

Dear RainWise Contractors,

Welcome to the first edition of our bimonthly newsletter! The purpose of this newsletter is to provide you with important program updates and events.

RainWise has a new Program Manager. I joined Seattle Public Utilities in July to manage the day-to-day tasks to allow Bob Spencer time to plan for future program enhancements. As I have learned about this program, it has become especially clear to me how essential your role is and how important it is that our communications with you are easily accessible. Hopefully, this newsletter contributes to this goal.

All of us at Seattle Public Utilities and King County greatly appreciate the great work that you do every day to help us to reduce sewer overflows and keep pollutants out of our waterways. Thank you!

Best wishes for rainy and productive fall,



Laura Cacho, Program Manager

## New Tools for You and Your Customers

You will find our **new Maintenance Guide** and our **new Planting Plan** accompanying this newsletter. Please distribute the Maintenance Guide to your customers as you complete their installations. This is critical for the on-going success of RainWise rain gardens and cisterns.

The Planting Plan is a resource to help you simplify



the plant selection process in collaboration with your customers. These plants have been tested in rain gardens, and their availability has been vetted with local suppliers.

You can find both guides on our new website, [www.700milliongallons.org/rainwise](http://www.700milliongallons.org/rainwise), under 'Contractor Resources'.

The maintenance guide is available on the website in multiple languages.



Please be sure to review your company's information on the new website at [www.700milliongallons.org/rainwise/find-a-contractor](http://www.700milliongallons.org/rainwise/find-a-contractor). To request changes to this information, email specific edits to [rainwise@seattle.gov](mailto:rainwise@seattle.gov).

Customers no longer need to enter their project on the RainWise website map. The updated Rebate Instructions and Forms no longer include this task; they can be found on the new website under 'Contractor Resources'.

## ASK AN INSPECTOR?

**Q** I would like clarity about the eligibility of houses that have been remodeled since 1979. DPD says they are not eligible. Is this true?

**A** For a remodeled house to be eligible, the following criteria are in effect:

- There must **NOT** be a flow control facility onsite. Look for a personnel access cover (manhole), an existing rain garden, or other green stormwater infrastructure.
- Properties with less than 2000SF of roof area will be eligible.
- Structures larger than 2000SF should have stormwater facilities as required by the Stormwater Code, but RainWise may cover roof areas on a per project basis. This will take extra time to research and review, so plan ahead!

Documentation of the building permit, site plans and mitigation if present must be submitted at the time of a pre-inspection request. Please note that property owners need to sign a 10-year agreement for projects over 5000 square feet. This form is now available on the website.

## Contact Us

- For general questions about the program: [rainwise@seattle.gov](mailto:rainwise@seattle.gov)
- To schedule a pre- or post-inspection: [inspectionrequest@seattle.gov](mailto:inspectionrequest@seattle.gov) or call 206-684-0100
- For questions about an installation or a specific property, please contact your Seattle Public Utilities or King County RainWise inspector.

## Want to Meet New Customers?

We hold multiple events each month to share the RainWise program with eligible residents. You are welcome to attend these events to meet new customers and grow your business! Visit [www.700milliongallons.org/events](http://www.700milliongallons.org/events) for more information.

Details on how to sign-up will be sent to you by email or contact the organizer listed to the right.

### October 11 at 2pm - 5pm: Fauntleroy Fall Festival

**Fauntleroy Schoolhouse** 9131 California Avenue SW, Seattle, WA 98136

Organizer: Sonja, 206-678-2604, [Sonja@urbansystemsdesign.com](mailto:Sonja@urbansystemsdesign.com)

### October 14 at 6pm - 7:30pm: RainWise 101 Workshop

**Seattle Public Library - Northeast Branch** 6801 35th Avenue NE, Seattle, WA 98115

Organizer: Sustainable Ballard, 206-701-7000

### October 24 at 6pm - 7:30pm: RainWise 101 Workshop

**Seattle Public Library - Ballard Branch** 5614 22nd Avenue NW, Seattle, WA 98107

Organizer: Sustainable Ballard, 206-701-7000

### November 3 at 6pm - 7:30pm: RainWise 101 Workshop

**Seattle Public Library - Montlake Branch** 2401 24th Avenue E, Seattle, WA 98112

Organizer: Sustainable Ballard, 206-701-7000

### November 14 at 11am - 2pm: West Seattle Nursery Open House

**West Seattle Nursery** 5275 California Avenue SW, Seattle, WA 98136

Organizer: Sonja, 206-678-2604, [Sonja@urbansystemsdesign.com](mailto:Sonja@urbansystemsdesign.com)

### November 16 at 6pm - 7:30pm: RainWise 101 Workshop

**Seattle Public Library - Northeast Branch** 6801 35th Avenue NE, Seattle, WA 98115

Organizer: Sustainable Ballard, 206-701-7000



## New Contractor Training

**November 4th and 5th:  
6:00pm - 9:00pm**

**November 7th:  
10:00am - 12:00pm**

**SSC Georgetown Campus  
6737 Corson Ave S, Seattle**

Do you know someone who wants to be a RainWise contractor? Invite them to attend the next **free** RainWise contractor training! Registration is required. Please visit [www.brownpapertickets.com/event/2252115](http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/2252115).

If you no longer want to be part of the RainWise Program, please email [rainwise@seattle.gov](mailto:rainwise@seattle.gov).

## Opportunities in South Seattle

Equity is a core value for both Seattle Public Utilities and King County. With this in mind, our RainWise outreach staff and consultants have been working hard to reach more customers in South Seattle, particularly our Vietnamese and Spanish-speaking customers. We have also been approaching community centers, churches, and other neighborhood meeting spaces with large roofs to assess their interest in installing a RainWise

project; these “big roof” opportunities help us meet our stormwater goals while serving as demonstration projects to increase program awareness among residents. Please be on the look-out for these opportunities by email. You are also welcome to contact Liz Fikejs ([liz.fikejs@seattle.gov](mailto:liz.fikejs@seattle.gov)) and Jo Sullivan ([jo.sullivan@kingcounty.gov](mailto:jo.sullivan@kingcounty.gov)) to learn about current opportunities.

## Access Grants Available for Low-Income Homeowners

The RainWise Access grant is available now to contractors working in the Duwamish, South Park and Highland Park/Delridge basins. This means that low-income homeowners can get up to \$500 to cover RainWise project costs beyond the rebate amount. Community organizations that serve underserved communities are also eligible and may be able to qualify for up to \$1,000 to cover costs beyond the rebate amount. Visit [www.12000raingardens.org/rainwise-access-grant](http://www.12000raingardens.org/rainwise-access-grant) for more information.

