

# Seattle Tilth

ORGANIC GARDENING • URBAN ECOLOGY • COMPOSTING • RECYCLING

VOL 29 NO 4 • AUG/SEPT 2006



*Imagine this photo in color! The Tomato Tasting in 2005 boasted 50 varieties to taste. Take notes on your favorites this year for next year's planting.*

## And the Best Tomato is...

Laura Niemi

We'll be putting on the Tilth Tomato Tasting again this year at the Harvest Fair on Saturday, September 9, from 11 am–1 pm. Only ten dollars gets you a chance to sample and rate all of the tomatoes we've grown in the garden, including some new varieties that we're experimenting with for next year. During your visit, you can tour the Tilth garden and see many of the tomatoes being grown.

There is no question that tomatoes are a gardener's favorite. At our recent Edible Plant Sale we sold over 9,500 tomato plants, that's 2,200 more than last year and 3,000 more than 2004! In fact, 45 percent of our vegetable starts were tomatoes – and we sold them all. This tells me that not only is Tilth being recognized as the place to buy tomato starts, but a lot of people out there are growing our tomatoes. If you were one of the shoppers at the Tilth Edible Plant Sale this year, then you know that there were almost 50 varieties of tomatoes to choose from. Some of you studied the plant descriptions on our website and came with your lists in hand, others sought advice from our plant sellers. Most of you must have asked yourselves, "with so many choices, how do I know which ones are the best?"

"Best" when it comes to tomatoes is very subjective. It all depends on what kind of tomatoes you like – big ones, little ones, red ones or odd-colored ones. Of course you have to take your garden's space, sun exposure and heat into account when choosing the best variety for you, but in addition to all of those things you have to consider flavor. Aside from the love of gardening and the excitement of watching our food grow, most vegetable gardeners are motivated by the knowledge that what we grow ourselves tastes so much better than what we can buy in most stores.

Each year in the Tilth gardens we grow all of the tomato varieties sold at the Plant Sale, so we can decide which tomatoes to sell at next year's sale. We judge their vigor and disease resistance as well as compare them to others in their class – then we consider

*Continued on page 3*

## 2006 Harvest Fair and Tomato Tasting

Saturday, September 9, 10 am–4 pm

Meridian Park

in the Wallingford Neighborhood

Bring the entire family to the Harvest Fair. Shop at the Organic Farmer's Market and enjoy live music. Learn about raising chickens in your backyard and visit the Community Village where farm, food and environmental groups can help you get involved. Activities and learning experiences in the Children's Garden include SlugWorld, Veggie Bowling, Squash Car Racing, worm bin exploration and crafts. All children and parents are invited to join in the Harvest Parade at noon to celebrate the local farms and their harvest. At the Tomato Tasting from 11 am–1 pm, you can taste dozens of varieties of heirloom tomatoes that were sold at our spring Edible Plant Sale and grown in our demonstration gardens. Vote for your favorites and take notes on which varieties you plan to grow next year (extra charge for this event). Learn about worm bins, compost systems, winter salad gardening and techniques to improve your soil's tilth. Volunteers will be harvesting apples from the trees in Meridian Park to support local food banks.

See more programs on page 12.





LEFT TO RIGHT Charlotte Moss, Amy Ockerlander, and Sam O'Brien have joined the Tilth staff. Read more below in *Transitions*.

## Tilth is an EnviroStar!



ENVIROSTARS

Seattle Tilth has received five stars – the highest rating – as an EnviroStar for our efforts to reduce hazardous waste and use of hazardous materials. The EnviroStars program is a service of the King County Department of Natural Resources and Park's Hazardous Waste Management Program. Laurel Tomchick, manager of the EnviroStars Program comments "Seattle Tilth has been a proactive leader in organic based landscaping, from providing classes, to creating a children's organic garden, to running the Natural Lawn & Garden Hotline. Please continue to reinforce your position as an industry leader in preventing pollution and sustainable practices."

Watch for Seattle Tilth's name in special EnviroStars promotions and advertising in the upcoming months.

## Transitions

Sam O'Brien has become the Children's Garden assistant teacher. He was recently a project coordinator for Seattle Youth Garden Works. Charlotte Moss has joined the Tilth staff as bookkeeper/office manager, a part-time position that is allowing her to continue her part-time position as the office manager for PlantAmnesty. Amy Ockerlander has joined the staff as a Natural Lawn & Garden Hotline educator. Most recently, Amy worked at Swan's Nursery.

Board members BJ Hedahl and Andy Waldbaum have both moved out of town and stepped down from the board. BJ bought her dream home on Camano Island and Andy was transferred to Hartford, Connecticut. In May, the board elected new members Beth Lenholt and Renee Rhone. Beth is a technical writer for Boeing and has volunteered for Tilth for many years, most recently as "Super Volunteer Coordinator" for the Edible Plant Sale. Renee worked with board member Brandon Pemberton at Chef'n Corporation, where she was recently promoted to Director of Finance and Operations.

## Save the date!

Mark your calendar for Thursday, October 12 for a special benefit concert at Ballard's Tractor Tavern. The concert will feature the Tall Boys, a Seattle-based old time string band, who will get everyone's toes tapping and couples swinging on the dance floor. The full lineup will appear in the next newsletter.

## What happened to July?

You may have noticed that your last newsletter spanned May and June, while this issue covers August and September. What happened to July? Over a year ago, an ad hoc editorial committee discovered that if we shifted the bi-monthly newsletter by one month, we would have better lead time for letting you know about our major special events like the Harvest Fair. The extra lead time this summer is allowing us to get this expanded issue to you early.

Seattle Tilth Association is a non-profit organization and an urban chapter within Tilth's regional network.

### Our Mission Statement

Seattle Tilth inspires and educates people to garden organically, conserve natural resources, and support local food systems in order to cultivate a healthy urban environment and community.

