



CITY OF KIRKLAND
Department of Parks & Community Services
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MEMORANDUM

To: Kurt Triplett, City Manager
From: Jennifer Schroder, Parks and Community Services Director
Date: January 22, 2011
Subject: Recognition of Special Award for Sharon Rodman

RECOMMENDATION:

That City Council recognizes and congratulates Sharon Rodman for receiving the "2010 Outstanding Professional Award" from the Washington Native Plant Society (WNPS).

BACKGROUND:

On December 2nd, WNPS presented Sharon Rodman with the "**2010 Outstanding Professional Award.**" Unfortunately, Sharon was out of the country visiting her family in South Africa and was not in attendance to personally receive the award.

Sharon has dedicated her professional career to inspiring community appreciation for Washington native plants. Sharon has been a member of WNPS since arriving to the Pacific Northwest in 1991 from South Africa where she received a Master's degree in botany. She quickly gained expertise in northwest native flora and through her professional skills established the first WNPS Stewardship Program in 1996. The foundation of excellence Sharon established for the Stewardship Program has remained the hallmark of the program for the past 15 years. In addition, Sharon has served on the Stewardship Advisory Committee since its inception. In her current position as Environmental Education and Outreach Specialist for the City of Kirkland, Sharon established the Green Kirkland Partnership, a community volunteer program committed to reintroducing native plants in Kirkland Parks. She sponsored WNPS steward teams in 2009 and 2010 at two restoration sites in Kirkland's Juanita Bay Park. Sharon also helped establish the "Growing Wild" program and has served as Earthshare representative and Fundraising Chair on the WNPS Board of Directors.