

## FACT SHEET

# King County Water and Land Resources Division Surface Water Management Fee School Discount Program

### **King County Water and Land Resources Division - Our Role**

The King County Water and Land Resources Division (WLRD) brings together a variety of King County programs focused on clean water, open space, healthy fish and wildlife, and flood risk reduction.

The Surface Water Management Program was established in 1987 and is funded through service charges. Its programs work to reduce flooding, erosion, water pollution, and habitat damage caused by stormwater runoff through planning, maintenance, and public education.

### **Surface Water Management Fee School Discount Program**

School districts in unincorporated King County may request a waiver of the Surface Water Management (SWM) Fee School Discount by fulfilling two responsibilities each year:

1. Sharing your district's education activities around Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math (STEAM) that build skills and awareness of the environment and surface water management.
  - ***NOTE: These highlights can feature a teacher, class, program, series or approach that your district is proud or excited to share from elementary, middle and high school programs. A short description, photos, video or other materials are welcome. A checklist or accounting is not required.***
  - ***Your district's programs will be compiled and shared with Department of Natural Resources & Parks education programs and the King Executive.***
2. Annual maintenance of the district's stormwater and water quality drainage facilities and using best practices for pollution source control and prevention.
  - King County personnel Maintenance will inspect stormwater facilities and send a Maintenance Correction letter for each district-owned facility. Pollution prevention practices are documented in letters sent to the district after a water quality site audit is completed by King County staff.

School district funds that would be spent on the SWM fees can be used to support education and appreciation of water resources and help manage surface water problems and contribute to King County's stewardship goals.

### **Examples of Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math (STEAM) activities**

Curricula, programs, educator features, class, program, series, videos, art contests or approach that your district is proud or excited to share from elementary, middle and high school programs. You may include efforts that address:

- the plants and wildlife of wetlands, native plants, streams and rivers
- the hydrologic cycle
- role of wetlands streams, rivers, lakes, and their ecological systems
- the salmon life cycle
- human influences and pollution
- weather, climate change and flooding
- watershed studies
- the effects of urbanization of water quality
- water pollution both point and non-point sources
- native and nonnative plants and their impact on habitat
- hands-on activities such as testing water quality, conducting outdoor investigations, raising native plants, and monitoring or revegetating ponds or streams.
- carbon sequestration
- King County Green Schools Program
- Informal educator programs – in classroom and field trips, overnight programs

Example highlights may feature a teacher, class, program, series or approach that your district is proud or excited to share from elementary, middle and high school programs.

Any grade level's curriculum is acceptable. Classes and activities from any school within the district are eligible. It is not necessary to highlight a program from each school within your district. The credit applies to all school district properties regardless of use.

If you have any questions about what to educational effort to highlight, please contact [Mary.Rabourn@kingcounty.gov](mailto:Mary.Rabourn@kingcounty.gov) or call 206-477-1010.