### Board of Directors

	Nancy Evans
	Willi Evans
Secretary	Nicole Kistler
	Beth Lenholt
Treasurer	Brandon Pemberton
	Renee Rhone
	Jayne Simmons
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President	Neal Thayer

### Staff Members

Lorraine Brooks	Natural Soil Building Program (NSB)
Andrea Cummins	Natural Soil Building Program
Kathy Dang	Demonstration Garden Coordinator
Keala Hagmann	Office Assistant
Liz Katz	Natural Soil Building Program
Karen Luetjen	Executive Director
Samantha Maykut	Natural Soil Building Program
Charlotte Moss	Bookkeeper
Laura Niemi	Demonstration Garden Coordinator
Sam O'Brien	Children's Garden Assistant Teacher
Amy Ockerlander	Natural Soil Building Program
Colleen Quinn	Manager, NSB Program
Angelina Shell	mc&sb Volunteer Coordinator
Lisa Taylor	Children's Garden Coordinator

### Office Hours and Phones

Monday–Friday, 10 am–5 pm or by appointment

206 633-0451	Office Phone
206 633-0450	Fax
206 632-1999	Executive Director
206 633-0224	Natural Lawn & Garden Hotline
206 633-0097	Master Composters/Soil Builders
206 633-5045	Volunteer Line

### Website

[www.seattletilth.org](http://www.seattletilth.org)

### Email

Send to [firstname.lastname@seattletilth.org](mailto:firstname.lastname@seattletilth.org)

### Address

Seattle Tilth Association, 4649 Sunnyside Avenue North, Room 120, Seattle, Washington 98103

### Seattle Tilth Newsletter

The Seattle Tilth Newsletter is published by the Seattle Tilth Association. Readers are encouraged to submit articles, ideas for articles, original artwork, and other commentary. All material should be mailed c/o The Newsletter to the address above or e-mailed to [karenluetjen@seattletilth.org](mailto:karenluetjen@seattletilth.org). Submissions will be printed as space allows. Seattle Tilth reserves the right to edit for interest, length, and style.

Copy Editing by Roger Weaver.

Design and typesetting by Keala Hagmann.

### Tilth \ˈtɪlθ\ n

[ME, fr. OE, fr. *tilian* to till]

(bef. 12c) 1 : the quality of cultivated soil  
2 : the cultivation of wisdom  
and the spirit

## And the Best Tomato is ...

*Continued from page 1*

their flavor. A Chianti Rose beefsteak tomato may only produce four or five ripe fruit in an entire growing season, but if the plant is healthy and the fruit tastes phenomenal, then it's a keeper.

But just as a "best" rating is subjective, so is flavor. I personally like sweet and fruity tomatoes like Jaune Flamme and Limmony. Others are looking for tomatoes with a "true tomato" flavor like Moskvich. So who is to say which tomato has the best flavor? A great way to determine which tomato varieties are your favorites is to try them all at the Tilth Tomato Tasting.

All of the proceeds support the Demonstration Gardens. If you love tomatoes, you can't miss this event! For more information and to buy advance tickets, go to [www.seattletilth.org/events/tomtaste06](http://www.seattletilth.org/events/tomtaste06).

## Creating Garden Harmony

*Kathy Dang*

Seattle Tilth will offer an intensive permaculture workshop, *Creating Garden Harmony: a Permaculture Workshop for the Urban Dweller* from August 10–13. Permaculture is the conscious design and maintenance of agriculturally productive ecosystems that have the diversity, stability and resilience of natural ecosystems. It begins with careful observation of one's site and strives to replicate systems and patterns found in nature. Its goal is to create a permanent landscape with minimal inputs where relationships between plants, animals and people are nurtured.

This three-day workshop will provide participants with an introduction to permaculture and offer skills for interpreting and applying these principles in an urban setting. Last year's permaculture series was a huge success, so we've restructured the four-part class series from last year into a weekend-long course, in order to offer an intensive overview of permaculture and more in-depth hands-on projects.

Classes will be held in our two demonstration gardens at Bradner Gardens Park and the Good Shepherd Center. Specific topics include, garden planning and observation, integrating natural patterns in the garden, backyard wildlife, perennial food gardening and plant and people communities. This course is designed to inspire the city gardener to think and act more permaculturally and to provide resources for them to make further connections related to permaculture in the Seattle community. Co-sponsored by the Seattle Permaculture Guild ([seattlepermacultureguild.org](http://seattlepermacultureguild.org)).

This workshop costs \$105 per person or \$95 for Tilth members. Advance registration and payment is required. Limited space is available so register early. To register, download a registration form from [www.seattletilth.org](http://www.seattletilth.org) and mail it in with your payment. Scholarship applications are available upon request.

## Congratulations to the Master Composter/Soil Builder Class of 2006!



**TOP LEFT** Instructor Howard Sten and Imhotep P'tah prepare materials for composting yard waste **TOP RIGHT** Marquite McKenny and Jen Mullen feed a green cone with food scraps **LEFT** Participants learn to bed a worm bin.

