

December 8, 1998

To: Lynn Wilson  
Greenspaces Environmental Education Projects

From: Cheryl Roberts  
NECDC/Humboldt School Learning Garden

Re: Final Report/Billing on Grant Contract #905420

The following is a summary of grant activities that include progressive steps and partnership building on the Humboldt School Learning Garden:

- On-going monthly steering committee meetings.
- On-going partnership networking.
- Leveraged other funds for garden/school activities.
- Organized work party with Safeco Employee Volunteer Team, Humboldt staff, and other neighborhood volunteers to cut out ivy, dig out handicapp access ramp, and lay out gravel and sand to prepare for wall. Work party also turned the soil in the vegetable garden for spring planting, cleaned the lot area, met with the school principle, and even got a 15 minute presentation on the future plans for the garden.
- Organized a work party with the Blazers Community Builders to work on the access ramp, and the trails going through the garden. Workers also moved sand into piles where needed.
- As a leverage to the Metro Grant, Safeco Insurance donated funds to the school for the purchase of a chain linked fence to go around parts of the garden lot for security purposes, which was installed in mid-November. Metro funds purchased the gravel to lay in the double gated drive-way into the garden lot.
- Purchased garden hoses and accessories for watering purposes during the dry seasons.
- Purchased a wide variety of native plants for spring planting in and around the garden, boarder, entry ramp, and other feasible areas.
- Developed a good volunteer base of people.

**Humboldt Learning Garden**  
**Final Report/Evaluation**  
**Page -2-**

The Humboldt School Learning Garden has been a successful project from the start. As we move into Phase II of the project, we have seen an increase in community visibility. Phase I which primarily was lots of planning, fundraising, and committee building was successful due to the ability to leverage funds and create corporate partnerships. The Humboldt School teachers made a conscious decision to incorporate the garden into the schools math/science curriculum, which contributed to the success and on-going commitments to the project. I believe that the success to the project is partly due to:

1. The committees on-going efforts to include the surrounding neighbors and school staff by update/ mailing, providing volunteer opportunities, buy-in by the new principle, weekly updates at school staff meetings & assemblies, visibility through other neighborhood events, and full support of the neighborhood association and NECDC.
2. Obtaining a staff person such as an Americorp person or CDC staff, who can coordinate activities, fundraise, and assist in the development of a volunteer base.
3. Neighborhood buy-in.

Through such an inclusive process the downfall can be timing. Processes take time, and because of this we missed good weather last summer to do some of the outdoor activities that need dry weather to effectively accomplish. Losing our Americorp person was a set-back, because they are term limited and usually want to move on to new challenges. An ideal senerio is a person who is dedicated from project start to finish. However, a strong and committed steering committee maintains the focus and the viability to the project. Nevertheless, we built a couple of good corporate relationships during our "slow" time that we can count on next Spring as we complete Phase II of the project.

Thank you for your continued support to the Humboldt School Learning Garden Project.

***HUMBOLDT LEARNING GARDEN***  
***PROJECT COORDINATOR: KATRINA ASHLEY***

1997 Accomplishments

Established Stability for the garden by Partnering with and received moneys/in-kind/volunteers hours from: Humboldt School, Portland Public Schools, Bureau of Housing & Community Development, METRO, OSU Extension/4H/Wildlife Stewards, National Fish and Wildlife, U.S. Fish and Wildlife, Portland Parks and Recreation, Northwest Service Academy, National Gardening Association, Portland Youthbuilders, Experience Corps, Envirocorps, Starbucks, Oregon Food Bank, Certech Engineering, Inter-Varsity Christian Ministries, Cub Foods, James Lundgren Inc., Costco, Home Depot, Cochran Surveying, Devoe Bark and More, Humboldt Community members, Friends of the Trees, City of Portland's Community Gardens, Environmental Middle School & Fred Meyers.

- Created a strong relationship w/Humboldt School and Portland Public Schools to establish sustainability and maintenance of the garden.
- Established a diverse steering committee: Teachers, Community members and Volunteers. Steering Committee worked on fundraising, curriculum and design of the garden.
- Worked with school staff, kids, steering committee and community members to fully design the garden.
- Worked in conjunction with Portland Public Schools to come up with a legal agreement between themselves and the Humboldt Garden Property.
- Activities: Design Workshop (involved: Community, Kids and School Staff), Groundbreaking (May 30), Tree planted, Holly Trees Pruned, Vegetable garden tilled and planted, Garden Sign Make by students and volunteers, Classroom projects (Summer Gardening and clean up, Growlights made, science projects, animal and gardening association and Environmental Stewardship projects), Certech Engineering working in conjunction with the Humboldt Steering Committee to design: Irrigation, Garden Entrances, Handicap Accesses and Lighting.

