

# Michael Servetus Universalist Unitarian Fellowship

4505 E. 18th St., Vancouver, bordering Burnt Bridge Creek

Most of the site lies within the 100-year flood plain. It is predominantly lawn, except for a small area used as a community garden by the city of Vancouver. Downstream, Burnt Bridge Creek flows through apartment complexes with ornamental lawn and a trail along the top of the banks. Upstream is an apartment complex with a large pond inhabited by 50 ducks. Effluent from the pond enters Burnt Bridge Creek near the upper portion of the church property. The Burnt Bridge Creek Drainage Utility monitors water flow and quality of the creek. The drainage utility is concerned with the water quality, especially influenced by high water temperature due to lack of shade along the creek and the high nutrient effluent from the duck pond. Macroinvertebrate, fish and wildlife species presence and abundance in the creek is limited.

The goal was to enhance wildlife habitat and aesthetic value of church property adjacent to Burnt Bridge Creek by planting native wetland species along the toe of the bank and native riparian trees and shrubs along the bank.

## Benefits

The proposed project would have improved wildlife habitat, helped shade and cool water temperatures in the creek and added scenic value to the site.

*Project area shows need for more cover vegetation*



## Proposed timeline and tasks

August ..... Meetings with the church board; project withdrawn

## Budget

Proposed – \$7,540  
Actual– withdrawn  
Metro/US Fish and Wildlife grant award – \$2,765

## Reason for withdrawal

Project manager turnover interrupted continuity and leadership.

## Helpful hints – what worked, what didn't

Complete all the necessary arrangements and paperwork for a conservation easement prior to applying for a grant. US Fish and Wildlife Service and Metro Greenspaces grant criteria require private property owners receiving grant funds to provide a conservation easement for the portion of the property where the restoration occurs. Some members of the church board were uneasy about allowing public access to the site. After many presentations to the church board, including a change in board leadership, the project was withdrawn.

## Partners

Michael Servetus Universalist Unitarian Fellowship  
Burnt Bridge Creek Drainage Utility

## Contact

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