### Look for Master Composter/Soil Builder volunteers at these events this summer:

University District Farmers Market	Lake City Farmers Market
Magnolia Farmers Market	West Seattle Street Fair
Columbia City Farmers Market	Ballard Seafood Fest
	Lake City Pioneer Days
	Seattle Hempfest

### Donations for Master Composter/Soil Builder Volunteer Training

City Peoples' Mercantile	Stoneway Hardware
QFC Wallingford	Tweedy and Popp Ace Hardware
Sol Colibri Coffee	



# Tilth Team Leads Record Breaking Plant Sale

## Special Thanks

### Volunteer Coordinator:

Beth Lenholt

### Seattle Parks Liaison:

Rose Ellen Brittenham

### Staff:

Laura Niemi

Dianne Boulay

Kathy Dang

The following businesses donated over \$500 worth of refreshments for our Plant Sale volunteers:

- Chaco Canyon Cafe
- Delicious Planet
- Earth Conscious Organics
- The Essential Baking Company
- Fish Brewing Company
- Flying Apron Organic Bakery
- Full Circle Farm
- Grateful Bread
- Mighty-O Donuts
- Pioneer Organics
- Pudge Brothers Pizza
- Sol Colibri Coffee

## Thanks to our amazing volunteers!

- |                |                   |
|----------------|-------------------|
| Leah Adangrffy | Alice Baggett     |
| Matilda Alair  | Hugh Bailey       |
| Nancy Allen    | Laura-Mae Baldwin |
| Maru Almeida   | Ellen Barth       |
| Melissa Amrina | Darcy Batura      |
| Aimee Appell   | Jessica Bean      |
| Gail Badner    | Jen Beauvais      |

Thanks to Depth of Field Photography for great plant sale photos.



- Caren Beecher
- Carol Bennet
- Johanna Berking
- Betsy Bertiaux
- Judith Biarro
- Wendelien Bolomey
- Brad Borland
- Tom Bowden
- Karen Bratesani
- Kelsey Broderick
- Karen Brooks
- Deborah Buckley
- Sarah Burdell
- Kelly Cannon
- Rob Carr
- Ada Chan

- Stella Cheung
- Susan Chiat
- Dan Clarkson
- Oliver Collins
- Gwen Colwell
- Karen Conger
- Gretchen Corbin
- Bill Crawford
- Norm Crites
- Nina Cross
- Kate Dabe
- Hilary Dahl
- Kyle Davis
- Laura Davis
- Robin DeAlva
- Elizabeth Dequine

- Christina Dixon
- Sean Dominoski
- Maggie Douglas
- Barb Drake
- Mara Dyczewski
- Lise Easom
- Jean Edelhertz
- Cyndi Edwards
- Pam Elardo
- Susan Ernsdorff
- Stephanie Esmond
- Dianne Everson
- Mike Ewanciw
- Bean Fairbanks
- Amy Fairchild
- Jean Fee

- Chelan Finney
- Chad Fisher
- Aviva Flowerman
- Naoko Forderer
- Catherine Futtrup
- Janet Gabbert
- Sue Gibbs
- Ronni Gilboa
- Jeffrey Gopetsch
- Lynn Gottlieb
- Sabra-Jenks Graham
- Kirsty Grainger
- Larry Grant
- Marci Greenberg
- Tessa Gross
- Heather Grube



Karen Guffy  
 Noam Gundle  
 Jiaping Haeang  
 Melissa Haltuch  
 Amy Hanson  
 Jill Hardy  
 Patti Hawthorne  
 Alexa Heaverlo  
 Bria Hedahl  
 Rachel Hein  
 Nancy Helm  
 Heather Hemmer  
 Marty Herbert  
 Bryan Herbertson  
 Liz Herlevi  
 Shirley Hettiger  
 Eric Higbee  
 Jessie Hirsch  
 Kate Holmes  
 Jesslyn Howgate  
 Michael Huber  
 Martha Jackson  
 Mary Jackson  
 Arthur Lee Jacobson  
 Jon Januchowski  
 Betty Johanna  
 Sally Johnson  
 Sylvia Kantor  
 Aaron Kaufman  
 Katie Kazmier  
 Yohko Kelley  
 Megan Kernan  
 Rebecca Kettwig  
 Dave Killiah  
 AustinJo King  
 JoAustin King  
 Erin Kruse  
 John Kucewicz  
 Mike Kulfan  
 Sarah Kulfan  
 Matthew  
 Lachesnez-Heude  
 Anh Lam  
 Sarah Lange  
 Angela Larrck  
 Cam Lehouillier  
 Brooke Lindsay

Michelle Long  
 Mary Lonien  
 Richard Lotz  
 Leslie Louie  
 Marisa Luskey  
 Michelle Lynn  
 Claire Makins  
 Amanda Manalo  
 Diane Martin  
 Christine Maxwell  
 Kristen Mclvor  
 Emily Meyer  
 Nicole Mikesh  
 Boe Miller  
 Todd Mitchell  
 Cristina Mone  
 Antje Mueller  
 Jen Mullen  
 Nancy Musgrove  
 Beth Naczkowski  
 Robert Nelson  
 Hiao Ng  
 Jerri Ninesling  
 Tara Nuccio  
 JulieCharette Nunn  
 Patty O'hara  
 Diane O'Neill  
 Jennifer Ott  
 Jen Parker  
 Abby Parker-Jamieson  
 Heather Peake  
 Sandy Pederson  
 Katie Pencke  
 Keith Posse  
 Catherine Pousson  
 Karah Prather  
 Joan Prince  
 Jennifer Purnell  
 Carol Quaife  
 Stephanie Ramey  
 Baker Rawlings  
 Crystal Rawlings  
 Donna Ray  
 Alison Rees  
 Emily Reudink  
 David Reyes  
 Liz Riggs

Fabiola Rodriguez  
 Jim Roe  
 Kathleen Roll  
 Theresa Rooney  
 Francis Roque  
 Andrew Rosenthal  
 Ivan Rosero  
 Emily Ross  
 Ericko Rowe  
 Laura Ruuska  
 Margy Samuelson  
 Deb Schaack  
 Christina Scholz  
 Erin Schubert  
 Michael Seliga  
 Kimberly Selving  
 Betsy Severtsen  
 Anisha Shankar  
 Nancy Sharp  
 Jessica Sheppard  
 Lianne Sheppard  
 Roberta Sherwood  
 Carol Shisler

