HR '98-99
921044

Final Report:
Metro Greenspaces Restoration Project
Springwater Corridor (Contract 921044)

June 2000
Springwater Lents Project managed by Ed Kerns
Fiscal Agent: Friends of Trees

Project Area Map:
Please see attached map.

Photos and Slides:
Project manager Ed Kerns has the photo and slide collection. He has not yet submitted these slides to Metro or Friends of Trees and has been unavailable for several weeks.

Project Description:
The Springwater Corridor project formed partnerships to plant and care for 1,687 native trees and shrubs along the Springwater Trail. The project provided many opportunities for volunteers of all ages to participate in tree planting activities.

Goals and Benefits of the Project:
1) Involved more than 100 Kelly Elementary School students in planting trees and shrubs along the Springwater Trail. This experience was fun and positive for the students and encouraged them to feel ownership of the trail while learning about the importance of planting native trees and shrubs.

2) Positively impacted nearby Johnson Creek by establishing a native plant community in areas that were formerly dominated by invasive plants. In the years to come, the native trees and shrubs planted during the Springwater Corridor project will help absorb stormwater runoff and help hold soil in place with their root systems. These plants will also enhance wildlife habitat by providing food and cover for a variety of birds and small mammals. As re-vegetation efforts continue along the Springwater Trail a viable wildlife corridor will develop, linking fragments of habitat found at sites such as Beggar's Tick and Johnson Creek Park.

3) Enhanced the beauty of the Springwater Trail and enabled the public to lend a hand and get involved on Saturday planting days. More than 250 volunteers helped plant trees and shrubs along the trail. This visible stewardship helped set a good example for others and increased public pride in an area that has suffered from vandalism and illegal dumping of garbage and illegal drug paraphernalia.

Work Tasks and Timelines:

Fall of 1998
Project Manager Ed Kerns met with the Springwater Committee to identify dates, sites, and work priorities for the 1998/1999 planting season.

Winter of 1999

January 31, 1999:
SOLV volunteers planted 465 native trees and shrubs along the Springwater Trail at SE 82nd Avenue. Portland Parks and Recreation created a plant list for project. Ed arranged project logistics such as hole auguring, porta potty rental, refreshments etc. SOLV organized a volunteer workday in celebration the Jewish holiday, Tu B' Shavat. Friends of Trees provided crew leaders and assistance on planting day.

February 20, 1999
Volunteers planted 340 native trees and shrubs along the Springwater Trail at SE 82nd Avenue. Portland Parks and Recreation developed the plant list and ordered the plants. Ed Kerns arranged project logistics. Friends of Trees recruited volunteers and crew leaders.

Summer of 1999

1. Springwater Committee met to plan planting projects for 1999/2000 planting season.
2. Ed Kerns hired a seasonal employee to water trees along Springwater Trail.
3. Portland Parks and Recreation staff controlled weeds at the planting sites.
4. ACS crews and Friends of Trees' Youth Tree Corps provided additional maintenance (weeding and mulching).

Fall of 1999

October 13, 1999
Kelly Elementary students and EnviroCorps planted 200 native trees and shrubs along the Springwater near SE Flavel Avenue. Portland Parks and Recreation created a plant list for the project. Friends of Trees helped flag the sites and brought staff to assist EnviroCorps in supervising the students.

November 13, 1999
Lents Little League planted native trees and shrubs along the I-205 bike-path between Foster Road and the Springwater Trail. Ed Kerns managed all aspects of this project.

January 23, 2000
SOLV volunteers planted 330 native trees and shrubs along the Springwater at SE 82nd Avenue in celebration of Tu B' Shavat. Steve Bricker created the plant list and ordered the plants. SOLV provided volunteers, refreshments and crew leaders. Friends of Trees provided additional crew leaders.

February 15, 2000
Woodmont High School students planted 177 native trees and shrubs along east side of Springwater Trail at I-205. Ed Kerns managed all aspects of this project.

February 24, 2000
Kelly Elementary students planted 175 native trees and shrubs along the Springwater Trail next to the I-205 bike-path. Portland Parks created the plant list and ordered the plants, EnviroCorps and Friends of Trees' staff supervised the students.

March 11, 2000
The Lents Little League planted 120 native trees and shrubs along I-205 bike-path between the Springwater Trail and Johnson Creek. Ed Kerns managed all aspects of this project.

Project Budget:
The original program budget estimated total costs at $41,132 including a $7,500 contribution from Metro. Actual project costs were less than estimated. The total project cost was $15,379.99 including $ 2,873.78 of Metro grant funds. Actual expenditures were as follows:

Metro funds

Hole auguring:	$1,000
Porta Potty:	$90
Plants:	$1,258.33
Mulch:	$467
Planting supplies:	$58.45
Total	**$2,873.78**

Matching funds or in-kind contributions:

SOLV CUP grants for plant costs:	$500
Porta Potties:	$310
SOLV staff time:	$1,638
Project Coordinator wages funded by Lents Renewal Grant:	$4,080
Bulldozer rental provided by Portland Parks:	$294.95
Watering services funded by Portland Parks and Lents Renewal Grant:	$2,800
Volunteer hours estimated at:	$5,329.50
Office expenses (supplies, postage, photocopying, internet and computer) funded by Lents Renewal Grant:	$427.54
Total	**$15,379.99**

Project Staff/Workers and Volunteers:
Ed Kerns managed the project. He was assisted by the Springwater Committee which consisted of Steve Bricker, Natural Resource Supervisor for Portland Parks and Recreation, Elizabeth Draper, teacher at Kelly Elementary School, and Tuck Clinehens, Natural Area Program Manager for Friends of Trees. Portland Parks and Recreation maintenance staff and seasonal employee Louise Ring provided watering and weed cutting services.

