



Large-leaved avens Oregon ash Siberian miner's lettuce Salmonberry

Q: Were the Recycling center and the Native Garden part of the same project?
A: Yes. The students were deeply committed to saving the earth in many ways. They envisioned preservation of native species and educating citizens to protect natural resources as two keys to preserving life on our planet. For example, rainwater from the Recycling Center roof was collected in barrels and used to irrigate the plants in the Native Garden.

Q: Will the Native Garden always be here for us and our children to enjoy?
A: Currently the Native Garden is threatened by a group that plans to build a huge 28,300 square foot building on public parkland—which includes the Native Garden, as well as the Recycling Center and Bicentennial Park.

Q: Where is Bicentennial Park?
A: It's the small street-end park just north of the Recycling Center, with the circular plaza and low circular seating surrounding the flagpole, that was designed, funded, built, and dedicated by Islanders to commemorate our country's Bicentennial Celebration in 1976.

Q: What can I do to help save public parkland, including the Native Garden and Bicentennial Park, for the public and for future generations?
A: Join with other Islanders working to protect our parkland: speak out, volunteer, email our City Council, & visit our website protectMIparks.org to find out how YOU can help US to protect our parkland.

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has.”
 — Margaret Mead

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MERCERDALE PARK NATIVE PLANT GARDEN

Q: Where near Mercer Island's Town Center can you find native species of flowers, shrubs, trees, and ground covers, including *Trillium*, *Trailing blackberry*, and *Baldhip rose* (pictured below) living in their native habitat?



A: In the Mercer Island Native Garden.

Q: Where is the Mercer Island Native Garden?
A: At the intersection of SE 32nd Street and 77th Avenue SE, between the Recycling Center and the Skate Park.

Q: How many native species live in the Native Garden?
A: At least 31 DIFFERENT native plant species live in the Native Garden. How many can YOU find and identify by using these pictures?

Q: What else lives in the Native Garden?
A: Wildlife of many species find food, water, and shelter in the Native Garden. Birds have been seen nesting there, and ducks frequently swim in the wetland stream that runs through the Native Garden.

Q: Who made the Native Garden, and when was it made?
A: MIHS students in the Committee to Save the Earth, with their teacher Harry Leavitt, planned and executed the Native Garden in the 1970's after building and while operating the adjacent Recycling Center.



Left:
Thimbleberry



Right:
Red twig dogwood



Left: Red alder fruit and leaves



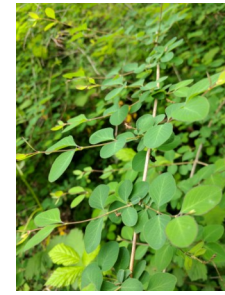
Right: Vine maple



Horsetail



Sword fern



Snowberry



Black Cottonwood



Birch



Willow



Shore Pine



Indian plum



False Solomon's seal



Big leaf maple



Red flowering currant



Salal



Nootka rose



Orange trumpet honeysuckle



Rush



Western red cedar



Beaked hazelnut/Filbert



Low Oregon Grape



Douglas fir



Grand fir



Tall Oregon grape