



Cannabis seeds, plant nutrient and grow guides in Bellevue, Washington. Become Affiliate!

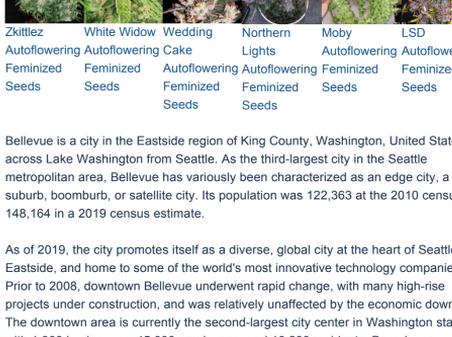
LED Lighting

How to sprout cannabis seeds

About Hydroponic Fertilizers

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Bellevue is a city in the Eastside region of King County, Washington, United States, across Lake Washington from Seattle. As the third-largest city in the Seattle metropolitan area, Bellevue has variously been characterized as an edge city, a suburb, boomturb, or satellite city. Its population was 122,363 at the 2010 census and 148,164 in a 2019 census estimate.

As of 2019, the city promotes itself as a diverse, global city at the heart of Seattle's Eastside, and home to some of the world's most innovative technology companies. Prior to 2008, downtown Bellevue underwent rapid change, with many high-rise projects under construction, and was relatively unaffected by the economic downturn. The downtown area is currently the second-largest city center in Washington state, with 1,300 businesses, 45,000 employees, and 10,200 residents. Based on per capita income, Bellevue is the sixth-wealthiest of 522 communities in the state of Washington. In 2008, Bellevue was number one in CNNMoney's list of the best places to live and launch a business, and in 2010 was again ranked as the fourth-best place to live in America. In 2014, Bellevue was ranked as the second-best place to live by USA Today. More than 145 companies have been located in Bellevue. Current companies with headquarters in Bellevue include PACCAR Inc, T-Mobile, and Valve.

The name "Bellevue" is derived from the French words for "beautiful view".

The Duwamish, whose main settlements were located in what is present day Renton and Seattle, maintained a small outpost settlement called Satskal along the Mercer Slough, south of present day downtown Bellevue.

Bellevue was first settled by European Americans in 1869 by William Meydenbauer and Aaron Mercer, who claimed homestead tracts several miles apart. Both moved away within a few years, and permanent residents did not arrive until 1879. By 1882 a community, consisting mostly of logging homesteaders, had established itself. Once the land had been logged, it was gradually cleared, largely by Japanese immigrant labor in the early 20th century, to support small scale farming on leased land plots.

By the early part of the 20th century, Bellevue had acquired a reputation as a weekend getaway destination for Seattle residents, who would arrive by ferry at Meydenbauer Bay and spend the day at nearby Wildwood Park. After the ferry landing was moved to Medina, however, tourism to Bellevue waned. To counter this decline, the Bellevue Strawberry Festival was conceived of in 1925, and by the 1930s it had grown to attract as many as 15,000 visitors. At the time, Bellevue was still a small town with around 2,000 residents.

Prior to the opening of the Lake Washington Floating Bridge in 1940, Bellevue was mostly rural farmland area with little development. Although it was small, developers were pushing to change that; in the 1920s, James S. Ditty predicted that it would become a city with a population of 200,000. He envisioned plans that included the bridging of Lake Washington and an area filled with golf courses and airports. His map with these visions was published in 1928. Once the Murrow Memorial Bridge opened, access from Seattle improved, and the area began to evolve into a bedroom community.

In 1942, the Bellevue Strawberry Festival was cancelled. The primary reason was that some 90 percent of the agricultural workforce in the area was of Japanese ancestry, and all of these farmers and their families had been forcibly interned in camps following the start of World War II. The fair would not be revived for another 45 years. Following the expulsion of the ethnic Japanese farming community, a large quantity of farmland became available for development. This made way for the initial development of the Bellevue downtown area.

