Native Gathering Garden
Native Gathering Garden Foundational Partners

Native American Community Advisory Committee

The Portland Youth & Elders Council

NAYA Family Center

VERDE

PORTLAND PARKS & RECREATION

Healthy Parks, Healthy Portland

DEQ

Metro
Brought to life through community vision, this Native Gathering Garden is a catalyst for strengthening our relationships with plants, while healings places. By providing a space for community to gather, host cultural celebrations, and engage in Indigenous land practices, we are reclaiming the urban forest. This work is rooted in respecting and educating through Indigenous cultural values. We do this to honor those that came before us and tended this land, as well as to build upon our inheritance for future generations.

**Goals**

- Include elements of Cultural Importance
- Design for Limitations of landfill site
- Increase wildlife habitat
- Access to culturally significant plants
- Space for community gathering
- Responsibility, care and cultivation of ethics & knowledge
How do we define a “Tribal Garden”?

- Outdoor classroom
- Space for story telling
- Covered area
- Space for drumming/dancing
- Plants for gathering
- Signage reflecting Indian History and Culture
- Barter and trade events
- Ceremony
- Seasonal relationships
- Celebration
- Education
- Native Games
- Knowledge sharing
- Protection of Knowledge
- Promoting community health
- Animal habitat
- Healing land and people
- Reconciliation
Invisible Structures

Relationships

- Between individuals, organizations & the site
  - Cultivate personal & organizational investment
    - Ensure design reflects desires of community
    - Opportunities for interaction with site
    - The key to maintenance & self regulation
Invisible Structures

- Principles guiding interaction with the landscape

Guiding Principles

- Precaution
- Slow change is long change
- Work with and learn from nature
- Take only what you need
- Give back for what you take
- Collaboration
Invisible Structures

- Core Values informing design & interaction with the landscape:
  - Community
  - Reconciliation
  - Reverence
  - Responsibility
  - Learning
  - Respect
  - Reciprocity
  - Respect
  - Learning
Invisible Structures

- Deeply held beliefs and assumptions about reality at core of consciousness:

  - **Limited Abundance**
  - Land & other species have intrinsic value
  - Beliefs
    - Healthy land heals people
    - People can heal the land
“...Leave a legacy for our children that is better than our inheritance...”

~Native American Community Advisory Committee to PPR
What is a watershed?
An area of land, defined by peaks and ridges, where water flows to a common point, such as a river, lake, or ocean.
Willamette River Basin

2,974,000 hectares
12% of Oregon

Population 2,085,000
66% of Oregon
An area of land, defined by peaks and ridges, where water flows to a common point, such as a river, lake, or ocean.