Jonathon Schwartz  
 Kimberly Shumate  
 Townley Simons  
 Betsy Skoda  
 Gretchen Sleicher  
 Alice Smith  
 Eric Smith  
 Jeff Smith  
 Peggy Smith  
 Lois Soiffer  
 Patti Spaulding  
 Amy Stanton  
 Lisa Steele  
 Terri Stober  
 Susan Su  
 Laila Suidan  
 Roshni Tewari  
 Neal Thayer  
 Sue Thompson  
 Katie Thorsos  
 Susan Tillack  
 Chris Tobola  
 Cynthia Tolman

Diane Tran  
 Paula Trepman  
 Jen Turnquist  
 Cris Valauri  
 Layna Vaughn  
 MarySue Walker  
 Kristeen Wallace  
 Brynn Warriner  
 Linda Whang  
 Jim White  
 Steve Wilson

Amanda Wilton-Green  
 Dawn Wood  
 Gail Workman  
 Jon Wright  
 Christine Yarrow  
 Christine Yokan  
 Lisa Younglove  
 Andrea Yount  
 Diana Yuen  
 Stephani Zador  
 Amanda Zych

*☞ If your check written at the Edible Plant Sale on Saturday May 6 has not yet cleared on your bank statement, please call Seattle Tilth Executive Director Karen Luetjen at 206-632-1999. A number of checks were misplaced by our bank after they were deposited and your information could help relocate them. Meanwhile, Tilt has received full credit for the deposit.*

# 2005 Annual Report

*Karen Luetjen, Executive Director*

In 2005, planning activities circulated around our readiness for responding to the City of Seattle's Request for Proposal for the continuation of the Natural Soil Building Program (NSB). The NSB program includes the Natural Lawn & Garden Hotline, the Master Composter/Soil Builder Volunteer Program and many other services that Seattle Tilth is pleased to provide for the city. Coordinated by NSB Program Manager Colleen Quinn, the planning workshops and surveys involved the entire staff, board and scores of members and supporters. Specific activities are described below. The five-year NSB contract was awarded to Seattle Tilth in late October. The total five-year NSB contract value is over 2 million dollars and demonstrates Seattle Tilth's leadership in urban resource conservation.

The Board of Directors adopted a revised Finance Policy, developed talking points for outreach and made plans for retooling the Annual Meeting to broaden its appeal.

We launched the new Seattle Tilth website in July under a contract with OneNW, a non-profit organization whose mission is to aid environmental organizations with their technical needs. Former Board President Bill Thorness was instrumental in the planning and development process, and helped with the big job of migrating content from the old site to the new.

Seattle Tilth received beneficial coverage from these media outlets and many others: Farmer's Almanac Television, NBC's Today Show, King County's Yard Talk Cable TV Show, Seattle Post-Intelligencer, Seattle Times and KUOW 94.9.

Other planning priorities included analysis of our business plan, development and fundraising, and examining our strategic partnerships. Staff developed new program formats to help increase earned income and made plans to increase donations of supplies and services to keep costs down and enhance the hospitality for volunteers.



*A new water feature was added to the Wallingford Demonstration Garden across from the greenhouse, during the Permaculture Basics series inaugurated in 2005. Participants learned how to create wild spaces in their garden to attract beneficial insects, butterflies, and birds with specific plants and placement.*

## Support

**Members and Donors:** We are deeply grateful to each person whose support advanced the programs of Seattle Tilth. At year end, there were 800 Tilth members in good standing, in addition to 55 lifetime members.

The following people made contributions in 2005:

Anonymous (5)	Victoria & Robert Brown
Mary & Richard Anderson	Stephanie Brown
Gretchen & Basil Anex	Dorothy Caravias
David & Penny Atcheson	Kim & Tracy Carroll
Kyle Davis & Jessica Bean	Goldie Caughlan
Caren Beecher	Joan Christ
Victoria Bennett	Kim Christensen
Sue Berlin	Amy Cole
James A. Degel & Jeanne Berwick	Carol Collins
Erika Peterson & Annie Bilotta	Cleo & Bob Cottrell
Brad Borland	Calvin Creasey
Dianne & Paul Boulay	Anita Crofts
Jackie Branz	Nina Cross
J Klein & AG Brizo	Helen K. Curtis
Vickie Brodine	Naomi Davidson
	Mike Dawda
	Christie Drew
	Jean Edelhertz
	Brian Elieson



*By partnering and co-sponsoring programs (like this 2005 fruit tree pruning workshop led by PlantAmnesty), Tilth provided more benefits and educational opportunities for our members.*

## Join the Seattle Tilth Board of Directors

Contact Brandon Pemberton at 206-669-1547  
for information about board committee work and positions.

Mary Embleton  
Gwen Evans  
Mina Fall  
Paul Farley  
Andrea Faste  
Tom & Mary Felkins  
Lois Fish  
Naoko Forderer  
James Van Horn &  
Darlene Franz  
Polly Freeman  
Marilyn Freeman  
Janet Gabbert  
Terry Gaddis &  
Lucy Gaskill-Gaddis  
Jewell D. Gibbs  
Jennifer Gordon  
Keith Rodli &  
Katharine Grant  
Alex & Harvey  
Greenberg  
Jane Groppenberger  
Hakim Family  
Betty Hall  
Judith Hance  
Ann Harrang  
Jody Harris  
Becky Braniff &  
Ben Haskell  
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Mary & Gifford Jones  
Heidi & Shannon Kane  
Rebecca Kettwig  
Lee Kimber  
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Leigh Krueger  
Miriam Landy  
Kristin Larson  
Lucy Lauterbach  
Michelle Anne Layton  
Evelyn Lester  
Anya LevySmith  
Lotus & Howard Linton  
Chase Barton &  
Meredith Lohr  
Sandy Smith &  
Mary Smith  
Nora & Sean Ludviksen  
Karen & Duke Luetjen  
Stan Lundgaard  
Yvern Germain &  
Diane Martin  
Anne Matsen  
Bill McJohn  
Antje K. McKinley  
Andrea Mercado  
Leah Gerrard &  
Drew Middlebrooks

