

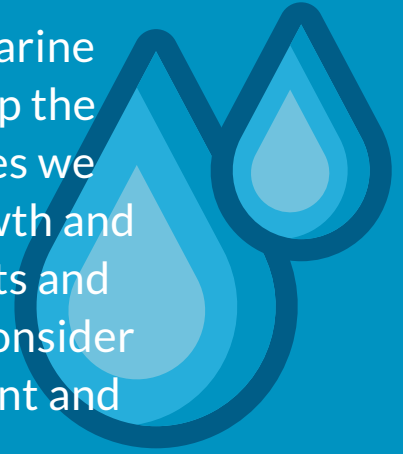
Kitsap County Natural Resource Asset Management Program

THE BENEFITS WE RECEIVE FROM THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT ARE SERVICES , INCLUDING CLEAN WATER, FISH AND WILDLIFE, CULTURAL VALUE AND MANY OTHERS.


What are Natural Assets?



Kitsap County has natural features, such as marine shorelines, streams and forests, which make up the ecosystem that provides functions and services we depend on. The Kitsap region is experience growth and other pressures which are driving natural assets and ecosystem services into decline. It's critical to consider natural assets in decision making to meet current and future needs.



What is Natural Asset Management?



Local governments need ways to manage and improve natural assets in order to sustain natural resources and ecosystems so they support a healthy environment and thriving communities. Kitsap County is turning to asset management, an approach that's already used to manage "grey assets" - such as roads and pipes - at a desired level of service.

Why Natural Asset Management?

Overall, a natural asset management program is seen as an opportunity to improve human wellbeing, create more visibility and support for natural resource protection and restoration, and incorporate more rigorous approaches into the County's policies to respond to current and future environmental needs.



Project Overview

Kitsap County began working with Washington Environmental Council, Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe and Suquamish Tribe in 2018 to develop a pilot of the natural asset management program. The pilot effort will conclude in 2022 with having accomplished the system design and buildout, developing levels of service for natural assets, and exploring further implementation of the program into County planning.

