

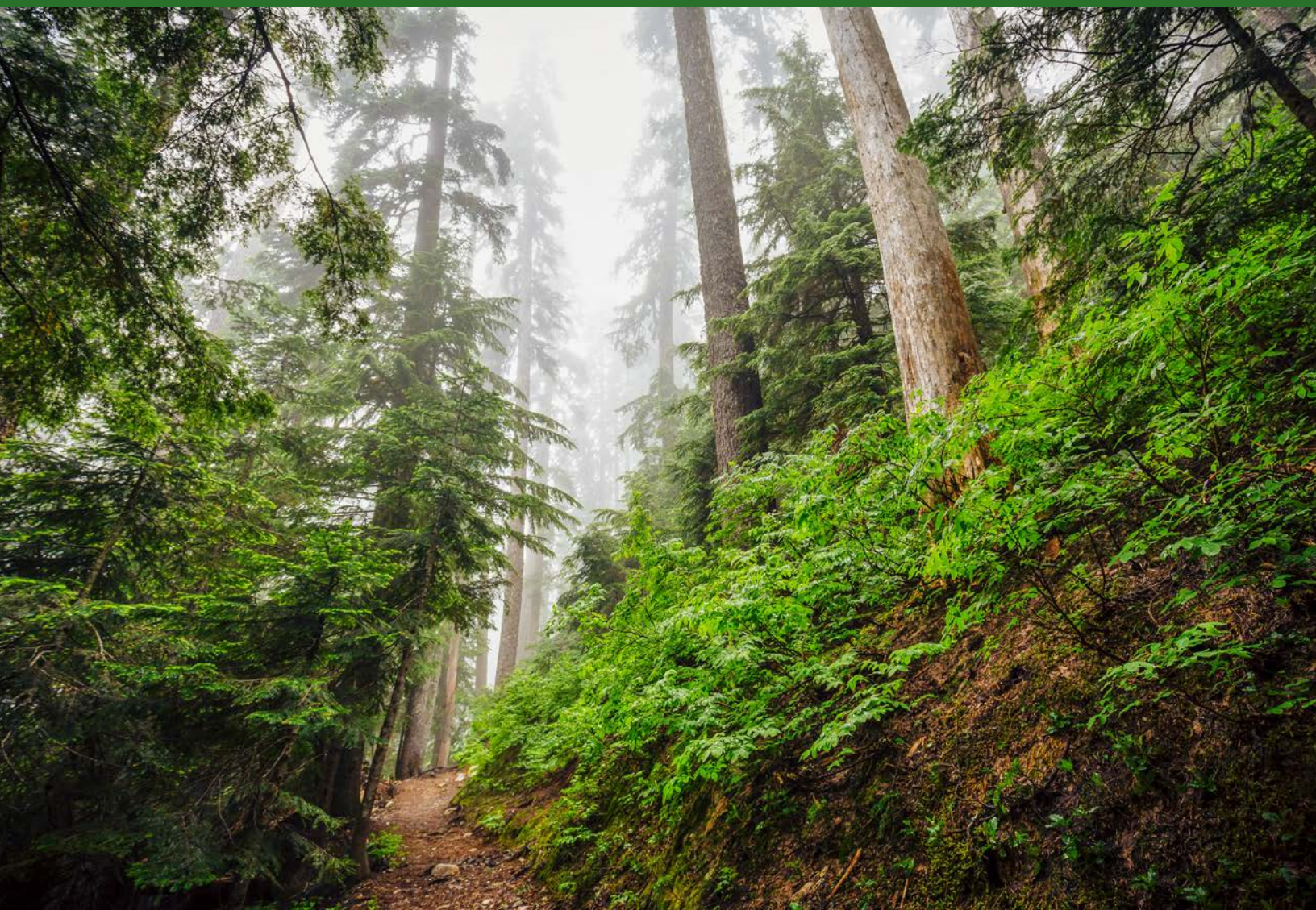
2021-2022 ANNUAL REPORT

EVERGREEN CARBON CAPTURE

FORTERRA
LAND FOR GOOD

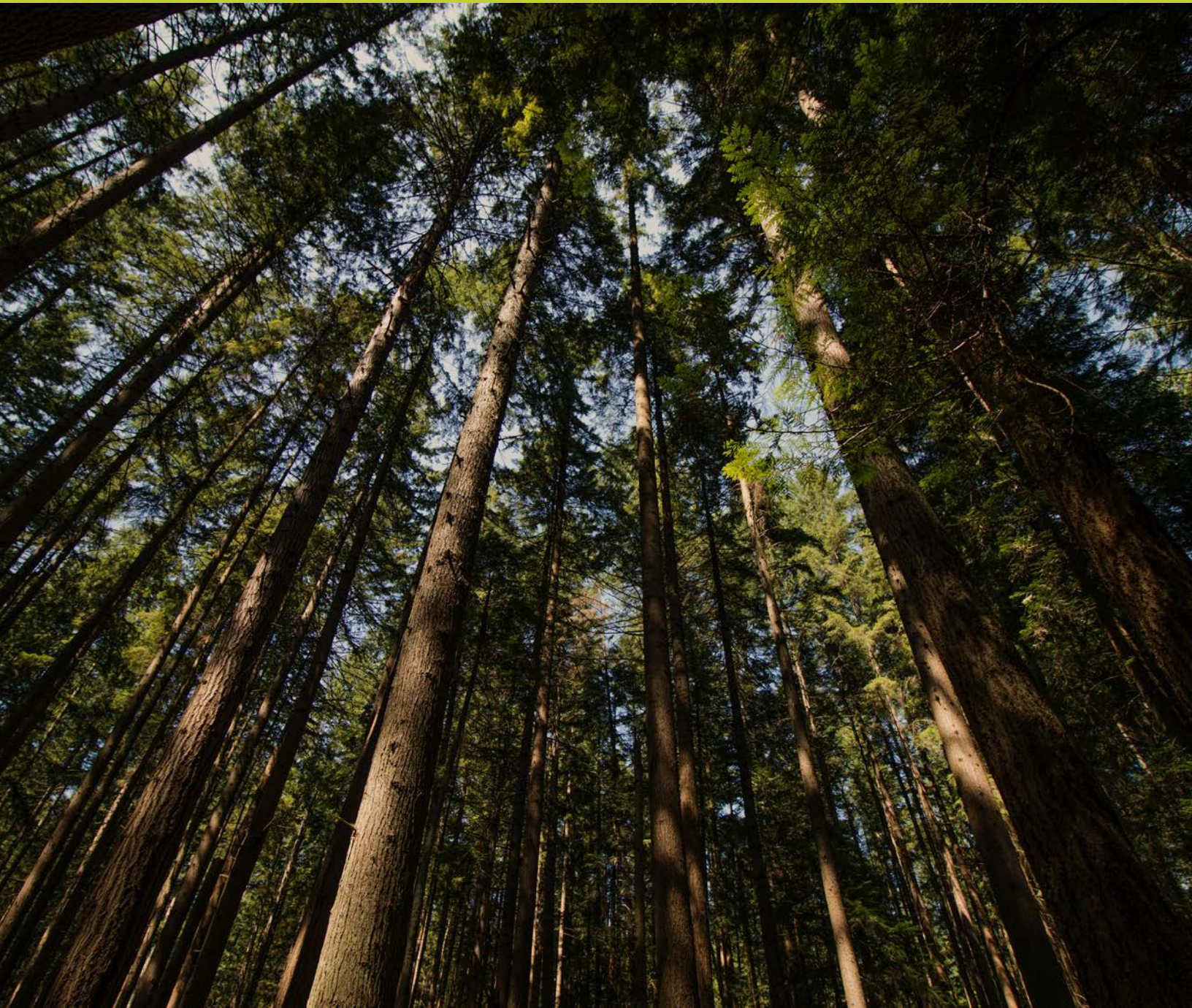


**EVERGREEN
CARBON CAPTURE**
A FORTERRA ECOSERVICE



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ABOUT FORTERRA

Forterra is an unconventional land trust that works across Washington's communities and landscapes, from the ranches and shrub-steppe of the Yakima basin, to the estuaries, farms and forests of Washington's coast, reaching more than 100 counties, cities, towns and rural communities. Working cooperatively with people and nature, Forterra drives land stewardship, management and planning; innovative programs and policies; farming and forestry approaches; community ownership opportunities; and development solutions.

Learn more at forterra.org

Land acknowledgement: We gather and live on the plains, plateaus, mountains, and coastal lands that have been home to Indigenous peoples since time immemorial. We respect their Indigenous and tribal treaty rights and honor their culture today.