Bellevue seen from Meydenbauer Bay in 1902
Bellevue incorporated as a third-class city on the March 21, 1953. Following the 1963 opening of a second bridge across the lake, the Evergreen Point Floating Bridge, the city began to grow more rapidly. The Crossroads community was annexed in 1964. Lake Hills was annexed in 1969. By the 1970 census, Bellevue had become the fourth most populous city in the state of Washington, following only Seattle, Spokane, and Tacoma.

Bellevue remains one of the largest cities in the state, with several high-rise structures in its core and a burgeoning business community. The city experienced a building boom during the mid 2000s, with the building of developments such as Lincoln Square and the Bravern.

Reflective of Bellevue's growth over the years is Bellevue Square, now one of the largest shopping centers in the region. Opened in 1946, the mall has undergone several significant phases of expansion since the 1980s.

The city's plans include the Bel-Red Corridor Project, a large-scale planning effort to encourage the redevelopment of the large Bel-Red section of the city bordering the adjacent town of Redmond which is a major employment area in the city. Patterned after what planners consider the successful redevelopment of the downtown core, plans include superblock mixed-use projects similar to Lincoln Square, premised on private construction and the development of infrastructure such as the extension of Link Light Rail to the Eastside.

Geography

Bellevue lies between Lake Washington to the west and the smaller Lake Sammamish to the east. Much of Bellevue is drained by the Kelsey Creek watershed, whose source is located in the Larsen and Phantom Lake green belt and whose outlet is near where Interstate 90 meets Lake Washington's eastern shore. The city is bisected by Interstate 405 running north-south, and the southern portion is crossed from west to east by Interstate 90. The State Route 520 freeway roughly delineates the upper reaches of Bellevue.

According to the United States Census Bureau, the city has a total area of 36.47 square miles (94.46 km2), of which, 31.97 square miles (82.80 km2) is land and 4.50 square miles (11.65 km2) is water.

The city's name is derived from a French term for "beautiful view". Under favorable weather conditions, scenic vistas of the Olympic Mountains and Cascade Mountains can be viewed from hillsides (and strategically positioned high-rise buildings) within the incorporated city.

South of I-90, the city continues up Cougar Mountain, at the top of which is an unincorporated King County location called Hilltop. To the west of Cougar Mountain, Bellevue includes the Coal Creek, Somerset, and Factoria neighborhoods.

Bellevue is bordered by the cities of Kirkland to the north and Redmond to the northeast along the Overlake and Crossroads neighborhoods. Across the short East Channel Bridge, I-90 connects Bellevue to Mercer Island to the southwest. Issaquah to the east, down I-90 at the south end of Lake Sammamish. The city is bordered to the west by many affluent suburbs such as Medina, Clyde Hill, Hunts Point and Yarrow Point. The south end of Bellevue is bordered by the city of Renton, and to the southeast, the relatively recently incorporated city of Newcastle.

Cityscape

See also: List of tallest buildings in Bellevue, Washington
Neighborhoods within Bellevue include Bellecrest, Bel-Red, Bridle Trails, Crossroads, Eastgate/Cougar Mountain, Enatai, Factoria, Lake Hills, Newport, Summit Hills, Northeast Bellevue, Northwest Bellevue, Overlake, Redmond, Issaquah, Renton, Somerset, Sunset, Tam o'shanter, West Bellevue, Wilburton, and Woodridge.

Climate

This section needs expansion. You can help by adding to it. (September 2014)
Like much of the Puget Sound lowland, Bellevue has a mild oceanic climate. It also has frequent rain showers from October to May, with precipitation levels typically being over 2 inches (51 mm). On average, the hottest month is July, while January is the coldest.

