

Advice on Hiring an Ecological Consultant for Critical Area Reports – wetlands, watercourses (streams), shorelines

PLEASE NOTE: The City of Tukwila does not offer endorsements of private professionals.

IMPORTANT: Peer review at the applicant's expense will be required for reports the City finds to be incomplete or insufficient. Peer review entails the City commissioning another consultant to review the site and the applicant's report to comment on its accuracy. If insufficiencies are found, the applicant's consultant will need to respond to/revise their report. The City encourages consultants to contact the City's Urban Environmental Specialist to discuss the appropriate scope of work of particular projects, including parcel-relevant criteria that the City will be looking for.

This list makes no comment on the quality of the reports submitted by these consultants, this list simply compiles the consultants that have provided reports to the City in alphabetical order:

- Altman Oliver Associates
- Applied Ecology
- Eastside Environmental Pros
- Facet (formerly the Watershed Co.)
- Habitat Technologies
- Jacobs
- John Comis Associates
- Otak
- Pace Engineers
- PBS Engineering & Environmental
- Raedeke Associates
- Rebecca Bramwell
- Soundview Consultants
- Wet.Land
- Widener and Associates

Common questions to ask a potential consultant:

- Has the City, or another jurisdiction, disagreed with/rejected the findings of one of your reports?
- Have the findings of your reports been challenged, found to be insufficient, or been subject to peer review at the applicant's expense? What was the outcome?
- How would peer review and revised reports fit into your fee structure?
- Have you submitted a report to the City of Tukwila within the past nine months that was accepted without being subject to challenge, alteration or peer review?
- Are you familiar with Tukwila's environmentally critical areas regulations per TMC 18.45?
- Regarding streams/watercourses: you familiar with WDFW's very most-current watercourse-typing practices?

Additional general guidance on selecting environmental consultants:

- Guidance on Selecting an Environmental Consultant, King County
<https://kingcounty.gov/~media/depts/permitting-environmental-review/dper/documents/forms/Consultant-Guidance-Ecological-Information.ashx?la=en>

TMC 18.45 Environmentally Critical Areas (see also TMC 18.44 Shoreline Overlay):

- <http://records.tukwilawa.gov/WebLink/1/edoc/56618/Tukwila%20Municipal%20Code%20-%20Title%2018%20-%20Zoning.pdf>