

# Low Impact Development

Low Impact Development (LID) uses a more natural approach to land development and stormwater management. LID design uses a site's natural features and specially designed best management practices to manage stormwater. The home, business or development that includes LID design practices causes less harm to area streams, wetlands and wildlife habitat. Rainwater can better infiltrate into the ground to recharge drinking water supplies, streams and wetlands. The site is greener and more attractive, with open spaces that appeal to potential buyers. The developer or municipality may save money because the overall infrastructure costs are often less.

The Washington State Puget Sound Water Quality Action Team has developed an assortment of educational materials on LID, including the publication *Natural Approaches to Stormwater Management: Low Impact Development in Puget Sound*, which is available on their website at [www.psat.wa.gov/Publications/LID\\_studies/LID\\_approaches.htm](http://www.psat.wa.gov/Publications/LID_studies/LID_approaches.htm).

The City of Mill Creek Department of Community Development received grant assistance from Puget Sound Partnership in 2008. In September 2009 the City Council approved changes in the Municipal Code to encourage Low Impact Development.



**Rain Garden in Seattle, Washington**

In the future the Surface Water Utility Department will be making sure that all new development LID applications that are installed in the City of Mill Creek are installed properly and are being maintained.

If you have questions regarding low impact development or the new municipal code changes, please contact Camille Chriest, Senior Planner at 425-921-5726 or Marci Chew, Stormwater Technician at 425-921-5709.