Bellevue
Climate chart (explanation)

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4.5 4332
3.7 4735
3.8 5438
2.8 5842
2.1 6547
1.7 7052
1 7755

1 7857
1.7 7152
3.3 6046
4.9 5240
5.5 4434

Average max. and min. temperatures in ◆F
Precipitation totals in inches
Metric conversion

Climate data for Bellevue, Washington

Month Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec Year

Record high ◆F (◆C) 65

(18) 70
(21) 78
(26) 89
(32) 93
(34) 98
(37) 105
(41) 100
(38) 100
(38) 90
(32) 75
(24) 64
(18) 105
(41)

Average high ◆F (◆C) 43

(6) 47
(8) 54
(12) 58
(14) 66
(19) 70
(21) 77
(25) 78
(26) 71
(22) 60
(16) 51
(11) 44
(7) 60
(16)

Average low ◆F (◆C) 32

(0) 35
(2) 38
(3) 42
(6) 47
(8) 52
(11) 55
(13) 57
(14) 52
(11) 46
(8) 40
(4) 34
(1) 44
(7)

Record low ◆F (◆C) 75

(721) 74
(720) 10
(712) 27
(73) 28
(72) 36
(2) 42
(6) 42
(2) 21
(76) 4
(716) 0
(718) 75
(721)

Average precipitation inches (mm) 4.49

(114) 3.67
(93) 3.84
(98) 2.84
(72) 2.10
(53) 1.68
(43) 0.97
(25) 0.97
(43) 3.32
(84) 4.92
(125) 5.45
(138) 35.96
(913)

Source 1:
Surrounding cities

Places adjacent to Bellevue, Washington

Transportation

I-405 as seen from the NE 8th Street Overpass

Bellevue is the main Eastside hub for both the local transit authority, King County Metro, and Sound Transit, the regional transit system. The Bellevue Transit Center, which serves both Metro and Sound buses, is located in the heart of the downtown business district and is connected to Interstate 405 by NE 6th St. and a direct-access Texas T HOV ramp. Local buses run into Kirkland, Redmond, Issaquah, Renton, and the University District; regional buses go to Bothell, Lynnwood, Everett, Seattle, Renton, Kent and Auburn, among other cities.

The East Link light rail line is planned to run from Seattle through Mercer Island and Bellevue before ending in Redmond. It was approved by voters on November 4, 2008, as part of the Sound Transit 2 ballot measure. It began construction in 2015 and is scheduled to begin service in 2023.

The Bellevue City Council lobbied hard for Sound Transit's regional transit authority to construct its light-rail line underground through Bellevue's rapidly growing downtown. Bellevue promised to devote between \$104 million to \$150 million toward a potential tunnel in the form of cash, services, free access to rights-of-way and one-time tax revenues that result from the East Link project. In November 2011, the council signed an agreement with Sound Transit. Tunnel construction started in early 2016 while the remainder of downtown Bellevue construction began in mid-2017. Former Bellevue City Council member Claudia Balducci is a member of the Sound Transit board of directors.

The city of Bellevue has undertaken an extensive "Bel-Red Area Transformation" process which seeks to plan some 900 acres (3.6 km2) in the Spring District in the city's northern portion, all of which is premised on the extension of light rail to the Eastside under Sound Transit 2. The top-down and highly integrated land use and transportation planning is similar to earlier planning for the Downtown.

Bellevue was also served by a railroad, a Burlington Northern branch line known as the Woodinville Subdivision, which included the historic Wilburton Trestle. This local freight line was the subject of debate over whether to railbank the line and construct a multi-purpose trail. As of March 2009, the Port of Seattle had to postpone its acquisition of the corridor because of instability in the bond market. As of 2016 the line is disused however part of the track bed at Wilburton Station will be reused by Sound Transit's light-rail construction.

The city once had an operating airfield named Bellevue Airfield.