INTRODUCTION

The Pacific Northwest felt the acute effects of climate change for the last several years. No longer is this an abstract problem to solve in the future, it is a long-term crisis with real and present consequences for our region. We recognize now that, even with urgent action, the impacts of climate change will continue to be felt. How do we face this global challenge that can feel overwhelming? The actions we take today make a difference now, and in the future.

Forterra created Evergreen Carbon Capture (ECC) to provide organizations and individuals a local option to help address climate change through native tree planting. Forterra plants and maintains ECC trees for carbon sequestration in cities and rural lands throughout Western Washington. Tree planting is part of comprehensive habitat restoration efforts, so these actions not only mitigate effects of carbon pollution but also help develop healthy, resilient forested parks and natural areas for future generations. We plant trees on lands we own or steward with our partners and provide trees to local stewardship organizations for their restoration efforts. **Since 2010, ECC has planted 56,000 trees in more than 130 locations. These trees will sequester more than 376,000 tons of carbon dioxide (CO₂) over their lifetimes.**

While our mission has long focused on regional-scale conservation and building more sustainable communities, Forterra renewed our commitment to climate action in 2021. We updated our mission statement to explicitly address the climate crisis and we revised our strategic plan to direct our work towards outcomes that strengthen equity and climate resilience in our communities. While this commitment spans the breadth of what we do, ECC is dedicated to direct local action.

We are encouraged that organizations and individuals in Washington State are taking the initiative to reduce their carbon footprints and to offset the carbon they could not reduce. In the past year, ECC participants increased their support for climate action in the Puget Sound region by setting a new program record. With these commitments, we are supporting local forest restoration by **planting 5,695 native evergreen trees to offset carbon emissions, an increase in tree planting by 34% over the previous year.** Our volunteer engagement in tree planting events was also strong following two years of limited participation due to the pandemic. We thank them for their leadership and look forward to growing ECC participation again in 2022.

In addition to sequestering carbon, healthy local forests provide many other environmental and health benefits such as improving air quality, reducing soil erosion and water pollution, cooling cities and dampening noise pollution, recharging groundwater and sustaining stream flows, providing native wildlife habitat and outdoor recreation, and reducing stormwater impacts.

2021-2022 EVERGREEN CARBON CAPTURE BY THE NUMBERS

8

field
partners



25

corporate &
nonprofit
partners
plus dozens of individuals



trees
planted at
14 sites

5,696



28,475

tons of CO₂
sequestered



2021 EVERGREEN CARBON CAPTURE PLANTING SITES



FIELD PARTNERS AND TREE PLANTING SITES



1

Adopt-A-Stream: Coon Creek, Granite Falls

This site along the Coon Creek River covers 15 acres of private land spanning two properties. Adopt-A-Stream has partnered with the landowners to restore Coon Creek, which feeds into the Pilchuck River and subsequently the Puget Sound. Coon Creek and the Pilchuck River are vital salmon habitat, but the health of these waterways has deteriorated over the years. Over 3,000 trees from ECC will be planted within 150 feet on either side of Coon Creek to support a healthy riparian buffer. The trees will improve water quality not only in Coon Creek but the waterways it flows into by providing shade to decrease water temperatures and increase oxygen for fish, stabilizing the banks along the creek, filtering pollutants, and forming the next generation of trees to ensure a sustainable forest that will return the creek to its natural state.



2 3 4

City of Burien: Chelsea Park, Salmon Creek Park, and Seahurst Park

The City of Burien is hosting and stewarding three sites to increase canopy cover and the health of the parks and the local community. Chelsea Park is a neighborhood park with a sports field and playground only a block away from a busy road that is a source of noise and air pollution. Chelsea Park has been a popular and beloved spot since the 1940s. The 20 trees planted here will increase the park's canopy cover and act as a noise and sight buffer between the park and major roadways.

Salmon Creek is a 4.5-acre park in northern Burien. This park is currently being restored and stewarded by students from the

neighboring high school and other community partners. They are removing weeds and replanting the space to create a healthy urban park, and the ten ECC trees were planted as part of their restoration efforts.