Scott McClay &  
Lisa Morrow  
Joyce Moty  
Sara Mueller  
Mel Vandergriff & Linda  
Newman  
Colleen Nicolette  
Nancy Nordhoff  
Patty O'Hara  
Linda Park  
Irene Patten  
Matthew Pearson  
Suzanne Pedersen  
Sarah Wilke & Brandon  
Pemberton  
Joanne Jewell &  
Rob Peterson  
Phinney Neighborhood  
Association  
Karen Prince  
Lynn Pruzan  
Christina Purdy  
Cynthia Putnam  
Barbara Reid  
Birgit Grimlund &  
Robin Reiels  
Debra Revere  
Chris Rhinehart  
Fabiola Rodriguez  
Martha Rose  
Julie Russillo  
Frances, Ann & B.J.  
Schade  
Percy Tierney &  
Carol Scheuffele  
Kimberly Schwartz  
Kimberly Christensen &  
David Sielaff  
Jayne Simmons  
Craig & Alice Skipton  
Alice & Eric Smith  
Amy Stephenson  
Judith Sterry  
Bill Parks &  
Beth Struckhoff  
Susan Peterson &  
Paul Taub  
Neal Thayer  
Sue Thompson  
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Ivette Valdes  
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Andy Waldbaum  
Kristin Walter  
Mary C. Walton  
Chris & Erica Welch  
Edie & Roger Wells  
Jonathan Wenger  
Laura Wideburg  
Bruce Williams



*Winning the 2005 People's Choice Award at the Northwest Flower & Garden Show would not have been possible without the hundreds of hours of preparation by volunteers and crew members. Before the load-in at the Convention Center days before the show, the truck was fully loaded with the wood, steel and concrete elements of the "Feel the Heat" garden. The garden was designed by Cameron Scott of Exteriorscapes LLC and underwritten by the Seattle Post-Intelligencer.*

Sarah Wilson  
Sarah Cassidy &  
Luke Woodward

Mark Yamamoto  
Peter Covell &  
Judy Youngstrom

Additional donations or matching funds were received from individuals through:  
Altria

Attachmate WRQ  
Bill & Melinda Gates  
Foundation  
Boeing Employees  
Community Fund  
Cingular Wireless  
Costco Wholesale  
King County Employees  
Charitable Campaign  
Microsoft Corporation

Nintendo of America  
Home Street Bank  
Safeo Insurance  
State of Washington  
Combined Fund Drive  
Symetra  
United Way of  
King County  
Washington Mutual

**Grants:** In 2005 Seattle Tilth received grants from the following foundations and agencies:

Burning Foundation	Patagonia
Hans and Elizabeth Wolf Foundation	Sage Foundation
Jeffris Wood Foundation	Washington Foundation for the Environment

Contributed Supplies and Services were received from:

Peter Ackroyd and Joan Alworth	Marenakos Rock Center
Asteroid Cafe	Kate McCoy
Aw Pottery	Steve & Renee McMillan
Ballard Market	Metal Design
Bootleggers Band	Jim Michael,
Cedar Grove Compost	Clear Vision
Chaco Canyon Café	Mighty-O Donuts
City People's Mercantile	Molbak's
Compton Lumber	New Renaissance Cakes
Costco	New Roots Organics
Keala Hagmann & Bur Davis	Northgate Chiropractic
Eden Landscaping	Organically Grown Company
Environmental Home Center	PCC Natural Markets
Essential Baking	Pioneer Organics
Exteriorscapes L.L.C.	Raintree Nursery
Fish Brewing Company	Rock Mountain Products
Folk Voice Band	Sawdust Supply Company
Full Circle Farm	Schnitzer Steel
Georgetown Brewing Company	Seamons Lounge
Bria Hedahl	Second Use Building Materials
Home Depot	St. Benedict's Church
Homesite	Tilterator
Kaspar's Restaurant	Walt's Organic Fertilizer
Liz Katz	WE-Design
Rebecca Ketwig	Suzy Whitehead
Sarah Kulfan	Whole Foods
Roger Leed	Windfall Lumber
Little Rae's Bakery	Zazou
Lucky Palate	



Enjoying organic apples at the 2005 Harvest Fair.



An ongoing partnership with P-Patch provides organic gardening training and integrated pest management training for P-Patchers at locations around the city. At Bradner Gardens park, Yao Fou translated information about controlling leaf miners into Laotian for instructor Laura Niemi.

## 2005 Program Activities

### Demonstration Gardens at the Good Shepherd Center and Bradner Gardens Park

Innovative new programs for adults were debuted in 2005 including an urban permaculture program and a monthly gardening clinic series. A summer session of the 30-hour Comprehensive Organic Gardener Program was added bringing the total to three COG courses per year. The Edible Plant Sale in May broke previous records for attendance and income, with proceeds directly supporting adult education programs. In continuing partnerships with Safeco's Neighborhood Academy and local nurseries we offered organic gardening classes throughout the region. Through our partnership with the P-Patch Program, we expanded programming of the "Organic Gardening: The Basics" curriculum, to include an advanced gardening series. Our non-English classes for the year included, classes in Spanish and Laotian languages. An overhauled garden crew volunteer program continues to help us maintain the demonstration gardens in exchange for hands-on learning about organic gardening. In all,

over 1,000 people learned about organic gardening through our demonstration garden programming in 2005.

### Children's Garden

Volunteers and staff offered Earth Steward programs in the children's garden for students in the spring and fall in addition to free in-classroom programs supported by a contract with Seattle Public Utilities. These programs "Soil in a Box" and "Use it or Lose It" were developed by Seattle Tilth and fulfill science requirements for second grade students. Summer camps and classes for kids as young as two-years-old were as popular as ever, supported by the work of summer interns. The multiple-session Teaching Peace Through Gardening series was held at Thurgood Marshall Elementary School where children revived a fallow school garden.