**Coordinators Accomplishments - General:**

- Successful Community Outreach
- Formation of garden committee



- Held Community and Steering committee meetings
- Surveyed kids, community and school staff (Established peoples need and wants for the garden)
- Environmental education
- Recruited and motivated volunteers
- Helped Map and inventory the garden
- Helped students research, select plants and seeds for the garden
- Worked with the landscape architect to help involve students in designing the habitat
- Assisted teachers in presenting lessons and activities in or about the garden
- Worked with students to help them learn gardening skills and gain an appreciation for nature
- Helped to keep a portfolios of garden activities
- Provided professional and technical support to assist with Fundraising and in-kind contributions to implement the project
- Assisted with public relations and acquired media coverage of community events, projected needs and progress of the development of the garden
- Help to find resources for gardening/science/environmental curriculum
- Helped teach summer school science program
- Made presentations to the community businesses, groups, committees and organizations
- Established a sturdy foundations for the maintaining and sustainability of the Learning Garden
- Helped kids to learn new skills and gain a greater knowledge about the environment; and experience a major sense of personal accomplishment
- Involved in field trips with Humboldt school children to World Forestry Center, Washington Park Zoo, OMSI and the Smithsonian Exhibit

- Assisted with grant writing: Diack 1997& METRO 1997-98

### **Coordinators Training's**

- Wildlife Stewards
- Project Learning Tree
- 4H Wetland Wonders
- Give Water A Hand
- EM\*Power Environmental Management
- USFWA Environmental Education Curriculum
- Songbird Migration
- National Service and Community Gardens Clinic
- Seeking a Common Vision (Community Gardening)
- Keeping your Garden Alive
- How to Talk the Essentials of Community Gardening
- Plant Transplanting and Propagation
- Naturescaping a School Yard Habitat
- Landscaping for a School Yard Habitat
- Wildlife Ecology 101
- Working with Parents and Teachers to Develop a School Yard Habitat "The Boise Elliott Experience"
- Issues in Wildlife Management

# COME HELP HUMBOLDT DESIGN THEIR LEARNING GARDEN

Humboldt School Gym / Cafeteria  
4915 North Gantenbein  
( Corner of Gantenbein and Alberta )

ALL  
FREE

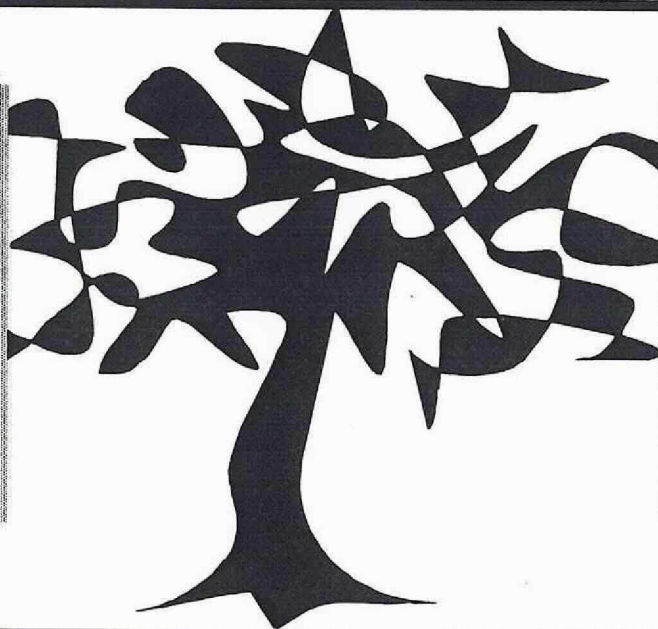
Saturday April 5th  
10:00 AM to 1:00 PM

ALL  
FREE

## Refreshments

Free  
Door Prizes

The first 20  
people will  
receive a  
surprise.



Children are

Welcome, but

Must be

Accompanied by

an Adult.

## Activities to be Included at the Free Workshop

Drawing and Design Opportunities

Related Information Booths

Speakers to Discuss the Topics of:

Wildlife Habitat, Composting, Naturescaping, and More

Any Questions, Please contact Katrina Ashley at 282-5482

## AND MUCH MORE FUN !





Students help weed and plant the Humboldt Learning Garden.

NECDC and other sponsors were recognized during the ground breaking ceremony on May 30, 1997.







### **Humboldt Learning Garden, 1997**

Students at Humboldt School helped to design and plant the garden, in addition to preparing plants in their science classes.

