

# Evaluation of Seattle Planting Strip Soil for Urban Agriculture Land Use and Urban Food Production

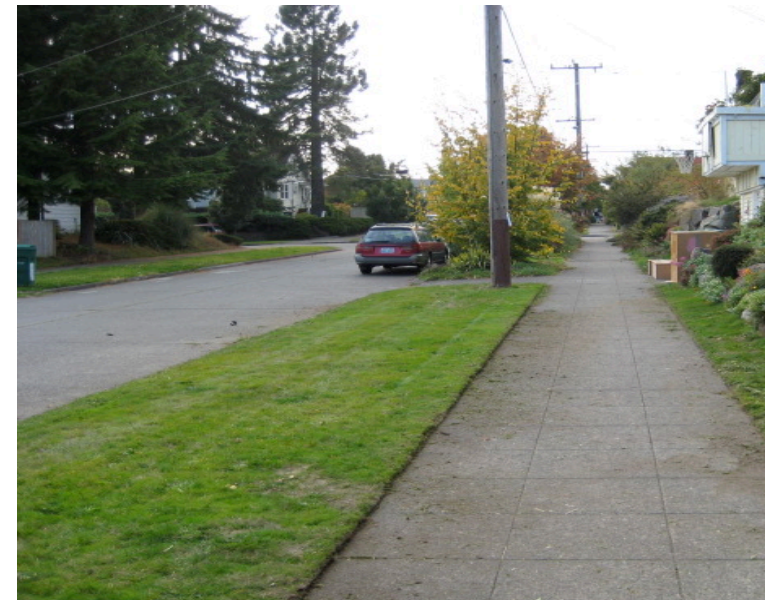
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## Research Questions

Is the planting strip an appropriate location to grow vegetables for human consumption?

Can the soil support healthy vegetable plant growth?



## Background

Urban food production is on the rise in Seattle and appropriate garden space is in demand. Issues of food security and food safety are a concern of Seattle residents. There are currently 1,700 people on the waiting list for P-Patches and community garden space. The planting strip is being considered as a potential place for vegetable gardens. The soil in this unique urban area needs to be evaluated for the appropriateness of urban agriculture and healthy food production



## Objectives

Evaluate urban planting strips as an appropriate location for growing vegetables for human consumption

Evaluate planting strip soils as a medium for healthy plant growth

Determine the extent and concentration of environmental contaminants such as heavy metals, PAHs and PCBs

Use findings to inform the public, policy makers and public health officials in Seattle and King County



## Methods

Test Planting strip Soil for:

- ★ Environmental contaminants
- ★ Soil Fertility
- ★ Bulk Density
- ★ pH
- ★ Organic matter
- ★ Available nutrients
- ★ Soil Texture
- ★ Infiltration capacity

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