### Natural Soil Building Program

The Natural Soil Building Program is a Seattle Public Utilities contract managed and provided by a team of five Seattle Tilth employees. The 2005 program included: compost bin distribution, Natural Lawn & Garden Hotline services, basic and advanced Master Composter/Soil

### Seattle Tilth Association 2005 Financial Statements

*Statement of Activities:*

REVENUES	
Contracts	425,588
Grants & Contributions	26,262
Sales	59,002
Program Fees	58,830
Membership Dues	26,020
Other Revenue	38,093
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>633,795</b>

**EXPENSES**

Program	542,529
Harvest Fair/Plant Sale/Auction	25,519
Management & General	47,058
Fundraising	10,529
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>625,634</b>

**Revenue Less Expense 8,161**

*Statement of Financial Position – 12/31/2004:*

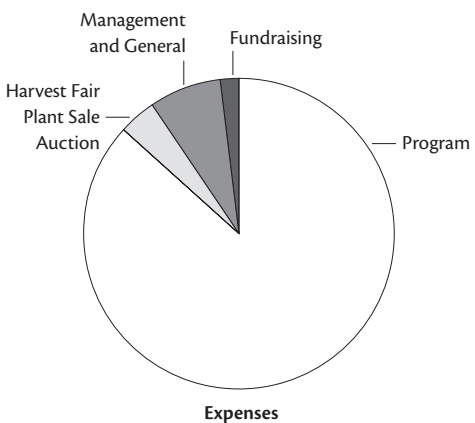
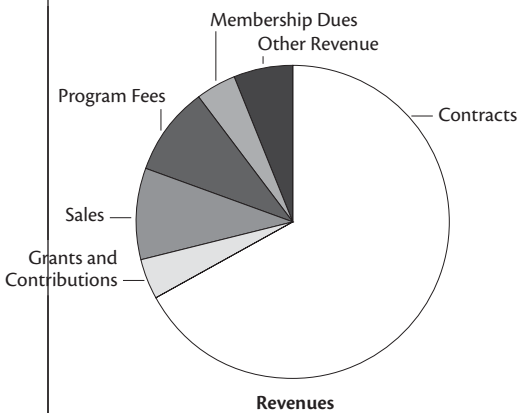
ASSETS	
Cash	64,114
Receivables	73,545
Equipment	7,731
Inventory	18,451
Other Assets	803
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>164,643</b>

**LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS**

Liabilities	
Accrued Expenses	41,004

Net Assets	
Unrestricted	105,639
Temporarily Restricted	18,000
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<b>123,639</b>

**Total Liabilities & Net Assets 164,643**



## Seattle Tilth Adopt-a-Program

### Scholarship Fund

Help seed interest in Tilth by providing community groups, public schools, and low-income individuals a chance to take part in our adult and children's gardening education opportunities.

- \$10 per month** - Give 5 scholarships for City Chickens
- \$20 per month** - Train a teacher or community leader to be a Comprehensive Organic Gardener
- \$30 per month** - Give 2 low-income kids the opportunity to become Children's Garden Junior Counselors
- \$50 per month** - Sponsor a 1-month graduate level intern to work on research and program development
- \$85 per month** - Underwrite an "Organic Gardening: the Basics" class series for non-English speaking people

Adopt-a-Program options include scholarships, programs for adults and children, operations and the Teaching Peace through Gardening program. For the full range of options, see our website. To adopt a program, use the form on page 11.

Builder volunteer training, Natural Yard Care Neighborhood workshops, storm-water seminar, and project management. The Natural Lawn & Garden Hotline educators and the MC/SB volunteers provide public outreach for this program.

The NSB program targeted Seattle Mayor Greg Nickels 60 percent recycling goal, holding a truckload bin sale in April and providing continuing bin sales through the Seattle Conservation Corps at Sand Point. Thirty-four Master Composter/Soil Builders completed over 40 hours of MC/SB Basic Training and then fulfilled 1,403 outreach hours. The Natural Lawn & Garden Hotline provided assistance to 8,552 Seattle and King County residents by phone, email or in person and within these contacts 18% of the calls were from King County residents, 36% of the calls were on IPM topics and 64% were on com-

post and natural lawn care topics. Natural Lawn & Garden Hotline staff provided five IPM presentations to King County professionals and attended twenty-seven lectures/seminars on Natural Soil Building topics for continuing education.

### Other Programs & Events

#### NW Flower & Garden Show

In the third and final year of our partnership with the *Seattle Post-Intelligencer* a team of dedicated volunteers led by volunteer Nancy Evans and garden designer Cameron Scott of Exteriorscapes LLC created the "Feel the Heat" garden, which won the People's Choice Award. The garden featured innovative hardscaping designed to extend the growing season and provide year-round outdoor living spaces.

#### City Chickens

More sessions of City Chickens 101 were held and we offered one advanced class called City Chickens 201. Some of the hosts for the July City Chickens Coop Tour reported that more than 200 people visited their backyards.

#### Harvest Fair

In 2005 we debuted the Tomato Tasting fundraising event and expanded the fall plant sale to include perennials and winter vegetable starts. Despite heavy rain and cool temperatures, more than 2,000 people attended and sales at the farmers market were brisk. The fair included a full schedule of music and children's activities, as well as the noontime Harvest Parade.



## Naked Gardener

### Rock 'n' Roll

An evening stroll around the garden in mid-June – glass in hand – is a pleasant interlude, as long as you've done your springtime work. If you haven't you're surely not alone in this, and there's always another opportunity, another spring.

