



Richmond Beach Garden Tour Descriptions, 2024

The Ferris Garden - 615 N. 180th Street, Shoreline Transformed from a traditional grass lawn and blackberry-infested backyard, we envisioned a garden which delighted with varying fragrances, colors, and shapes from February thru Fall. Starting in the summer of '16, we created three main entertainment zones that are all wheelchair-accessible and usable most of the year. 24 different varieties of hydrangea anchor the back garden plantings, along with acers, climbing jasmine and a wide variety of shade friendly plantings. The front garden roses (20+) were chosen for fragrance and disease resistance. Summer brings forth a wide array of dahlias, lavatera and hollyhocks in our front beds, along with fragrant sweet peas, a spectacular baptisia australis. Overall, the garden is a good example of how to use hardscape and anchor plantings to move the eye between different zones to discover different texture, color and fragrance combinations in a modest-sized garden.

The Herrick Garden - 20122 Dayton Ave N, Shoreline Joan and Paul moved into their home 30 years ago and Joan has been an active gardener ever since. The garden is a cottage garden. It's divided into connecting sections. The front yard is woodland-like with a large pine tree providing shade and a landing ground for birds. The side yard is a shade garden with many hostas and ferns. It's always a few degrees cooler so it's lovely in the summer. The back garden is a gathering place for friends and family with a patio for entertaining, an arbor for vines and roses, and a waterfall for peaceful respite. Joan displays her brother's mirror art in the summer. Joan loves flowers so the garden is full of different perennials and her favorite annuals. There isn't a lot of sun so she makes good use of what there is with raspberries and blueberries for the grandchildren to pick in the summer. The garden is always evolving and that makes every year a new adventure.

Kruckeberg Botanical Garden - 20312 15th Ave W, Richmond Beach See what's new at the only botanic garden in Shoreline, our neighborhood Kruckeberg Botanic Garden! This special place is home to over 2000 native and rare plants and is celebrating over 15 years as a public garden. Once the home of Dr. Art Kruckeberg, professor of botany at the University of Washington, and his wife Mareen, the Garden and the MsK Nursery are now operated by the Kruckeberg Botanic Garden Foundation, where volunteers are welcome! New for this year's tour - visit the hoop house where many of the garden plants are propagated. Chat with experienced horticulturists and be sure to shop at the MsK Nursery for plants for your garden. Also new this year is the ADA boardwalk that descends to the lower garden through the conifer canopy of Douglas firs - completion set for summer 2024! While visiting, follow paths through the Children's Discovery Garden to the Pacific Northwest Native Plant Demonstration Garden. Be sure to check out 'Wood Wave,' a four-ton sculpture by artist Bruce Johnson, made from a 1,000 year old redwood tree. Climbing on the sculpture is encouraged. Don't miss visiting and revisiting this magical garden!

The Haase Garden - 19827 19th Ave NW, Richmond Beach Rick bought the property in 1997 and immediately began renovating. Nothing remains of the original landscape. After planting several large tree varieties he had reached a roadblock, how to satisfy his passion for trees? He joined the American Conifer Society and the Maple Society and when he learned about dwarf conifers and Japanese maples the problem was solved. The collection now includes over 275 trees, the majority in containers. The front yard is a natural area with a dry stream path. The pool deck in the rear turned out to be a great place for the containers.

The Vikstrom Garden - 2341 NW 196th Street, Richmond Beach This garden is an excellent example of what you can do in a small space. Erin and Nick moved into the house in 2018. The backyard was an old deck with a broken chain link fence, overgrown hedge, and was not a welcoming space. They started a renovation to that area in 2022 after clearing out the rest of the space around the house and putting in garden beds and a pathway. They regraded the larger area and created a patio with a fire pit and garden beds along the fence. Erin has focused on dwarf conifers, has a number of unique specimens, and she is always on the lookout for more. The side yard leading to the back patio is filled with hosta, flowering currant, perennials, and more conifers. Don't miss looking over the side fence at the back to a small hillside, previously filled with trash and brambles, that Erin cleaned up, terraced, and planted perennials and edible plants.

The Witzel Garden 2022 NW 196th PI, Richmond Beach The front yard of this house is fairly Pacific Northwest in style and planting, but it transitions to an Asian style in the back. Mixed with traditional Japanese style plantings of maples and a pine, there are plantings in the rockery hardy enough to take the summer heat yet evoke an Asian feeling at the same time. A stone tsukubai provides water for birds as well as music to the ear. A gazebo on the upper level gives one the feeling of being IN the garden, as opposed to looking AT it from the courtyard below. Be sure to check out the different views!

The Haugen Garden - 1751 NW 193rd, Richmond Beach Suburban farmers oasis tucked near the beach with a multifunctional design that is true farm to table living. Open, spacious, and organized with diverse long term edible plantings including fruit trees, vines, and bushes. This outdoor living space includes five large raised beds, two small berry beds, multiple planting beds, green house, lush lawn and seating areas. Don't miss the whimsical fairy stump. Home to the Shoreline Free Seed and Starts Pantry, welcoming community to grow their own food and flowers.

The Sokolowsky / Kinnee Garden - 19520 22 Ave NW On a dead-end street with a ravine to the north is a peaceful garden and a house built in 1895. Pass through the corten steel gates to a garden framed by old Douglas Firs. Established trees and shrubs include a huge rhododendron and a vine maple next to a welcoming fire pit. 3 Large raised beds are ready for planting flowers and veggies. The private back yard has two beautiful Japanese maples, with a mossy path leading to a tea house. Don't miss the dead tree that is a woodpecker haven. Matt and Chelsea moved into their new home in June 2023. They are excited to create a vision for this special place and invite visitors to make suggestions. There will be a master gardener on site to answer questions.

The Niblack Garden – 1302 NW 175th, Innis Arden Dana's garden is a work in progress and is a good example of young plantings. Purchased in September 2020, the half-acre property included a garden that had been neglected for ~25 years. Dana, at that time a novice gardener, was greeted with 8,000 sq ft of landscaping fabric covered with drain rock, bark mulch, ivy and blackberry with a row of 15 ft tall shrubs that had been chronically sheared and a madrone that had been cut into a laurel hedge. So began a multi-year project to develop garden rooms, including a drought-tolerant sunny front garden, the "hot" garden - so named because it features red, orange and yellow colors that are favored by Dana's husband, Paul, and a meditation garden. The latest project is the installation of a greenhouse, completed in January 2024. There will be a master gardener on site to answer questions.