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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Nature Consortium becomes an affiliate of Delridge Neighborhoods Development Association (DNDA)

Longtime Delridge-based nonprofits join forces to better serve Delridge and West Seattle

(SEATTLE, Washington) The Board of Directors of DNDA is pleased to announce that Nature Consortium, the locally-recognized grassroots, community-based organization whose mission is to connect people, arts and nature, will join forces with DNDA to better serve their shared communities of Delridge and West Seattle.

The move is a natural one. The mission of Nature Consortium directly aligns with the mission of DNDA, which is to activate growth in the Delridge corridor by providing vital resources for all of their neighbors. These resources include access to: affordable housing, green space, healthy food, education, and arts and culture. The expertise that Nature Consortium brings to the table strengthens DNDA's focus on greenspace preservation and environmental justice, complementing DNDA's history of success in providing affordable housing and arts and cultural opportunities in West Seattle.

"The opportunity to embrace and participate in the wonderful work that Nature Consortium undertakes each year is too amazing to believe," says Willard Brown, Director of Housing and Properties at DNDA. "When working on our environmental projects, our efforts already often overlap and complement one another."

Adds Nature Consortium's Executive Director, Merica Whitehall, "Like Nature Consortium, DNDA is committed to social justice and racial equity. Like Nature Consortium, DNDA understands the power and purpose of art and advocates for the access of youth and families in our economically disadvantaged communities to the health and well-being that can only be realized through experiences in nature."

On May 17th, Whitehall steps down as Nature Consortium's Executive Director and will return to her home state of Nebraska as Executive Director of Fontenelle Forest. Both organizations felt the timing was just right to blend efforts. "The union of Nature Consortium with DNDA is a way to bolster services, consolidate costs and achieve better economies of scale in service to our community and our shared mission. This is sure to do nothing less than enhance both organizations' reputations and the benefits that flow to our community," says Whitehall. "This is a moment to celebrate!"

As Nature Consortium brings its programs under the auspices of DNDA, the organizations are already looking ahead at ways the two nonprofits can more broadly impact the community together-both in Delridge and throughout the Seattle area. The future looks bright as these two nonprofits join forces to do more for the communities they serve.

For more information on this move, visit www.dnda.org or www.naturec.org.

About Delridge Neighborhoods Development Association

Since 1996, DNDA has brought together Delridge neighbors, other non-profits, the business community and local government to provide access to resources to build a thriving community. Our mission is to activate growth in the Delridge corridor by providing vital resources for all our neighbors. These resources include access to: affordable housing, green space, healthy food, education, and arts and culture. www.dnda.org

About Nature Consortium

Nature Consortium is a grassroots, community-based organization whose mission is to connect people, arts and nature. We produce an EcoARTs Program, an Urban Forest Restoration Program and the Arts in Nature Festival.

Founded in 1998, Nature Consortium creates opportunities for people to connect to themselves, to each other, their community and the natural world. We foster a journey of discovery for people to find their individual passion, empowerment and action. We believe that by creating awareness, individuals will change their behavior in interacting with the world. www.naturec.org

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