

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON BOTANIC GARDENS

The UW Botanic Gardens organization is part of the College of Forest Resources:

MISSION

Sustaining managed to natural ecosystems and the human spirit through plant research, display, and education

VISION

As an international hub for plant science, information, teaching, and stewardship, we will promote an educated, inspired, and engaged society dedicated to sustainable ecosystem management

WASHINGTON PARK ARBORETUM

At the south end of Union Bay, 230-acres, and three miles of Shoreline, house one of North America's most important tree collections. It is jointly managed by the University of Washington Botanic Gardens (UWBG) and the City of Seattle's Department of Parks and Recreation, with support from the Arboretum Foundation.

UNION BAY NATURAL AREA

The 74-acre site includes four miles of shoreline. It serves as an outdoor laboratory for UW research, and offers public access to a diverse wildlife habitat.

UNION BAY GARDENS

(Center for Urban Horticulture)

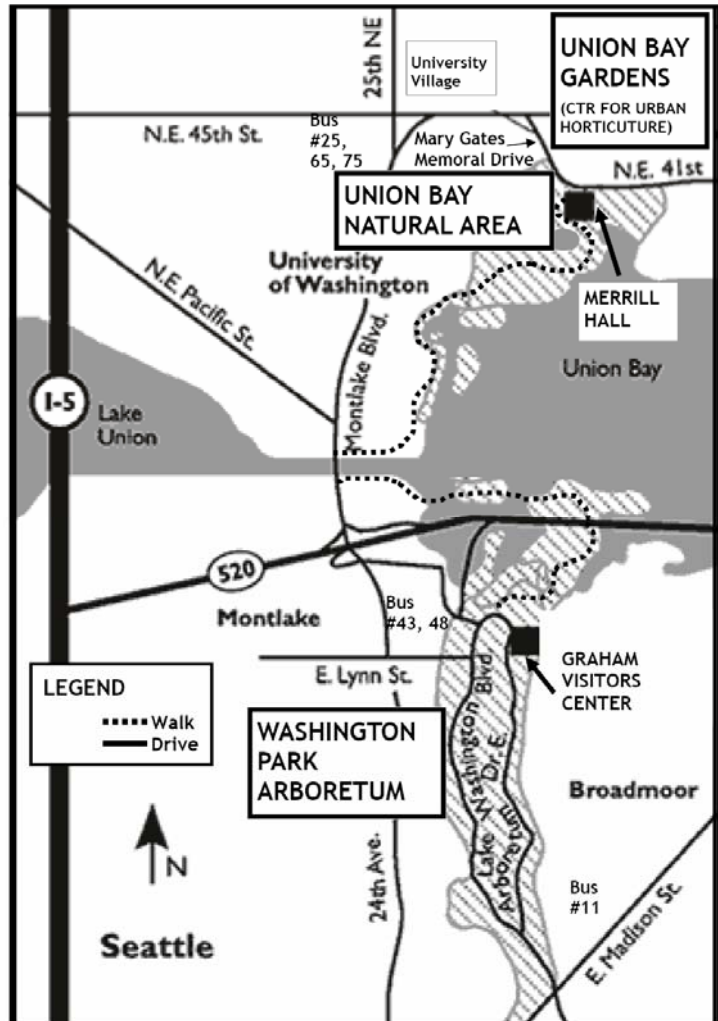
The University's first sustainable building on the Seattle campus; Merrill Hall, is situated on a 16-acre site north of Union Bay. This site has display gardens and serves as a hub for UWBG, including our administrative offices, research labs, and propagation facilities for all UWBG including the Arboretum. Merrill Hall provides a facility to the WSU Extension Program and the Master Gardener Foundation of King County, while the Center as a whole is a meeting place for over 100 organizations.

ELISABETH C. MILLER LIBRARY

The library, located in Merrill Hall, is the most important horticultural library in the Pacific Northwest. It houses 15,000 volumes, most of which can be borrowed, and offers the gardening public and the UW academic community a variety of free services including the Plant Answer Line.

OTIS DOUGLAS HYDE HERBARIUM

Also at Merrill Hall is one of the nation's largest collection of preserved cultivated plants; 15,000 specimens are housed here, including very many specimens from the Arboretum. The Herbarium serves as the official herbarium for the Washington State Noxious Weed Board, and provides a free plant identification service to the public.



DID YOU KNOW?

At least 320,000 people visit UWBG annually

Over 200 volunteers and 22 volunteer groups contributed 11,529 hours to the UWBG entities in 2004

More than 11,000 people participate in UWBG education annually

At least 200 bird species have been sighted in the Union Bay Natural Area

Washington Park Arboretum participates in an international seed exchange program that distributes to 458 institutions in 59 countries

Our plant collections contain over 10,000 specimens representing over 4,000 distinct taxa — of these, 17.3% accessions and 16.8% specimens are of known wild origin