

# WELCOME TO OUR

# Biosolids Demonstration Garden

**Ornamental Corn Field**

**Pumpkin Patch**

**Assorted Potted Plants**

**School Garden Beds**

**Dahlia Berm with Lilies and Gladioli**

**School Garden Bed**

**Demonstration Vegetable and Herb Garden**

**Demonstration Ornamental Flower Garden**

**Demonstration Ornamental Flower Garden**

Legend:  
 ■ No GroCo  
 ■ GroCo compost added



At the annual South Treatment Plant open house, visitors enjoy our demonstration garden.

## Creating Resources from Wastewater

**A**t our wastewater treatment plants, we create products that help sustain soils and crops. The Biosolids Compost Demonstration Garden represents our commitment to test the quality and safety of our products and communicate the positive findings to the public to make sure they are aware of the value of this local resource.

## Biosolids Recycling— A Local, Safe and Sustainable Solution

**F**or over 35 years, King County has been turning 100% of our wastewater solids into a natural resource called biosolids. This valuable soil amendment builds healthy soils, fertilizes crops and restores degraded terrain. Currently, our biosolids enhance the soils of agricultural land in eastern Washington and forests in western Washington. Some biosolids are mixed with sawdust and composted to produce an exceptional quality biosolids compost called GroCo for use in urban landscaping and gardening. Most beds at our demonstration garden have been amended with GroCo. Can you see the difference between beds with GroCo and beds without?

## Don't take our word for it; the science is behind it!

**T**he biosolids program has been involved in innovative research and demonstration projects since the 1970s and collaborates with the Northwest Biosolids Management

Association on projects looking at:

- Benefits of biosolids to plants and soils
- Environmental safety and effects of biosolids
- Sustainable biosolids products and services

Research partners include:

- University of Washington
- Washington State University
- University of Arizona
- Oregon State University

**Findings:** Biosolids have great value in creating healthy soils and crops. Multiple studies show that soil and sun are the best way to break down some of the microconstituents that come along with the wastewater. Any vegetable can be grown safely in GroCo compost. Detailed results can be found at <http://kingcounty.gov/biosolids> or by calling 206-684-1280.

More info: <http://www.kingcounty.gov/wtd>  
206-684-1280



## Did You Know?

Adding biosolids compost to soils is not only good fertilizer and soil conditioner, but also shows great promise for sequestering carbon and reducing greenhouse gases.

We CAN make the world a better place, one garden at a time!

## BIOSOLIDS RECYCLING

Where do biosolids go?