If you have gardened even reasonably well, your inventory of pleasures will probably exceed mine, not that mine is shabby. I note the swelling pods of sugar snap peas, the flourishing potatoes and lettuces, the young pole beans eager for the climb ahead. I see the rhubarb and the ripening raspberries, and I salivate at the thought of pies to come. And then there are the treasures I **did not** plant: the 7-foot-tall-and-climbing foxglove, the Feverfew and Sweet Cicely, the bracken and Lemon Balm and – new this year – Corncockle.

Much of this is familiar. Besides the Corncockle, what else is new? Two things: we have built a new potting shed on our new deck. As everyone knows, such ventures inevitably come with unexpected complications, and this serves to keep life challenging for those of us who might otherwise become complacent. In this case the challenges of construction were greatly relieved by the skillful young carpenter we hired to do about 98% of the actual work. Given my limited capacity for new challenges, I think this was a prudent move.

A small challenge did arise post-construction, however, owing to the fact that the potting shed door has no latch. My wife (who is the major shareholder in this venture and also the primary beneficiary) placed a grapefruit-sized rock against the bottom of the door to keep it closed. I complained that sliding this rock back and forth repeatedly would damage the surface of the new deck, which is a material composed of reclaimed wood and plastic.

"Not at all," she replied. "The stone is round. It will roll away."

Now for many of you the phrase "roll away the stone" will carry a biblical resonance, as it did for me. This is a powerful association, and one you might expect to lend itself to all kinds of wordplay, clever references, etc., so you could say my wife handed me a fine opportunity just then. I generally leap at those. The problem was that I couldn't come up with anything, and I still can't. No wit, no wordplay, no plumage display.

So all I had left was my dry objection to the scratchy stone, unleavened by wit or humor of any kind, good, bad or indifferent. Fortunately for me, my wife waggishly wrapped the rock in an old sock thus preserving both the deck surface and the good humor of our relationship. Now, when it rains, we can look out on the deck at the soggy-sock-wrapped-rock.

The potting shed was designed to incorporate some old windows that I've kept around for several years with just this purpose in mind. I have a tendency to keep many sorts of things lying around for years with some purpose in mind. That "purpose" is often vague and seldom achieved, so it is a particular pleasure to see these old windows finally reaching their destiny, so long forethought of.

Once the shed was built, much sowing, potting, transplanting and re-potting immediately ensued, with the result that the gardens are productive and lovely and getting lovelier as the summer matures. We often remark how fine it is to have such a space dedicated to this purpose, after years of trying to sow seeds and transplant seedlings in a variety of unsatisfactory locations, such as the dining room table.

What's more, it adds even more interest to the evening stroll and another entry to the inventory of pleasures. And who – glass in hand – could object to that? Rock on!

## Classifieds

**Cynthia Creasey, real estate agent** specializing in gardens that come with houses in Seattle. Call 206-276-8292, Lake & Co. Real Estate.

**Rain Barrels.** 60 gallon, food clean, fully assembled with brass fittings and removable mesh screen. Available in black, terra cotta and blue. Excellent value, only \$57.50 each (delivery and installation available). Call or e-mail me, Dan Borba, at 253-272-8173, [naturalrainwater@yahoo.com](mailto:naturalrainwater@yahoo.com). Harvesting the rain since 1999.

**Calvin Creasey, Natural Gardening.** Rose care and pruning. The best plants, grandly grown. 206-789-6456.


**Green Light Gardening Consultation,** design, and pruning lessons. Specializing in helping you create a wildlife-friendly and child-friendly garden with year-round beauty. Emily Bishton, 206-523-1774 or [www.greenlightgardening.com](http://www.greenlightgardening.com)

**Worm composting on the Eastside?** Red wigglers for sale. Call Judy, 425-868-2694, or email [judy1007@comcast.net](mailto:judy1007@comcast.net).

**Professional worm bin consultant.** Specializing in worm bin set up and operation. \$40 for 1 hour consultation and informational material. Tilth member and student discounts. Call Barb at Wiggle Worm Farm, 206-297-7303.

**See your garden with new eyes –** Experienced and thoughtful pruning and personal instruction on how to manage your landscape. Katy 206-782-7113 or [www.gardenvision.net](http://www.gardenvision.net)

**Wanted:** Seattle Tilth needs a **woodworker** with a good shop to prepare worm bin kits for both the MSB&C class and the Tilth plant sales during the year. Probably two times a year. Details: Call Colleen @ 632-0324.



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**Join Seattle Tilth!**

New Member  Renewing Member  New contact information?

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

- Membership levels**    \$30 Regular    \$50 Supporter  
 \$100 Sustaining    \$500 Lifetime    \$15 Limited Income

**Adopt-A-Program** Yes, I would like to make a tax-deductible contribution to support Seattle Tilth operations.

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ per  Month  Year  Check  Charge  Invoice  
 Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name on card \_\_\_\_\_

**Maritime Northwest Garden Guide**

For an indispensable regional guide to year-round gardening enclose \$12.50 (includes tax and postage) per copy. Please send me \_\_\_\_\_ copies.

**Mail to** Seattle Tilth, 4649 Sunnyside Ave N, Room 120, Seattle, Washington 98103



**Hot Questions from the Natural Lawn and Garden Hotline**

Please contact us at 206-633-0224 or [info@lawnandgardenhotline.org](mailto:info@lawnandgardenhotline.org) if you have questions or concerns regarding your carts.

**Fall's around the corner— time to plant that winter garden!**

There are few things more satisfying in life than stepping outside in those chilly

peas, rye, wheat or barley (or any combination) September—early October.

To ensure a lasting crop through the chillier months, use cloches (floating row covers) or cold frames over your crops. These provide a buffer from the wind and frost and hold warm air close to your plants. Cloche fabric is available at most nurseries. A heavy fall mulching of leaves, straw or compost (four inches of straw or leaves, two inches of compost) for all your winter beds will help keep soils warm and frost away

couldn't stomach the idea of all the work involved with removing the existing lawn and weeds? Now is the time to create new beds for next spring without all the work. Fall is the best time to sheet mulch problem areas so that by next spring you will have a loose, rich soil— and a great base for planting a new garden. Sheet mulching is a great, inexpensive way to build healthy soil over the winter.