Seahurst is Burien's largest and most popular park, featuring a beach, views of Puget Sound, picnic areas, a playground, and walking trails through the forest. EarthCorps, community volunteers, and city staff are working together to restore Seahurst Park, with efforts extending from the beach to its forests, to improve habitat and canopy cover, remove invasive species, and regenerate the forest. Partners planted 170 trees as part of this process, helping to create the next generation of trees in the forest to ensure a sustainable and resilient space for residents and visitors.

5

Dirt Corps: Duwamish River, Tukwila

The Duwamish River is a designated Superfund site in the Green-Duwamish watershed. Many organizations and partnerships are restoring shoreline habitat for wildlife and fish, such as endangered Chinook salmon. ECC partner Dirt Corps planted 590 trees on two sites along the Green River mainstem as part of an ongoing restoration project in the City of Tukwila. These stewardship projects seek to clean up the river not just for ecological reasons, but also because of the cultural, economic, and historical significance of the waterway. The trees planted at these sites will help stabilize the slope along the bank during floods, shade the river to reduce water temperatures for fish, provide habitat for waterfowl, and filter pollutants. Other partners in this project include the Rose Foundation, Green River Coalition, Nicoterra, Water Resource Inventory Area 9, King County Flood Control District, and Puget Soundkeeper.

6

Forterra: Lake Serene, Gold Bar

Forterra owns and stewards 190 acres of forested land along the Lake Serene trail, a popular hiking destination near Index, Washington. The land is adjacent to the Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest and contains a healthy fish-bearing stream system that flows into the south fork of the Skykomish River. In 2018, 57 acres of the property were logged and then replanted; however, the logging road and other portions of the site remain bare and exposed. ECC crews planted 980 trees across 2.4 acres of the site to further the reforestation of the property and fill in remaining gaps in the forest canopy. These trees will add to the contiguous forests and wildlife corridors of the North Cascades, creating habitat, reducing runoff, and creating the next generation of trees so the forests are sustainable and thrive long into the future.

7

Green Redmond Partnership: Bear Creek Park, Redmond

Bear Creek Park is a partially forested 4.5-acre park located in Redmond, Washington with walking trails. Bear Creek runs through the park and has the largest wild Chinook salmon runs in the Sammamish population. A key component of restoring Chinook and other salmon runs in the Bear Creek system is enhancing the lower reach of Bear Creek through restoration. This project is a high priority for Chinook salmon recovery and benefits coho and sockeye salmon, as well as other wildlife. The Green Redmond Partnership maintains this park as a collaboration between the City of Redmond and Forterra that focuses on community-building and environmental stewardship work. GLY Construction, who has been a long-standing corporate partner of ECC, chose to steward all of Bear Creek Park, taking on



additional activities at the site including watering trees, removing invasive plants, and planting understory vegetation. GLY led the planting of the ECC trees and will monitor them in the future to ensure their lasting health.

8

Green SeaTac Partnership: North SeaTac Park, SeaTac

North SeaTac Park is stewarded by the Green SeaTac Partnership, a partnership between the City of SeaTac, Forterra, and the local community. At more than 200 acres, this park is a major hub for activity in the city of SeaTac, with trails, a garden, a community center, and other recreation areas. While a large portion of the park is forested, the overall canopy coverage of SeaTac is low. There are many efforts underway in the community to increase the tree canopy in the park, as its proximity to SeaTac International Airport includes an area where Public Health Seattle-King County recommends increasing tree canopy. The purpose of this project is to decrease the noise and air pollution from the airport, which can have negative long-term effects on the health and life expectancy of residents. The Green SeaTac Partnership planted 100 trees across five acres in this well-loved park with volunteers. This planting complements an active urban forest restoration project that began in 2019. The land was originally platted as residential single-family homes, but redeveloped into park space, though evidence of homes, such as concrete foundations, can still be seen. These trees will support the reforestation of the park site and improve the mental and physical health of the community.

