

CITY
Maple Valley, WA

COUNTRY
USA

REGION
Americas

TPOLOGY
Public garden (12,100 m²)

COMPLETION
2002

CLIENT
King County Libraries

OTHER CREATIVES
James Cutler Architects,
Urban Forestry Services,
SVR Design Company

LANDSCAPING
Swift Company LLC



MAPLE VALLEY LIBRARY

The values of the community were embodied by the sensitive placement of the library within the native lowland forest. A comprehensive research effort of the design team gave it a clear understanding of the site's ecosystem, and its ability to accommodate development. The building is constructed with minimal site impact and maximum ecological function and identity. Access, parking and paths are introduced into the hilly forest landscape. Rainwater is gathered in a sculptural cistern in a courtyard. Duff-covered rock wells and swales are dispersed throughout the site for groundwater collection and recharge. Duff and forest litter were also collected and redistributed for site restoration. The resulting landscape is deceptively natural.

01 Library with rainwater cistern and native forest **02** Library reading room **03** Site path through native forest



02



03