



Rainwater runoff is a big deal to salmon

Rainwater runoff carries pollutants to the stream – like yard fertilizers, metals from roof shingles, and pet waste. It can also flow very quickly and powerfully to the stream-- causing erosion and damaging salmon habitat.

Let Mid Sound Fisheries help you make your yard part of the solution.



Mid Sound Fisheries
Enhancement Group

PLANT TREES

Trees reduce rainwater run-off by soaking up the rain, boosting the volume of run-off treated, and preventing run-off and erosion during rain events.

Above ground tree leaves intercept rainfall, on the ground leaf mulch decomposes to create an organically rich mulch layer the soil and helps to retain moisture. Below ground, tree roots anchor soil and absorb water. Water makes its way up through the tree to evapo-transpire, or exhales water vapor, into the atmosphere.

Most importantly these interventions slow the flow of surface stormwater and reduce the amount of polluted run-off. Of course, trees provide many non-stormwater benefits such as providing beauty, shade, cleaner air, protection from wind, and wild-life habitat as well.

To determine if planting a tree is a smart choice for your property we will:

- identify where you want to plant a tree (stay 5 feet away from water / sewer lines, and making sure the tree won't block any important views)
- consider how the tree will impact the area
- test the soil
- discuss native trees that are best adapted to your location, consider the type of soil you have, sun exposure, and soil moisture levels

Once it is determined that planting a tree is the right choice for your yard we will work with a contractor to:

- choose a native tree that meets your needs
- call **811 Before you Dig** to ensure there are no utility lines nearby



Photo Courtesy of WsFEG

Mature trees catch about 1390 gallons of rainwater per year.

(<https://stormwater.allianceforthebay.org/take-action/installations/tree-planting>)

- dig a hole twice as wide as the root ball and slightly shallower than the root ball.
- remove the tree from the container and loosen the roots as necessary
- plant the tree but don't bury the trunk
- amend the soil as required
- pack the soil to remove air pockets in the soil (This will also help stabilize the tree)

To properly care for your tree:

- water at least 1x a week
- stake the tree
- regularly apply 3"- 4" of wood chips around tree base (stay 2" away from tree trunk)



...rainwater solutions for your own backyard

This project is funded through the EPA Puget Sound National Estuary Program.

Contact Info: (206) 529-9467 / www.midsoundfisheries.org