

## HIGHLIGHT

### New Stormwater Management Implementation Grant Awarded to Puyallup Center



(Above left: Kalkus parking lot will be made into permeable pavement; (middle): The project is a collaboration with the City of Puyallup; (at right): More rain gardens will be constructed to help stormwater percolate through the soil.)

Stormwater runoff is a major issue affecting the water quality of the Puget Sound region. There are many problems but few agencies and municipalities have experience in building solutions. Old stormwater systems, like the one constructed since 1894 at WSU Puyallup (WSUP), are in need of new designs to retrofit the system to the newest Low Impact Development technologies now known to more successfully manage stormwater runoff. So, when the Washington Department of Ecology (DOE) announced a grant to begin to fund new stormwater management projects, a team from the City of Puyallup and Washington State University, with support from the Puyallup Tribe, came together to develop a program to construct a stormwater retrofit and monitoring project on the Puyallup campus.



Late in December, the DOE issued selected initial candidates and the City of Puyallup/ WSU project was top on the list. The leadership team that formed to write the grant is now at work on the first phases of the project. The group is led by Mark Hoppen (City of Puyallup), Jon

Newkirk ( WSUP); and Curtis Hinman (WSU Extension) and also includes Mark Higginson (City of Puyallup), Russ Ladley ( Puyallup Tribe), Andy Bary ( WSUP), Rita Hummel (WSUP), Eric Miltner (WSUP), Dory Clausnitzer (WSUP), Dick Johnson (WSUP), and Gary Wells (WSU Pullman). Tanyalee Erwin is the Project Manager for WSU Puyallup.

(Inset: Drains and cracked pavements in the Kalkus parking lot will be replaced with porous pavement, allowing water to seep into the ground rather than draining directly into a stormwater sewer pipe.)

### WSU Puyallup: Solutions for the Region; Programs for Its People

Highlights is provided every two weeks by the people and programs of WSU Puyallup from January through November. For story ideas for upcoming Highlights, please contact Tanyalee Erwin, [terwin@wsu.edu](mailto:terwin@wsu.edu), 253-445-4504. Extension programs and policies are consistent with federal and state laws and regulations on nondiscrimination regarding race, sex, religion, age, color, creed, national or ethnic origin; physical, mental or sensory disability; marital status, sexual orientation, or status as a Vietnam-era or disabled veteran. Evidence of noncompliance may be reported through your local Extension office.