# Explore the East Bay Public Plaza



*Take a self-guided tour to learn about plaza artwork, sustainable features, and design*

# Yesterday's Vision





The idea for this plaza began in 2006 with this shared vision: "Imagine…a vibrant and inviting East Bay area, with a dynamic public plaza as its hub, where people come together to enjoy the waterfront, take advantage of new learning opportunities, and access public services." The plaza was envisioned as the heart of a collaborative effort to revitalize the East Bay district, transforming an underutilized, unattractive, industrial area into an open, appealing, public space. The design of the plaza, including the water feature, artwork, and interpretive elements, would reflect a theme about the importance of clean water and a healthy, sustainable environment.



Yesterday's Vision

# Today's Reality

The East Bay Public Plaza features a water theme, celebrated through artwork, interpretive elements, a wetland pond, and a flowing stream. The stream and wetland are the real stars of the plaza. They are special, not only because they were designed with lots of features that mimic a natural stream and wetland, but because the water that feeds them mimics nature's recycling processes, too. Both the stream and the wetland pond are fed by Class A Reclaimed Water – water that has been used, cleaned, disinfected, and is ready to be used again, just like the natural water cycle. The stream is the first reclaimed water feature in the state of Washington officially approved for play, so kick off your shoes and socks and wade into this new water resource!





Today's Reality

# East Bay Public Plaza Tour

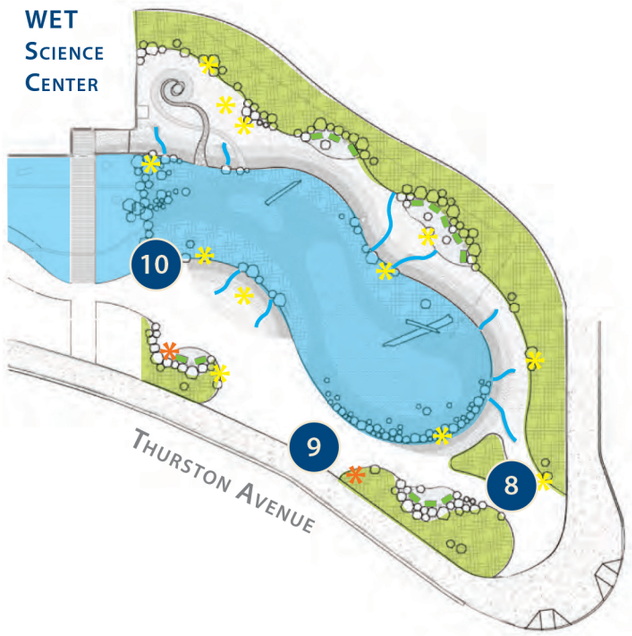
**1 Gateway Arch** – This steel archway, created by public artist Brandon Zebold, marks the main entry to the plaza and highlights the water cycle. Look for the sun, clouds, and water drops in this unique abstract sculpture.

**2 Plaza Stream** – This stream is fed by Class A Reclaimed Water, perfect for dipping your toes and splashing around! It is designed to mimic a natural stream, beginning at a waterfall and "ending" by disappearing near East Bay's marine water. (Actually, the stream is disinfected and recirculates to the waterfall to flow again.) It is fed partly by engineered "seeps and springs," mimicking the way groundwater feeds many local streams. Wade the stream and see how many seeps and springs you can find!

**3 Living Roof** – The restroom building features a "green roof" with soil and plants that help insulate the building and capture rainfall to reduce stormwater runoff.

**4 Water Wisdom** – The colorful "waterline mosaics" are a collection of thought-provoking poetry, quotes, and sayings about water. Crafted by artist Amanda Klemaske, these colorful waterlines can be found along both the wetland and the stream.

**5 Creatures Big and Small** – Bronze sculptures of local wildlife are scattered around and within the stream and wetland. Created by local artist Eric Holdener, these life-like sculptures hint at the many different creatures that depend on water for life!




**6 Sustainable Materials** – The plaza features many recycled and sustainable building materials, including recycled benches, sustainably harvested wood for the bridge, and environmentally-friendly paints, adhesives, and sealants.

**7 Community Mosaic** – A circular tile mosaic represents the communities LOTT serves – Lacey, Olympia, Tumwater, and Thurston County – and how water is the central tie linking them all together. The mosaic was designed, crafted, and installed by local artist Mike Cummins.

