



What's Threatening the Delridge Wetlands?



Where are the Delridge Wetlands Located?

The Delridge Wetlands are located south west of Seattle, Washington. This is a project spearheaded by Delridge Neighborhoods Development Association to protect, restore, preserve and expand the existing wetlands to improve water quality in Longfellow Creek, meanwhile developing the space as a public park.

Why are the Delridge Wetlands Important?

Restoring the wetlands is not just about making the local environment healthier by reducing flooding, improving water quality and enhancing wildlife habitat, but it engages local schools and getting youth involved with environmental stewardship and hands-on science. By installing edible native plants and creating a community food garden, it will also increase access to healthy food in the neighborhood.

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The large cottonwood trees in the middle of the wetlands were removed to clear space for native wetland plants. Cottonwoods do not occur naturally in wetland areas, so in order to fully restore this wetlands, they cut down the trees and girdled the stumps to prevent regrowth. Volunteers helped remove invasive blackberry and Canadian thistle, and they installed several native evergreens.

Over 7,000 square feet of invasive plant removal and mulching was done in the wetlands. Eight western red cedar trees, 33 native shrubs, 120 native ferns and 2,010 native emergent plants were planted throughout the year. To improve the hydrology of the wetlands, a watering system was implemented over the summer and coir logs were placed at the inlet and outlet of the wetland to help trap and filter out debris in the water passing through.

Where Can You Learn More About the Restoration?

More information is available at: <https://dnda.org/dnda-nature/wetlands/> or you can follow the project on Instagram @DelridgeWetlandPark.



For more information visit www.surfersforwetlands.org



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