



## 1<sup>st</sup> Savvy Gardener Class of 2017!

Thursday, April 6<sup>th</sup>

5:30 - 7:00 p.m.



**Held at District office:  
15606 SE 128th St. Renton, WA  
(425) 255-9600**

### **Down and Dirty: Soil Building Secrets for a Greener Garden Presenter: Elizabeth Murphy – Soil scientist and author**

Join King County Water District No. 90, Seattle Public Utilities, and the Saving Water Partnership for a class that digs deeper into how soil care and water savings go hand in hand.

#### **Class description:**

How do you grow more productive, greener, and healthier gardens, with less time and money? **The secret is in the soil** - healthy, living soil, that is. Join Elizabeth Murphy, soil scientist and author of *Building Soil: A Down-to-Earth Approach*, to unlock the secrets for bringing soils to life and grow naturally productive gardens. In this class learn how to recognize healthy soil, feed and nourish the soil food web, and build soil fertility using natural strategies and techniques available to every gardener. Get down to the ground level for a soil-eyed view that will change the way you grow.

The tips Elizabeth will cover will be useful for any garden. However, her emphasis will be on ornamental – as opposed to food - gardens. Hear about how to improve your soil, how to select plants that will thrive in your garden, proper planting techniques, and how to maintain and water your garden that will save you time and money. You will receive handouts with valuable resources (websites, apps, books, etc.) to help you succeed.

#### **SPEAKER BIOGRAPHY**



**Elizabeth Murphy** is a gardener, soil scientist, and author of *Building Soil: A Down-to-Earth Approach* (Cool Springs Press, 2015). Her passion for growing food led to a master's degree in soil science from University of California, Davis, where she researched the fundamentals of organic matter and sustainable ways to improve it. She has worked on farms, with urban gardens, in environmental restoration, in agroecological research, and as a faculty instructor for Oregon State University Extension. With twenty years of hands-on practical experience and the latest research in soil health to back her up, she shares the simple truth that to grow more, we need to do less. She has shared the message of living soil with audiences across the country, including appearances on King 5's New Day Northwest,

WHYY's You Bet Your Garden, and PRI's Science Friday. Based in Tacoma, Washington her love of soil and gardening takes her on adventures around the world. Follow her blog at [dirtsecrets.com](http://dirtsecrets.com).

**To register for the class, contact Deb Gill, Public Outreach Coordinator at 425 255-9600 or email: [Debg@kcwd90.com](mailto:Debg@kcwd90.com).**