9 10 11

Green Shoreline Partnership: Edwin Pratt Memorial, James Keough, and Shoreline Park

Three sites in Shoreline are being planted and stewarded by the Green Shoreline Partnership, a partnership between the City of Shoreline, Forterra, and community volunteers. The first



site is the Edwin Pratt Memorial Park, named after a local civil rights activist. The property was purchased using the King County Conservation Futures Tax, which requires 85% of the land to be dedicated as a natural refuge. Green Shoreline will plant 53 trees in the natural refuge to support the reforestation of the park. The second site is James Keough Park, which consists of 3 acres of mostly open field near Interstate 5. Green Shoreline will plant 80 trees here to buffer noise for the park and neighborhood. Additionally, the trees will be vital in suppressing the encroachment of the colonizing weeds that come in from the I-5 corridor. The third site is Shoreview Park, a large park with trails and sports fields. Approximately 25,000 square feet of turf area has been reclaimed for reforestation. Green Shoreline will plant 67 trees here as part of the reclamation project. Across all three sites, the trees from ECC will help decrease ambient air temperatures for the neighborhood, filter pollutants, provide habitat for wildlife, and create beautiful and healthy spaces for visitors to enjoy long into the future.

12 13

Sound Salmon Solutions: Segelson and Grant Creek, Arlington

Sound Salmon Solutions (SSS) is restoring Segelson and Grant Creek, two sites located along the Stillaguamish River in Arlington. The Stillaguamish River flows from the Cascades into the Puget Sound. Eight salmonid species use the river for spawning. The Stillaguamish Tribe owns the Segelson property. The Tribe and SSS have partnered to reforest the site by removing colonizing weeds and replacing them with native trees and shrubs, which will grow into a healthy, diverse forest over the next several generations. This project also continues along Grant Creek, which feeds into the Stillaguamish River further west. The 500 trees planted across these two locations will help increase canopy cover, decrease water and ambient air temperatures in the face of climate change, filter pollutants, and provide habitat for wildlife.



CARBON IMPACTS

The 5,696 ECC trees planted this year will sequester 28,480 tons of carbon over the next 100 years, helping to mitigate the carbon footprint of businesses, organizations, and individuals. To ensure we meet the commitments made by our partners, we exceed the standards for carbon sequestration by planting almost three times the required number of trees to achieve program goals. After they are in the ground, we monitor and replace trees when necessary. This approach addresses tree mortality and variability in planting sites, such as soil quality, available sunlight, and space. Learn more at forterra.org.



PARTICIPANT RECOGNITION

Forterra thanks the new and returning partners who participated in ECC this year. Special thanks to Green Diamond Resource Company for providing trees to ECC for this year's planting events.

We highlight those companies that have reached special milestones in the program. Forterra celebrates ten years of participation by the following companies and organizations:



Forterra celebrates the following companies for participating in ECC for at least five years:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> BECU Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation CS Instant Coffee Elemental Cremation Green Diamond Resource Company Nordstrom Porters Pride | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seattle Children's Hospital Seattle Sounders FC Silver Creek Capital Management Sub Pop Records Turner Construction Valley Supply Company |
|---|--|

2021 program participants:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> AssetLab Marketing Bear Mountain Capital BECU Beneficial State Bank CS Instant Coffee Elemental Cremation & Burial Floral Image Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation GLY LMN Architects Montessori School of Seattle Mott Holdings Nordstrom Porter's Pride | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seattle Children's Hospital Skanska Seattle Sounders FC Silver Creek Capital Stream Real Estate Sub Pop Records Sustainable Business Consulting Turner Construction Urban Housing Ventures Valley Supply Weber Thompson <i>As well as individual participants.</i> |
|---|---|

CHANGES FOR 2022

Forterra is introducing two new updates to Evergreen Carbon Capture for 2022. The first change is the timing of our schedule. Historically, ECC recruits and renews participants between the spring and the fall, with tree planting in the following spring. For example, the trees planted in March 2022 are for commitments made in 2021. Starting now, renewals, recruitment, and planting will happen in the same calendar year. This means we're contacting returning participants earlier than in the past and we anticipate planting events in the autumn.

Second, we are excited to introduce the **Stewardship Fund**, a new way for participants to expand their engagement in Evergreen Carbon Capture through the creation of new restoration sites. Forterra has historically

focused on carbon offsets and tree planting, at existing park and forest sites. However, the investment needed to ensure ECC succeeds and grows goes beyond planting events — in order to plant thousands of trees, sites must first be prepared to ensure they are safe for volunteers and have healthy growing conditions for the new trees. Participating in the Stewardship Fund provides organizations an opportunity to directly support the preparation that goes into their planting events. In addition, this new program aims to expand the scale of regional restoration efforts with a focus on sites in cities with limited resources to meet their goals. If you want to learn more, please contact evergreencarbon@forterra.org.



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