

Boardwalk replacement completed, parking is reopened, and Brightwater meadows go greener!



King County's contractor completed boardwalk replacement project, bringing this project to a close sooner than expected. Visitors can enjoy spring walks on trails and boardwalks that have a fresh, durable, and slip-resistant surface. Parking behind the Brightwater Education Center is currently reopened.

We appreciate your patience as crews have carried out multiple maintenance projects this spring. With continued social distancing guidelines, the Brightwater Trails area has remained a popular place to get exercise and fresh air.

Meadow maintenance becomes more sustainable

King County's gardeners will implement more sustainable maintenance practices in meadow areas. Aside from a strip by the trails, meadows will be allowed to grow longer, with less frequent mowing.

Reduced mowing helps King County as we work to address climate change and help our local wildlife.

- Longer grass holds more carbon dioxide (CO₂, a greenhouse gas). Less frequent mowing reduces fuel use, emissions, and equipment wear and tear.
- Deep grass reduces evaporation and water needs. Grass blades shelter one another and protect the soil from drying effects of sun and wind.
- Reduced mowing lets native meadow plants like lupine thrive.
- A lush meadow hosts beneficial insects that provide food for wildlife and help control pests. Frogs and other small wildlife find shelter in deep grass.



Crews will leave a mowed strip along trails to make pet waste cleanup easier. Please remember to protect water quality by picking up your dog's waste and putting it in a garbage can!

Did you know?

Lawn mowing burns an estimated 600 million gallons of fuel every year in the United States.



Want more information on natural yard and lawn care for your home?

A PDF of this document with links is available on the Brightwater Center website.

- Learn about King County's [Strategic Climate Action Plan](#)
- Visit the [Natural Yard Care website](#) at King County's Solid Waste Division
- Download a handy guide and seasonal maintenance calendar at the Snohomish Conservation District's [Natural Yard Care website](#)

Contact us:

Call Community Services at 206-296-7432 with your thoughts, questions, or concerns. Please leave a message with your contact information if you would like us to return your call.

**Alternative Formats Available
206-477-8621 / 711 (TTY Relay)**