Building a Better Future

The Puyallup Watershed Initiative (PWI) was created in 2012 as a new model for community-centered change. Our mission is to improve social and environmental conditions throughout the watershed, which comprises more than 1,000 square miles from Mt. Rainier to Commencement Bay.

The PWI brings together people not typically at the same table to address our region’s persistent challenges and most promising opportunities. We are building a broad coalition of businesses, nonprofits, government agencies and individuals to participate in working groups called Communities of Interest. These teams focus their energy on specific issues including transportation, local food, natural resources, environmental stewardship, public health, social justice and much more.

Each of our Communities of Interest are open to new members; and new ones can be established with enough interest and support from the community.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

1. Increase community stewardship
2. Strengthen local leadership
3. Improve water quality
4. Equity and inclusion

COMMUNITIES OF INTEREST

Active Transportation
Improving access to safe, healthy and affordable active transportation options

Agriculture
Supporting an economically-viable and environmentally-sustainable agricultural community

Environmental Education
Creating learning opportunities that inspire a lifetime of discovery, connection and stewardship

Forests
Protecting, managing and increasing forestlands from the mountains to the shoreline

Just and Healthy Food System
Creating an equitable food system that promotes healthy communities

Industrial Stormwater
Improving industrial stormwater management to protect the health of local waterways
Collaboration for Common Good

The PWI is different by design. We believe that the people who live and work in a place understand it better than anyone else does. That’s why instead of identifying problems and remedies from the top down, we bring together diverse viewpoints to develop solutions from the bottom up. That’s what we mean by community-centered change.

Instead of concentrating on a few short-term projects, we take on broad, systemic challenges. Each Community of Interest develops a detailed annual work plan to ensure efficiency and results, and their overall efforts are guided by a 10-year strategic plan.

We understand that broad-based solutions take time to develop and even more time to take hold. Collaboration is the key to our success. Therefore, we encourage listening, compromise and learning from each other in pursuit of shared long-term goals.

**PUYALLUP WATERSHED INITIATIVE**
Building Community Collaboration

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Current funding</th>
<th>$10 million</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>City, State and Federal Agency Partners</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nonprofit and Private Sector Partners</td>
<td>100+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Partners</td>
<td>150+</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Our Mission in Action

The Communities of Interest are our engines of change. Together, they established a robust public outreach and engagement program with activities taking place all year long.

We expect to see tangible outcomes reflected in land use decisions, improved water quality, thoughtful public policies and greater public stewardship of our green and urban spaces. Above all, we aim to bring people together to tackle issues that once seemed beyond reach.

This collaboration is essential because if there were simply technical solutions to the challenges we face, they would have been solved long ago.

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**LEARN MORE**

As you can tell, we dream big. We hope you do too. The key to our shared success is widespread community involvement. Please visit our website, www.pwi.org, for more information on how to participate.