



CITY OF KIRKLAND
City Manager's Office
123 Fifth Avenue, Kirkland, WA 98033 425.587.3001
www.ci.kirkland.wa.us

**CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE
MEMORANDUM**

To: David Ramsay, City Manager

From: Tracy Burrows, Senior Management Analyst

Date: April 5, 2007

Subject: Native Plant Appreciation Week Proclamation

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that Mayor James L. Lauinger proclaim the week of April 29 through May 5, 2007 as 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 inhabit deserts, rain forests, high alpine environments, river valleys, and even backyard landscapes. Native plant ecosystems are critical to sustaining our native wildlife and the quality of Washington's environment.

By proclaiming Native Plant Appreciation Week, we hope to inspire the citizens of Kirkland to learn more about native plant species and their habitats and how to protect them.

Native Plant Appreciation Week is an opportunity for governmental agencies, non-profit groups and environmental organizations to highlight their work in protecting native plant species and restoring native plant habitats including activities such as our own Kirkland Park's Ivy Pulls.

Janka Hobbs, Native Plant Steward for Washington Native Plant Society and Kirkland resident will be at the April 17th meeting to accept the proclamation.



A PROCLAMATION OF THE CITY OF KIRKLAND

Designating April 29 through May 5, 2007 as “Native Plant Appreciation Week”

WHEREAS, native plant species are an important part of Washington’s heritage, providing valuable aesthetic, economic and ecological contributions that make our state 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 desert species in eastern Washington; and

WHEREAS, preserving native plant ecosystems 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 ecosystem 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; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, James L. Lauinger, Mayor of the City of Kirkland, Washington,, do hereby proclaim the week of April 29-May 5, 2007, 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 17th day of April 2007

James L. Lauinger, Mayor