area limits: Per label limits.

**D. Himalayan and evergreen blackberry**

Species: Himalayan (*Rubus bifrons*) and evergreen blackberry (*Rubus laciniatus*)

Method of application: Cut stem

Time of year: June 1 – September 1

Product: Aquatic approved glyphosate or triclopyr (50-100% concentration)

Signage/trail buffer: Anywhere that treatment comes within 30 ft. of a trail, notification signs will be posted every 50 ft on the trail edge. Notification signage will be posted at nearest trail entrance.

Area limits: Per label limits.

**D.E. Targeted species**

Species: Yellow archangel (*Lamiastrum galeobdolon*), reed canarygrass (*Phalaris arundinacea*), hedge false bindweed (*Calystegia sepium*), [yellow flag iris \(\*Iris pseudacorus\*\)](#), [shiny geranium \(\*Geranium lucidum\*\)](#), [new populations of Class A, Class B, or regulated Class C weeds.](#)

Method of application: Backpack sprayer, low pressure

Time of year: April 1 – ~~August~~ [October 1](#)

Product: Aquatic glyphosate (maximum ~~35~~ 5% concentration) with an aquatic surfactant (maximum 5% concentration), [aquatic triclopyr \(2%\) with an aquatic surfactant \(5%\)](#), [or a mixture of aquatic glyphosate \(3%\) and aquatic triclopyr \(2%\) with an aquatic surfactant \(5%\)](#).

Suggested application rate: Spray-to-wet. Do not spray to run-off.

Signage/trail offset: ~~Areas within 20 ft. of maintained trails will not be treated.~~

Anywhere that treatment comes within 30 ft. of a trail, notification signs will be posted every 50 ft. [on the trail edge](#). Notification signage will be posted at nearest trail entrance.

Area limits:

1. Treatment for populations larger than 5000 sq. ft. will be presented to the Trust for approval before herbicide application.

**8. Pollution Prevention and Spill Control**

- A. Storage, mixing and disposal of all chemicals shall not occur on Trust properties to minimize spill risk.
- B. Irrigation canals, open trenches, surface waters, wetlands, designated 303(d) waterbodies, and groundwater sources should be noted and application shall be made to prevent contamination of these areas.
- C. In the event that herbicides are inadvertently spilled, the following steps are to be taken:
  1. Control the flow of the material being spilled.
  2. Prevent contamination of water sources by using control measures such as storm drain inlet protection, absorbent materials, sandbags, or trenching.
  3. Isolate the area, keeping people at least 30 ft. away.
  4. If the spill occurred on an impermeable surface, use absorbent materials to soak up spilled materials. Dispose of absorbent materials according to WA state regulations.
  5. If the spill occurred on soil, remove the top three inches of soil, and cover the area with at least 2 inches of lime. Cover the lime with a layer of topsoil. Dispose of the contaminated soil according to WA state regulations.
  6. Report the spill to the Department of Ecology at (425) 649-7000.
  7. For large spills, contact the Washington Emergency Management Division at (800) 258-5990.

## 9. Aquatic Herbicide Application

For control of invasive species in open water, storm drainage system, and flood control channel areas, only those materials specifically designed and registered for direct water application may be used. Directions on the label must be followed as well as evaluating the application for the potential to harm the environment.

## 10. Training and Documentation

City staff will only allow herbicide application by pesticide applicators that are under the supervision of a Public Operator or Commercial Operator. Starting in 2011, on-site supervision by a Public Operator or Commercial Operator will be required. The Public Operator or Commercial Operator must possess a valid and current certification. The applicator is responsible for following any federal and state requirements as well as all label requirements and reviewing the MSDS prior to use.

Each person who applies herbicides must be given the following information before starting work:

1. Appropriate application of the herbicide
2. Type of chemical being used
3. Safety procedures
4. Emergency spill information
5. Use of protective equipment
6. Cleanup procedures
7. Disposal procedures

## 11. References

Parker, R, & Ramsay, C. (2008). *Agricultural weed management principles* (WSU Publication No. MISC0167). Washington State University Extension.

Ramsay, C, Foss, C, & Hines, R. (Ed.). (2008). *Washington pesticide laws and safety* (WSU Publication No. MISC0056). Washington State University Extension.

