

June 2020 Update



Stewardship Group

Since its start in Fall 2019, the Harper Park Stewardship Group has logged 16.5 hours! The group has been working hard on removing invasive species (such as English ivy), planting native species, and getting folks out to the park. In February 2020, the group planted more than 40 native plants, shrubs, and trees – such as Oceanspray, Vine Maple, and Western Red Cedar.



Thank you to all the Harper Stewards for your work and dedication to the park!



Trail Maintenance

Volunteers are diligently working to maintain and improve trails at Harper so that the park is accessible for all to enjoy – an impressive total of 56.5 hours of service!

YouthBuild logged 40.5 hours, over two days in August and September 2019, focused on trail maintenance on the Harper Hill Trail.

Youth Mountaineers logged 16 hours in the park in December 2019, learning about native plant species and Harper’s history, as well as performing trail maintenance.

A huge thank you to all those involved!

Interpretive Signs & Displays

The effort to bring outdoor interpretive signs and displays to Harper Park began in March 2020. An initial community survey informed the development of these signs and displays. Survey questions asked community members what interpretive themes and topics they would like to see represented in Harper. Responses included estuary information, plants and animals, brick factory, Tribal camps and villages, hiking trails, and information for boaters and kayakers. View the survey results [here](#).



Thank you to all those who participated thus far. Stay tuned as there will be more opportunities to be involved as we move forward in this process!

WCC Scotch Broom and Brick Removal

Washington Conservation Corps Crews have been working hard to remove scotch broom and bricks from the Harper Estuary. In two visits, crews removed a whopping 3.2 tons of bricks and much of the scotch broom!

Crews are scheduled to come out for more brick clean-up and removal this summer.



Thank you to WCC for your continued work at Harper!

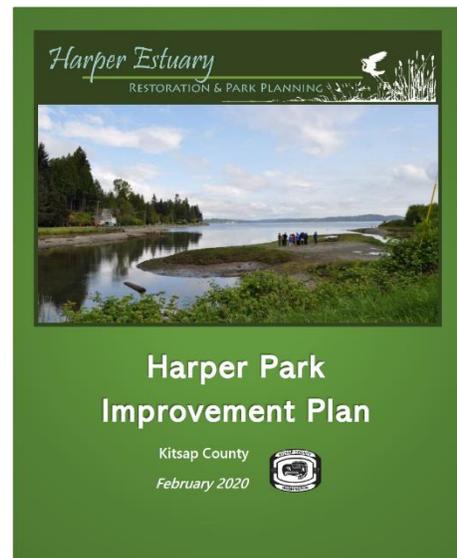


Park Improvement Plan – Final

We are pleased to share the final Harper Park Improvement Plan. The plan has undergone review from the community, project partners, and the Parks Advisory Board. On February 19, the Parks Advisory Board recommended that the plan move forward for implementation.

The project will now be shifting gears and working to secure funding, permits, and construct the outlined park improvements.

You can read the full plan [here](#). Thank you to everyone who participated in the process!



Bridge Construction Funding

In January 2020, Kitsap County applied for Olympiad Drive bridge construction funds from the Brian Abbott Fish Barrier Removal Board (FBRB). An application was submitted in response to FBRB's request for proposals. In April, an invitation was received to enter the application into PRISM – the next stage of review. The application was uploaded on May 29th.

Stay tuned for more updates.



New Sign at Harper Hill

In February 2020, a new sign for Harper Park was installed on the Harper Hill Road entrance to the park. Thank you to Kitsap County Parks and the Department of Ecology! Come on by and check out the new sign!