Organizations or groups who helped on the projects included: Kelly Elementary, EnviroCorps, Lents Little League, Sears Homelife, Agra Earth & Environmental, SOLV, Friends of Trees' Youth Tree Corps, Multnomah County Alternative Community Service, and individual volunteers from the Portland area.

How Project Relates to Greenspaces Program:

The Springwater Corridor project has goals that are in harmony with the Greenspaces Program. The projects involved students from the Lents area as well as volunteers from throughout Portland in planting trees. Because many people walk or bike along the Springwater Trail it is a very visible site and one that attracts volunteers. The trail is in close proximity to Johnson Creek. Replacing dense thickets of Himalayan blackberry with a diverse array of native trees and shrubs will improve wildlife habitat, make the trail more beautiful, and contribute to cleaner water in Johnson Creek.

The project worked with a variety of partners including Portland Parks and Recreation Natural Resources, EnviroCorps, Kelly Elementary School, Friends of Trees, SOLV, Multnomah County ACS, and Lents Little League. These partnerships added energy and momentum to the project.

What Worked and What Didn't:
Involving Kelly Elementary School students in the planting was very successful. Because the school has been involved for several years, many of the children have planted trees on multiple occasions along the trail. They were proud of their tree planting knowledge and were enthusiastic partners in improving the Springwater Trail. EnviroCorps teams attended the weekday plantings with Kelly students. They provided supervision and leadership to make sure the trees were planted correctly and that the kids had an educational and fun experience.

Because the soil on this site is compacted and difficult for volunteers to negotiate with a shovel, the project manager had the holes augured. However, project advisor Steve Bricker concluded that hole auguring is very expensive and is not the best way to address compacted soils. As an alternative Steve had an ACS Crew dig the holes. He also hired a piece of equipment to "rip" the soil. This helped alleviate compaction throughout the planting site. We anticipate that the trees planted in this area will be more vigorous and better established than those on sites where the soil was not ripped.

Advice for Other Project Managers:
The importance of keeping clear records cannot be over emphasized. It would be wise to make an outline for the final report early on and add information to it as work is completed and the timeline progresses.

Monitoring and Maintenance Plan:
Trees and shrubs will be maintained for a minimum of three years. Maintenance activities include weeding, watering, and mulching.

Portland Parks and Recreation Natural Resource staff visit the site each spring and summer with their weed wackers and Billy Goat mower. The maintain many acres of restored land and are skilled in mowing without damaging the young native plants.

Ed Kerns oversees summer watering of the newly planted sites. Each summer Ed hires a part-time employee to water along the Springwater Trail. For the past three summers Louise Ring has done an excellent job of watering the trees. Portland Parks and Recreation provides her with training and access to water and hoses.

Ed Kerns also receives maintenance assistance from Alternative Community Service Crews (ACS) from Multnomah County. He supervises these crews once a month. They re-mulch the trees and help with weed removal.

Friends of Trees contributes to site maintenance by scheduling Youth Tree Corps workdays at the Springwater sites. The Youth Tree Corps assist in weed removal and mulching. During the summer of 2000 they will spend four workdays on the Springwater Trail. They will also spend four to five workdays along the Trail during the summers of 2001 and 2002.

Accurate Count of Numbers and Species of Trees and Shrubs Planted: Please see attached spreadsheet.

	1/31/99	2/20/99	10/13/99	1/23/00	2/15/00	2/24/00	
Common Name							
baldhip rose				20			
beaked hazelnut	25						
bitter cherry							
black hawthorn			30	20	18		
black huckleberry	25						
black twinberry			15	20			
blue elderberry	25	25					
cascara	25	20	5	10		5	
common chokecherry	25		10	20			
common snowberry	25		25	45		20	
Douglas fir					80		
Douglas spirea		20	15			30	
dull Oregon grape	25	20					
evergreen huckleberry	25	40					
false azalea	25	20					
grand fir	25	25					
hairy manzanita	15	20					
Indian plum						10	
kinnikinnick							
mock orange	25		10	20			
noble fir	25						
nootka rose							
oceanspray	25	20	10	20		10	
Oregon ash					25		
Pacific madrone	25	8		5			
Pacific ninebark		20	10				
Pacific willow		20					
Pacific yew	25	12					
Piper's willow			10				
red alder	25	30			54		
red elderberry		20					
red-osier dogwood			15	10		10	
ridgid willow							
salal				30			
salmonberry							
Scoulers willow							
Sitka willow	25		10			5	
sticky currant							
swamp rose			15			20	
tall Oregon grape				30			
thimbleberry				30		45	
vine maple				10			
western crabapple	25		10	20		10	
western dogwood							
western service berry		20	10	20		10	
western wahoo							
	465	340	200	330	177	175	**1687**
FOT does not have plant lists from projects on 11/13/99 and 3/11/00. Those lists can be							
obtained from Ed Kerns							