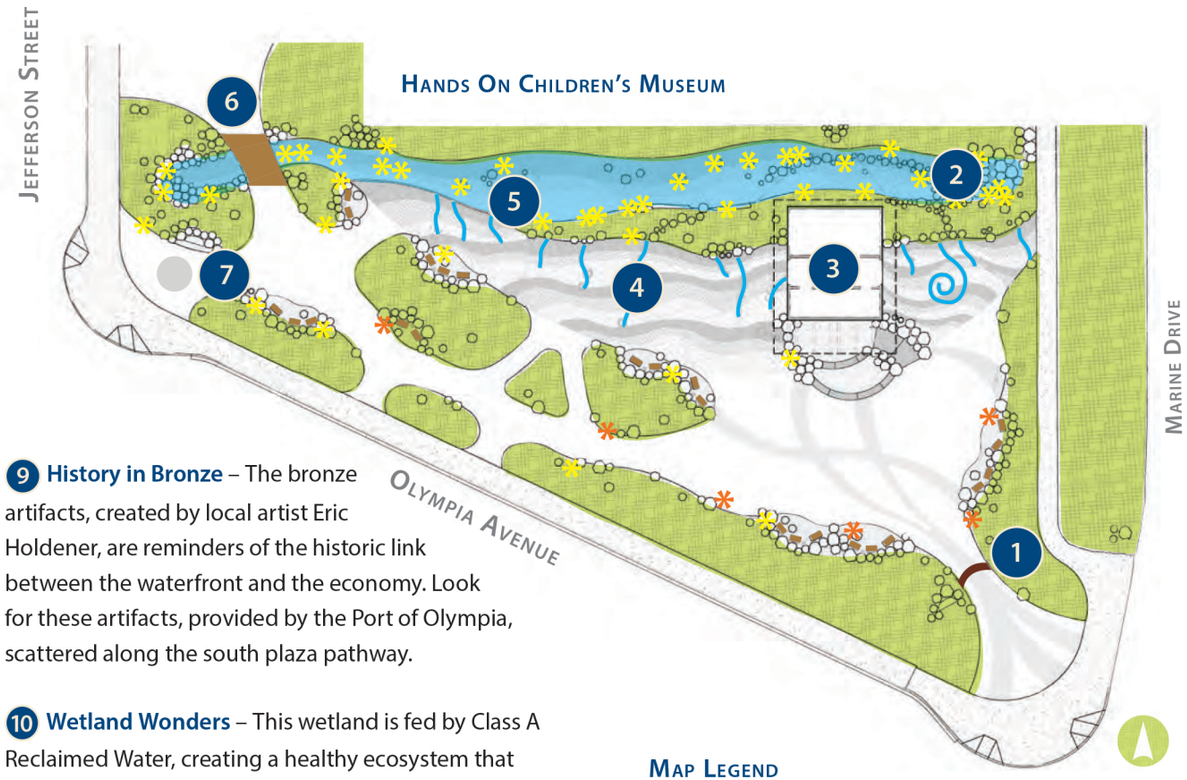
**8 Water-Wise Plants** – The plaza features a beautiful collection of native and drought-tolerant plants. Plant identification signs can be found along the wetland for those looking for landscaping ideas.

## Other Plaza Features

**Clean Dirt** – In the past, this area was used for light industrial purposes, leaving the soil contaminated. The area was cleaned up, and the contamination removed, under guidance from the Department of Ecology.

**SITES Initiative Site** – This site is one of the first projects to participate in the Sustainable Sites Initiative (SITES) Pilot Project program, created to recognized and promote sustainable landscape design.

**Reclaimed Water** – The plaza makes good use of recycled water, produced next door at LOTT's Budd Inlet Treatment Plant. Reclaimed water is used to feed both the stream and the wetland, irrigate the landscaping, and flush toilets in the plaza restrooms.




**9 History in Bronze** – The bronze artifacts, created by local artist Eric Holdener, are reminders of the historic link between the waterfront and the economy. Look for these artifacts, provided by the Port of Olympia, scattered along the south plaza pathway.

**10 Wetland Wonders** – This wetland is fed by Class A Reclaimed Water, creating a healthy ecosystem that supports a variety of plants, insects, and wildlife, just like in nature.

# East Bay Public Plaza....

## A community gathering place

The East Bay Public Plaza was created by many talented people, including:

| | |
|---|---|
| Robert W. Droll | Plaza Design |
| Berschauer Phillips | Plaza Construction |

LOTT owns and maintains the East Bay Public Plaza, but it is a collaborative project of four partners. Each contributed to its sustainable design and development to provide a beautiful gathering place, educational opportunities, and a hub for economic growth.

Port of Olympia · Olympia · LOTT Clean Water Alliance · Hands On Children's Museum Olympia, WA

For more information about the East Bay Public Plaza or other LOTT facilities and programs, stop by LOTT's Regional Services Center and WET Science Center, located right next door to the plaza, at 500 Adams Street NE in Olympia, Washington, or visit www.lottcleanwater.org.

east bay public plaza

**325 Marine Drive NE, Olympia, Washington**