Put several layers of organic material on the ground and let it sit for a few months; the existing weeds and grass will be smothered. Later on you will have dark, healthy soil that is full of organic matter and ready to be planted. You don't need to use high quality compost or carefully prepared materials for sheet mulching, use whatever is available— newspapers, cardboard, grass clippings, wood chips, manure etcetera. In time it will all break down to create rich soil. Contact the Hotline 206-633-0224 or [lawnandgardenhotline@seattletilth.org](mailto:lawnandgardenhotline@seattletilth.org), for a free fact sheet and additional information on how to convert problem areas into great gardens with very little work by sheet mulching this fall.



gray months and harvesting your own kale, or to see fresh snow peas and carrots sprouting for harvest in early spring. To join the company of such satisfied gardeners, start planting now! Kale, chard, winter beets, spinach, green onions and loose leaf lettuce go into the ground throughout August. As temperatures start to cool in mid-August—early September, put in arugula, cilantro and overwintering cabbage, broccoli and cauliflower, as well as another planting of lettuce greens. Late September is your chance to plant that amazing early spring duo – garlic and snow peas – and to plant your beets and winter-hardy spinach and carrots for spring harvest. Give an organic boost to any beds you want to put to sleep for the winter, by planting cover crops of fava beans, crimson clover, field

from tender roots. Mulch will also promote a vibrant microbial soil community of beneficial bacteria, fungi and critters. Just keep an eye out for those slugs! Call the Hotline, 206-633-0224 [lawnandgardenhotline@seattletilth.org](mailto:lawnandgardenhotline@seattletilth.org), for more information and creative year-round gardening ideas!

**Fall is a great time to get a head start on creating new beds—using sheet mulch!**

Do you have an area of lawn that is thin and weedy? Have you been thinking for months about getting rid of it and starting a new bed, but just

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## Garden Clinics

Throughout the year, Seattle Tilth offers low-cost hands-on garden clinics to aspiring organic gardeners. Each month, the Tilth gardeners teach a seasonal topic on organic gardening. Each clinic is an hour and a half long and takes place in the Seattle Tilth Demonstration gardens. Participants will have a chance to listen, see and participate in the demonstrations for each class. Each clinic costs \$15 for Tilth members, \$18 for non-members. Pre-registration is required. To register, go to [www.seattletilth.org](http://www.seattletilth.org).

## Fall Salad Gardening

Sunday, August 27, 11 am–12:30 pm  
Bradner Gardens Park, 29th Ave S and  
S Grand St, Seattle, WA 98144

Fall salad gardens are the easiest thing around and what a payoff! All you need is a little advanced planning, four square feet and you'll be grazing for months. When you see how easy it is to plant and grow a salad garden, you'll wonder why they charge \$7.99 a pound for the stuff in the grocery stores!

## Natural Yard Care–Fall

Thursday, September 28, 6–7:30 pm  
Bradner Gardens Park, 29th Ave S. and S.  
Grand St., Seattle, WA 98144

Are you looking for ways to create a chemical-free yard? This workshop will present simple and inexpensive techniques that will help you create a beautiful and healthy space for you and your family to enjoy. Fall is a fantastic time to replenish the soil and clean up your garden beds before the winter sets in. Learn how to mulch your garden beds to reduce winter weeds and do general yard clean up, including pruning. This is also the time to fertilize your lawn and plant new lawns, so come and learn which organic lawn fertilizers and seeds are best. Fall is also the best time of year for planting. We will help you learn which plants are best for your site and how you can plan your landscape to encourage space for backyard wildlife.

## City Chickens 101

Saturday, September 23, 10 am–12 pm  
Good Shepherd Center  
Room 140 (Senior Center)

This is an introduction to chicken husbandry in an urban and suburban setting. You will learn the most important considerations in caring for a small flock of hens in limited space, including chicken physiology, behavior, health, nutrition, housing and city regulations. This class will also cover the wide variety of chicken breeds. Questions are encouraged. You will leave this class with everything you need to know to start raising chickens in your own backyard. Each class costs \$22 per person or \$18 for members of Seattle Tilth. Advance registration and payment is required. Registration form available at [www.seattletilth.org](http://www.seattletilth.org).

## Creatures Galore!

Space is still available in this week-long day camp in the Children's Garden and one other. There are also spots in a few afternoon preschool classes. Check availability at [www.seattletilth.org](http://www.seattletilth.org).

## City Chickens Book List

Interested in keeping City Chickens? Seattle Tilth has gathered a list of books that will get you started on the right track to be a City Chickens keeper! You can find the list on the Seattle Tilth website at: [www.seattletilth.org/resources/articles/citychickensbooklist](http://www.seattletilth.org/resources/articles/citychickensbooklist)

## Get Dirty!

Volunteer in the Children's Garden where we offer fun, hands-on garden camps for children ages 1–14 years. Programs like Get Dirty, Ladybug Picnic and Tool Time take place weekdays, June 12–September 1. Call Lisa Taylor at 206-633-0451 x2 to get started as a volunteer.

## Green Gardening Program IPM Workshop Save the Date!

Wednesday, November 15, 7 am–4 pm  
South Seattle Community College

A combination of presentations and interactive discussion. Topics include: Bio-fertility, Planting to attract beneficial insects, Weed control demonstration, Soil restoration, Pruning for tree health.

Pesticide recertification and continuing education credits offered. Breakfast and lunch included in registration. Look for registration materials in September.

The date above  
your name is  
your membership  
expiration date.  
Thanks for renewing!