Let’s Go Native
Elmwood Neighborhood Restoration

Fall 2008 – My “New” House
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Fall 2008 – My Yard
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The Creek?
5 Year Plan – Set Foot on other side of Creek…
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Spring 2009 – The 2nd Hauling of Blackberries
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8020 SW Elmwood St received a grant and looks fantastic
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Why not cleanup the whole neighborhood?
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3-14-10 Kickoff Party (Photo by April)
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Ceremonial Cutting of the 1st Blackberry by Khoi
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4-19-10 Rosario and Crew Attack the Invasives; Creek is Crossed for the First Time
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Spring 2010 Rosario & Crew – There’s nothing like hard workers with chain saws
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We invent a new game – What’s That Lump In the Blackberries?
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More trash found in the flood plain and uplands areas.
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• A wooden futon frame
• Over a dozen tires
• 50 gallon metal drum
• Various glass bottles & cans
• Many plastic nursery pots
• A five gallon bucket
• Real estate sign
• Two wooden shelves
• A broken wooden chair
• An ironing board
• A soup bowl
• A broken Frisbee from Lakeside Lumbers 2005 anniversary

• A ceramic lamp covered in mud with no chips
• Lots of plastic bags
• A broken yellow ceramic pot
• A large piece of fiberboard
• What appeared to be a very sturdy, large frame for a small deck.

Thank you to Les Schwab for taking the tires and to a passerby who took the frame for the deck to elevate his chicken coop!
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August 2010, Carla took us on a Tour to a nearby Restoration Project
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Labor Day 2010 former neighbor and grant recipient Gary Decarrico dons his waders to take out “Non-Native” debris while Gwen, Khoi & Mary Elizabeth haul it away
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Finds: 3 tires from the 1950’s, one metal wheel, lots of liquor & beer bottles, one very old glass Vaseline jar, several 5 gallon plastic buckets, quite a few plastic grocery bags, and lots of wood with nails. We recycled what we could, filled 3 trash cans, and on a positive note, we encountered a few crayfish & some fingerlings.
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Preparing for our first planting on 10/30/2010, Rita tags 600 plants that April, Carla & the Cascade Conservation Corp help deliver & unload.
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April, Carla, & Mary Elizabeth placed all 600 plants prior to the Planting Party
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Carla educates the group about how these plants will help the creek.
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Carla demonstrates how to properly plant native plants.
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By working together, our group of 41 volunteers & homeowners planted and mulched the following native plants in about 3 hours:

- 50 vine maple
- 5 big leaf maple
- 5 red alder
- 20 serviceberry
- 30 red-osier dogwood
- 15 Oregon ash
- 25 Oceanspray
- 75 tall Oregon grape
- 50 Dull Oregon grape
- 20 Western Crabapple
- 20 Indian Plum
- 25 Mock orange
- 40 Pacific Ninebark
- 10 Douglas Fir
- 5 Cascara
- 25 Red currant
- 10 Swamp rose
- 25 Thimbleberry
- 15 Blue elderberry
- 25 Red elderberry
- 40 Douglas Spirea
- 55 Snowberry
- 10 Western Red Cedar
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The volunteers spring into action undeterred by the light rain!
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We made great progress and took well deserved breaks!
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The “Bucket Brigade” sets a new record for most buckets in a stack, and does a great job collecting all the empty buckets.
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The “Human Chain” quickly removes a collapsed bridge from across the creek and into Khoi’s pickup truck.
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What a great team! We finish in record time and decide to mulch all the new plants.
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Our recruiting sign worked – but wait – did it work too well???
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6 days later, the Beaver move downstream from 74th Street. They just love the new plants and decide to join the neighborhood.
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Time for a few impromptu parties with lots of rabbit fencing and blue plant wraps.
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03/05/2011 Bare root Planting Party
1200 Plants, Good Weather, & the Neighborhood Stomach Flu
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Elmwood Neighborhood Restoration

Everyone works hard all day. We take a break for lunch and keep planting. The Cascade Conservation Corp helps us finish planting the next week.
Rosario and his Crew return in the Spring to spray & remove invasives. In the Fall, they not only spray and remove invasives but also plant 600 ferns.
The Beaver also return in the Fall. Overall, the Beaver have lessened the flooding by trapping debris which would normally clog the culvert.
Before & After Photos
Slope 82$^{nd}$ & Elmwood
Before & After Photos
Before & After Photos
Don & Brenda Creek View
Before & After Photos
Frank & Sandy Uplands Backyard
Before & After Photos
Katrina & Khoi Creek Area
Before & After Photos
Michael’s Upland from Elmwood
Before & After Photos
Michael’s Upland from Elmwood
Before & After Photos
Michael’s Upland from Creek
Thank you for transforming our Neighborhood and allowing me to meander across the creek.