Government and politics

Bellevue City Hall, opened in 2006

Presidential Elections Results

Year Republican Democratic Third Parties

2016 24.58% 15,175 66.11% 40,820 9.31% 5,747

2012 35.76% 22,083 61.59% 38,036 2.65% 1,634

2008 34.41% 19,531 63.82% 36,224 1.77% 1,004

2004 41.68% 24,089 57.01% 32,952 1.31% 756

Bellevue has a council-manager form of government with seven non-partisan council members elected at large for staggered four-year terms. The City Council selects a Mayor from among its members (and not by popular vote), who serves as council chair for two years but has no veto power. As of 2020, the mayor is Lynne Robinson and the deputy mayor is Jared Nieuwenhuis.

The mayor administrates council meetings, helps set the issues on the council's meeting agendas, and serves as the city's most visible spokesperson, while operational authority is held by the city manager, who operates the city's day-to-day activities. The city manager is also elected by the seven members of the council and not by popular vote.

Of the 61,742 residents who cast ballots in the 2016 U.S. presidential election, 66.11% voted for Hillary Clinton compared to 24.58% for Donald Trump.

Education

Main article: Bellevue School District
Bellevue is home to Bellevue College.

The city hosts the Bellevue School District. There are four main public high schools ◆ Bellevue High School, Interlake High School, Newport High School, and Sammamish High School ◆ as well as two choice lottery high schools, International School and Big Picture School. Newsweek's 2015 ranking of U.S. public high schools placed Interlake at #359 and Newport at #391, with both schools noted for equitably helping low-income students meet average scores on standardized tests. Portions of Bellevue also lie within the boundaries of Lake Washington School District, Renton School District and Issaquah School District.

Bellevue is home to Open Window High School, an independent school serving gifted students in kindergarten through eighth grade. The Jewish Day School of Metropolitan Seattle is located in Bellevue, serving students from Pre-Kindergarten to Grade 8.

At the elementary level, Bellevue is home to several Montessori schools, the Eastside's only Waldorf education at Three Cedars School, as well as Bellevue Christian School.

The Seattle Japanese School, a Japanese weekend supplementary school, holds its classes in Bellevue.

Economy

See also: List of companies based in Bellevue, Washington
Bellevue is an economic hub of the Seattle region's Eastside and home to the headquarters of various sizes, including the U.S. operations for many international firms. Since 2005, the city has become a hub for software engineering and other technology development centers. These include Expedia, PACCAR Inc, T-Mobile US, Eddie Bauer, SAP Concur, and Symetra. Bellevue hosts a number of satellite offices for large technology companies such as eBay, Oracle, Salesforce, Google, and Microsoft; Microsoft was at one point headquartered in Bellevue but has since moved to the neighboring community of Redmond, Washington. Celebrated video game companies Valve, Bungie, Sucker Punch Productions, and The Pok7mon Company are also based here.

In 2019, Amazon and Facebook announced plans to open large engineering centers in Bellevue with plans to add between thousand employees. As of 2020, Google also opened a major engineering facility in downtown Bellevue. As of 2020, there are several high-rise office buildings in Downtown Bellevue that are under construction or in active planning and design, including Bellevue 600, part of a major Amazon campus. Several high-rise residential buildings are also planned in downtown, spurred in part by future light rail service, on former retail and low-rise commercial lots.

Largest Employers in Bellevue, 2017

Rank Employer Bellevue FTEs

1 Microsoft 7,100

2 T-Mobile 4,700

3 Expedia 3,700

4 Bellevue School District 3,200

5 Overlake Hospital 2,900

6 Bellevue College 2,000

7 Boeing 1,700

8 City of Bellevue 1,600

9 Puget Sound Energy 1,200

10 SAP Concur 1,000

The city has numerous thriving commercial districts, with four major shopping centers: Bellevue Square in the downtown area, Factoria Mall to the south, Crossroads Mall to the east, and the Overlake Shopping District in the north.