WSDA Pesticide Management Division. (2009). Retrieved from <http://www.agr.wa.gov/PestFert/>



# OPEN SPACE CONSERVANCY TRUST STAFF REPORT

Item 5  
October 20, 2022  
Regular Business

## AGENDA ITEM INFORMATION

<b>TITLE:</b>  <b>RECOMMENDED ACTION:</b>	Updates to the Pioneer Park and Engstrom Open Space special events policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Discussion Only <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action Needed: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Motion <input type="checkbox"/> Ordinance <input type="checkbox"/> Resolution
	Make recommendations and approve the changes to the special events policy	

<b>STAFF:</b>	Sam Harb- Parks Operations Manager
<b>COUNCIL LIAISON:</b>	Lisa Anderl
<b>EXHIBITS:</b>	1. Special Events Policy Draft

## SUMMARY

In 2013 the Open Space Conservancy Trust Board and City staff created the Special Events in Pioneer Park and Engstrom Open Space policy. This was in response to concern over groups holding events there and causing damage to the forest. Recently it was identified that this document needed some updates to align with current costs of staff time as well as input based on current needs and input from Trustees.

## RECOMMENDED ACTION

Discuss revisions to the policy and approve changes

## Special Events in Pioneer Park and Engstrom Open Space Draft

Open Space Conservancy Trust owns Pioneer Park and Engstrom Open Space for the purpose of preserving and protecting them as natural ecosystems. Special events in Pioneer Park and Engstrom Open Space may cause long-term or cumulative damage to the ecosystem when heavy trail use or off-trail use occurs, either as part of the event or incidental to the event. The goal of this policy is to prevent damage to the ecological resources contained within these properties.

At the same time, the Trust seeks to encourage the use of its properties by the citizens of Mercer Island. The City of Mercer Island Parks and Recreation Department acts on behalf of the Trust. The purpose of this policy is to provide policy direction to the Parks and Recreation Department when special events in Trust properties are being proposed. This policy provides Parks and Recreation staff guidance to allow the public reasonable access to the Trust properties for special events while regulating special event activities to prevent damage. This policy is supplemental to the Parks and Recreation Special Events Policy for events that occur in Pioneer Park and Engstrom Open Space only. -Please note that the off-trail use of Pioneer Park is prohibited except for approved educational, scientific or forest health activities

1. The following are criteria that are used to determine what conditions or restrictions may be placed on special events in Pioneer Park and Engstrom Open Space.
  - a. If any of the following are expected, then the event requires a Special Event application, review and permit:
    - i. The group size is more than 50 people
    - ii. The event is timed or competitive
    - iii. The event involves trail use other than walking
    - iv. The group will occupy a fixed portion of the park for more than 10 minutes
    - ~~v. Any participant may go off maintained trails or turf areas at any times~~
    - v. The group will block any trail or inhibit the safe passage of park users
    - vi. Off trail use (limited to educational and scientific work)
2. Special Event applications that are located in Pioneer Park and/or Engstrom Open Space may be subject to the following reviews:
  - a. Review by the Parks ~~Natural Resources Coordinator~~Operations Manager, Natural Resources Project Manager, or designee
  - b. Supplemental information, including maps and details showing environmental protection measures the applicant is proposing. Examples of such submittals can be provided by Parks and Recreation staff.
  - c. A presentation to the Open Space Conservancy Trust at one of its regular bimonthly meetings.
3. The City of Mercer Island Parks and Recreation Department reserves the right to deny a special event application if it determines that an event will negatively impact Pioneer Park and/or Engstrom Open Space. This includes poor performance or unpaid damage

claims on previous special events. The applicant may request that the Open Space Conservancy Trust review the determination of Parks and Recreation staff.

4. Special events may be subject to the following conditions:
  - a. Temporary environmental protection features, such as fencing, plywood, ground covering, erosion control fabric, etc.
  - b. Site monitors at areas expected to be impacted to prevent off-trail use. The applicant may propose to provide site monitors, but Parks and Recreation reserve the right to require its own staff or paid independent staff to provide monitoring. Parks and Recreation staff cost ~~\$55-75~~37/hour with a 3 hour minimum.
  - c. Damage deposit proportional to the size of the group and the duration of activity, as follows:
  - d.

		Number of participants			
		50-99	100-149	150-199	200-249
Event length	1 hour	\$500	\$1,000	\$1,500	\$2,000
	2 hours	\$600	\$1,200	\$1,800	\$2,400
	3 hours	\$700	\$1,400	\$2,100	\$2,800
	4 hours	\$800	\$1,600	\$2,400	\$3,200

Any numbers or times in excess of what is listed will be calculated proportionally. These are 2013 dollars and the fee schedule will be adjusted to keep pace with inflation.

