

SAVE BALLARD P-PATCH



VISION

A verdant half-acre in the midst of dense urban living, Ballard P-Patch is preserved forever. More than just a garden; it's a true community resource that enriches and supports Ballard in ways that reach deep in the community, from ecology education to emergency preparedness, from food-bank donations to festivals and events. The Ballard P-Patch has strong relationships with local non-profits who develop on-site programming. We connect with local schools, offering opportunities for hands on demonstrations for growing nutritious food in conjunction with healthy soil and gardening practices. The land is stewarded by its gardeners and community volunteers, increasing soil resiliency that combats climate change. Pollinators and beneficial insects thrive and support a healthy eco-system. Neighbors, visitors and gardeners celebrate a vibrant community garden and green space, where healthy foods and enduring relationships are the harvest. Today, more than ever in our 43 years of existence, these activities and values are central to our vision of community.

COMMUNITY NEEDS

Located in North Seattle between the densely populated Crown Hill and Ballard urban villages, Ballard P-Patch has served the community for more than 40 years. Our core programs include:

Public gathering space

- Vibrant half-acre filled with vegetables, flowers and art.
- A place of spiritual renewal and respite in a rapidly developing neighborhood.
- Accessible to all. A leader in gardener-initiated projects to improve accessibility.
- A free annual Community Festival each summer.

Gardens for Giving Program

- Ballard P-Patch devotes roughly 1,200 square feet of the active growing space to produce donated to the Ballard Food Bank.
- Every Tuesday during the growing season, gardeners and community volunteers gather to grow & harvest fresh, organic produce for Ballard Food Bank clients.
- The P-Patch enhances food security in our community. Annually, we donate 2,500 pounds of organic produce to the Ballard Food Bank.
- Every Tuesday, the P-Patch hosts a community potluck, where all are welcomed.
- In 2020 we will begin a relationship with Phinney Neighborhood Center food programs in the Greenwood neighborhood, to diversify our donations.

City of Seattle Official Emergency Hub

- Ballard P-Patch is a city-designated hub in case of a disaster or emergency.
- Emergency supplies are stored on site.
- Gardener volunteers are trained to assist neighbors in an emergency.

Learning Opportunities

- Ballard P-Patch volunteers host informational workshops for the community on Emergency Hub functions.
- Volunteers host workshops for the public on composting and winterizing techniques.
- K-12 students use the P-Patch regularly for experiential learning and volunteer opportunities.
- Day Care organizations regularly visit the P-Patch, teaching the connection of food with the earth.
- University students and scientists use the P-Patch for a variety of research projects including pollinators like bees and butterflies.

Ballard P-Patch Community:

- *Ballard Crown Hill, Loyal Heights and Olympic Manor communities*
- *85 families gardening for improved food security and nutrition*
- *K-12 and university students*
- *Senior citizens*
- *Preschool children*
- *Artists*
- *People with disabilities*
- *Recreational walkers and dog-walkers*
- *Researchers*
- *Our Redeemer's congregation*
- *People experiencing homelessness*
- *Small mammals, birds, butterflies and pollinating insects*



OUR PLAN

The Ballard P-Patch is in the process of raising \$2 million to purchase the garden property from Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church, and ensure that it remains a garden in perpetuity.

The time to preserve this vital green space is now. Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church must upgrade their aging buildings. They have offered the land to the garden community if we can raise the funds in a timely manner. We have a willing seller and a committed group of community volunteers who are dedicated to finding a path forward to ensure that this garden continues to serve as a community green space for future generations. There is no opposition to the acquisition of this land for continued community garden use. Failure to raise the funds could result in the development of the land for four exclusive single-family homes.

We will preserve a unique green space in North Seattle that has always been forest, orchard, or farmland. We honor this parcel as the largest remaining piece of never-developed level land in Northwest Seattle. In addition to maintaining and preserving green open space and gardening room for the following:

- Year-round, inclusive, all-ages community events highlighting seasonal activities.
- Increased production of food through our Giving Garden to benefit Emergency Food Services.
- Strategic partnerships with community groups and local nonprofit organizations.
- An interactive and experiential learning garden for young gardeners.



