



CITY OF KIRKLAND

Department of Parks & Community Services

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MEMORANDUM

To: Dave Ramsay, City Manager

From: Jennifer Schroder, Director

Date: April 5, 2006

Subject: Native Plant Appreciation Week Proclamation

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that Mayor James L. Lauinger proclaim April 30th - May 6th "*Native Plant Appreciation Week*".

BACKGROUND DISCUSSION:

Native Plant Appreciation week is a celebration of the amazing diversity of Washington's over 3000 native plant species that range from desert plants to rain forest species and of the native plant ecosystems that are so important to sustaining the quality of Washington's environment. Naoko Forderer, a Native Plant Steward, will accept the proclamation on behalf of the Washington Native Plant Society.



A PROCLAMATION OF THE CITY OF KIRKLAND

WHEREAS, native plant species are an important part of Washington's heritage providing important aesthetic, economic and ecological contributions that make Washington a special place to live; and

WHEREAS, Washington enjoys an amazing biodiversity with over 3,000 native plant species from rain forest plants on the Olympic peninsula to the desert species in eastern Washington; and

WHEREAS, preserving native plant eco-systems is critical for protecting wildlife, birds, fish and water quality in our state; and

WHEREAS, over 350 of our native plant species are listed as rare by the Washington Natural Heritage Program; and

WHEREAS, invasive species present a great threat to sustaining our native plant ecosystems and biodiversity; and

WHEREAS, the City of Kirkland has adopted a Natural Resource Management Plan to guide the future City practices, programs, projects, comprehensive plan elements and development regulations relating to natural resource management; and

WHEREAS, for more than 25 years the Washington Native Plant Society has enjoyed educating itself and others about the value of plants native to the Evergreen State.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, James L. Lauinger, Mayor of Kirkland, do hereby proclaim the week of April 30-May 6, 2006, as *Native Plant Appreciation Week* in the City of Kirkland and call upon all citizens to join me in appreciating, enjoying and celebrating our floral diversity by taking advantage of the opportunities of this week to learn more about our native plants and their habitats. Take a native plant walk through Juanita Bay park, visit a natural area, or become involved in a restoration project as we join together to celebrate this precious heritage.

Signed this 18th day of April, 2006.

James L. Lauinger, Mayor