- e. Any damage that occurs that is not covered by the damage deposit will be charged to the event organizer. ~~Restoration costs typically run three to five dollars per square foot in 2013 dollars.~~
  - f. Restoration plan – a schematic repair plan for anticipated impacts, including trail damage, vegetation damage, soil erosion and soil compaction.
5. Areas of concern
    - a. **The ravine in the northeast quadrant.** This terrain is steep and erodible. The trails are single track for the most part. Passing is difficult without going off-trail. Going off trail is likely to cause erosion and plant damage. Large and competitive events are expected to have high impact. Monitoring is typically required for events in this area.
    - b. **The southeast quadrant.** These trails are shared by horseback riders. Passing equestrians is difficult without going off trail. Coordination with the Saddle Club is required.
    - c. **Secondary trails, all quadrants.** Secondary trails are single track trails for the most part. Passing is difficult without going off-trail. Some trails are poorly drained and users tend to walk on the edges, which causes widening. Best used in the dry season for large group events. Monitoring may be required.

- d. **Picnic area across from shopping center.** This is a popular entry point to the park, and can get consistent traffic from park users throughout the course of an event. Timed or competitive events may need monitoring and/or signage to alert park users to the event. Blocking access to this area is not permitted.

**CITY OF MERCER ISLAND  
RESOLUTION NO. 1631**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MERCER ISLAND, WASHINGTON AUTHORIZING TRANSFER IN TRUST OF TITLE TO ENGRSTROM OPEN SPACE TO THE MERCER ISLAND OPEN SPACE CONSERVANCY TRUST**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Mercer Island owns the Engstrom Open Space, an 8.5 acre forested property adjacent to Pioneer Park; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mercer Island Open Space Conservancy Trust (“Trust”) was established by Mercer Island City Council Ordinance B-93 in 1992 to receive and hold open space properties from City Council; and

**WHEREAS**, the City transferred the title to the Pioneer Park property to the Trust in 1998; and

**WHEREAS**, Engstrom Open Space is functionally part of the same ecosystem as Pioneer Park such that natural resources and natural processes exist without regard to the boundary between the two properties; and

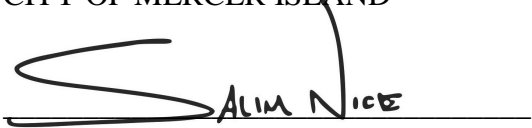
**WHEREAS**, the City Council transferred the management and governance of the Engstrom Open Space to the Trust in November 2010 (Resolution No.1429); and

**WHEREAS**, the Trust has successfully managed and governed Pioneer Park for 30 years and Engstrom Open Space for 12 years;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MERCER ISLAND, WASHINGTON, AS FOLLOWS:**

The City Manager is authorized and directed to take the necessary actions to transfer, in trust, the title to Engstrom Open Space to the Mercer Island Open Space Conservancy Trust substantially in the same form and terms as the transfer of title to Pioneer Park.

**THIS RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MERCER ISLAND, WASHINGTON, AT ITS MEETING ON THE 20TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2022.**

CITY OF MERCER ISLAND  
  
Salim Nice, Mayor

ATTEST:





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Andrea Larson, City Clerk



# Mercer Island Open Space Conservancy Trust

## 2023 Work Plan - **DRAFT**

Meeting Date	Agenda Item
January 19	<b>Annual Report to Council:</b> The Trust is required in its bylaws to report to City Council each year on the status of Trust properties.
	<b>OSCT Work Plan:</b> The Trust develops a list of topics that it intends to address during the year (this document). This work plan is submitted to City Council with the Annual Report as a courtesy.
	<b>Restoration Work Plan:</b> City staff report to the Trust its planned restoration activities, and recap work completed in the previous year.
	<b>Quadrant Reports (ongoing item):</b> Trustees will report on the condition of certain quadrants at Trust board meetings.
April 20	<b>Trail Work Plan:</b> City staff report to the Trust its intended maintenance activities in the spring of each year, and recap work completed in the previous year. This report includes status of recently decommissioned social trails on Trust properties.
	<b>Letterboxing program:</b> The Trust will reach out to letterboxing volunteers about the potential to launch the program.
July 21	<b>Election of Officers:</b> The Trust is required by its bylaws to elect officers at its July meeting each year.
	<b>Off-leash dogs:</b> The Trust will evaluate success of education measures over the past year and discuss possible changes.
	<b>Herbicide application report:</b> City staff will report on the use of herbicides on Trust properties each year, in accordance with the Herbicide Use Protocol.
October 19	<b>Eagle Project recognition:</b> The Trust will recognize Eagle projects that have benefitted Trust Properties.

*Note: The listing of an item under a particular month indicates that the item will be introduced at that meeting. There may be follow-up discussions and decisions at subsequent meetings, as directed by the Chair.*