OUR IMPACT

By ensuring the Ballard P-Patch is permanently protected from development, we ensure that our neighborhood will always have a dedicated green space, accessible to all. As our neighborhood populations swell & diversify, continued access to green spaces where neighbors can grow their own food and connect with each other becomes critically important. Places where people young and old can interact with and share knowledge, where community groups can gather to host culturally responsive and relevant events, will be more important than ever to the vibrancy of our city and people. Ballard P-Patch serves a real need in the community. Should the land be sold and developed – it will leave a permanent void.

Based on our conversations with community members, we know that our community wants a *facilitated, intentional space* where:

- People connect with others and authentic relationships can evolve.
- People combat loneliness by developing close working relationships via shared goals.
- People experience more nature, not less. *We must preserve the remaining green spaces we have left.*
- People need access to green space to improve emotional health, healing and overall quality of life.
- People will thrive when healthy food is readily available.



WHY BALLARD P-PATCH

We are passionate, dedicated members of the community who believe in the transformative power of green spaces to connect us to each other and to our environment. We are master and novice gardeners. We are young, old, and in-between. We value community, accessibility, innovation, respect, and stewardship of both the land and relationships.

- **BALLARD P-PATCH IS A RECOGNIZED LEADER** in community gardening. We are thought leaders and content experts for topics like composting, soil building, volunteerism, and community building.
- **BALLARD P-PATCH HAS A PROVEN TRACK RECORD** of success in giving back to the community. We've been around for more than 40 years. We have provided exemplary stewardship of the land on behalf of the community.
- **BALLARD P-PATCH IS THE ANTIDOTE TO MANY PRESSURES OF MODERN LIFE:**
 - Improved mental health and access to green space is positively correlated, especially for those living in dense urban neighborhoods.
 - Ballard P-Patch exemplifies the local food movement, offering much needed space for city-dwellers to grow their own healthy, organic foods in soils never damaged by pesticide use.
 - The gardens at the P-Patch provide ecosystem benefits that improve the lives of all of us – carbon absorption, oxygen production, enhancement of biological community, including soil organisms, pollinators, birds and small wildlife.





JOIN THE EFFORT

The Ballard P-Patch grew into what it is today through the hard work of dedicated volunteers and community members, and we know that the only way we can save the Ballard P-Patch from development is to once again rely on the generosity of our community.

You can help us ensure that the P-Patch is around to serve future generations by:

- Making a gift - <https://www.mightycause.com/organization/Ballard-P-Patch>
- Hosting a fundraiser on behalf of the P-Patch
- Emailing elected officials, letting them know you support the importance of preserving green spaces
- Following our journey on Facebook, Instagram & Twitter
- Signing up for updates on our website: ballardppatch.org
- Volunteering - Info@BallardP-Patch.org

Contact: Cindy Krueger – Ballard P-Patch Leadership Chair

info@ballardppatch.org

ENDORSED BY THE FOLLOWING:

- Ballard Food Bank
- Ballard Historical Society
- Danny Woo Community Garden
- Groundswell NW
- GROW
- Historic Seattle
- Kruckeberg Gardens
- Scarab Society
- National Perennial Alliance
 - Dirty Divas
 - Mercer Belles
 - Plant Junkies
- Northwestern Chapter of the National Rock Garden Alliance
- Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church
- Plant Amnesty
- Professor Sharon Collman (WSU)
- Seattle Green Space Network
- Seattle Tilth

THE CAMPAIGN TO SAVE THE BALLARD P-PATCH HAS BEEN COVERED BY THE FOLLOWING:

- Ballard News Tribune
- Ciscoe Morris Talk Show
- KING 5 TV News Reports
- KIRO Radio & TV News
- KUOW Public Radio
- My Ballard Blog
- PCC Sound Consumer Newsletter
- Seattle Times

