

In Memory of Ann Lennartz



Starflower Foundation was founded in 1996 by Ann Lennartz with the mission of assisting with the creation, rehabilitation and stewardship of Pacific Northwest native plant communities by supporting citizen-driven restoration and education projects that inspire understanding, appreciation and preservation of Pacific Northwest native ecosystems, with humans as an integral part of these ecosystems. Having met the founder's expectations, Starflower Foundation ceased operations in December 2007. As part of the foundation's legacy, we have made our learnings and education materials available through the Washington Native Plant Society website at www.wnps.org.

Over its 10-year history, the foundation worked on 18 urban habitat restoration projects in Seattle, Washington. A core of committed volunteers was at the center of each project with the vision of restoring an area of their neighborhood park or school grounds with Pacific Northwest native plant communities. As an operating foundation, Starflower supported design, implementation, and maintenance for these projects. During all phases of the projects, the foundation pursued a restoration strategy to fast-track the successional process and strove for a high level of native plant species diversity.

As envisioned by Ann, each project Starflower Foundation worked on included a significant educational component. Activities were created to actively involve community members, students, teachers, and project stewards in the long-term stewardship of the projects and to promote Pacific Northwest native plant landscapes and stewardship. Valuable feedback from the broad stewardship community shaped these activities and demonstrated their value.