Panorama of Bellevue, Washington

Demographics

Historical population

Census Pop. ◆

1900 254 ◆

1910 150 740.9%

1920 1,213 708.7%

1930 1,071 711.7%

1940 1,177 9.9%

1950 7,658 550.6%

1960 12,809 67.3%

1970 61,196 377.8%

1980 73,903 20.8%

1990 86,874 17.6%

2000 109,569 26.1%

2010 122,363 11.7%

Est. 2019 148,164 21.1%

U.S. Decennial Census

As of 2018, one in three Bellevue residents was born outside the United States. About half of residents identify as a person of color or ethnic minority.

According to a 2012 estimate, the median income for a household in the city was \$88,073, and the median income for a family was \$104,839. The per capita income for the city was \$48,719.

In 2006, Bellevue was rated one of the 25 safest cities in America, based on the per-capita incidence of violent crime.

2010 census

As of the census of 2010, there were 122,363 people, 50,355 households, and 32,145 families residing in the city. The population density was 3,827.4 inhabitants per square mile (1,477.8/km2). There were 55,551 housing units at an average density of 1,737.6 per square mile (670.9/km2). The racial makeup of the city was 62.6% White, 2.2% African American, 0.4% Native American, 27.6% Asian, 0.2% Pacific Islander, 3.1% from other races, and 3.9% from two or more races. Hispanic or Latino of any race were 7.0% of the population.

There were 50,355 households, of which 30.0% had children under the age of 18 living with them, 52.9% were married couples living together, 7.6% had a female householder with no husband present, 3.3% had a male householder with no wife present, and 36.2% were non-families. 28.1% of all households were made up of individuals, and 8.4% had someone living alone who was 65 years of age or older. The average household size was 2.41 and the average family size was 2.97.

The median age in the city was 38.5 years. 21.2% of residents were under the age of 18; 7.6% were between the ages of 18 and 24; 30.8% were from 25 to 44; 26.5% were from 45 to 64; and 13.9% were 65 years of age or older. The gender makeup of the city was 50.1% male and 49.9% female.

2000 census

As of the census of 2000, there were 109,569 people, 45,836 households, and 29,060 families residing in the city. The population density was 3,563.6 inhabitants per square mile (1,375.8/km2). There were 48,396 housing units at an average density of 607.7/km2 (1,574.0/mi2). The racial makeup of the city was 74.33% White, 1.99% African American, 0.32% Native American, 17.39% Asian, 0.23% Pacific Islander, 2.54% from other races, and 3.19% from two or more races. Hispanic or Latino of any race were 5.32% of the population.

There were 45,836 households, out of which 27.5% had children under the age of 18 living with them, 53.0% were married couples living together, 7.5% had a female householder with no husband present, and 36.6% were non-families. 28.4% of all households were made up of individuals, and 8.9% had someone living alone who was 65 years of age or older. The average household size was 2.37 and the average family size was 2.93.

In the city, the population was spread out, with 21.1% under the age of 18, 7.8% from 18 to 24, 32.6% from 25 to 44, 25.0% from 45 to 64, and 13.4% who were 65 years of age or older. The median age was 38 years. For every 100 females, there were 98.4 males. For every 100 males age 18 and over, there were 96.6 females.

The median income for a household in the city was \$62,338, and the median income for a family was \$76,868. Males had a median income of \$56,456 versus \$37,124 for females. The per capita income for the city was \$36,905. About 3.8% of families and 5.7% of the population were below the poverty line, including 5.7% of those under age 18 and 6.3% of those age 65 or over.

Arts and culture

Recurring cultural events

Bellevue is the site of the popular annual Bellevue Arts and Crafts Fair (originally Pacific Northwest Arts and Crafts Fair), held since 1947 the last weekend in July. The biennial Bellevue Sculpture Exhibition draws thousands of visitors to the Downtown Park to view up to 46 three-dimensional artworks from artists around the country. In celebration of its strawberry farming history, Bellevue holds an annual Strawberry Festival on the fourth weekend in June at Crossroads Park. The festival initially began in 1925, and continued to 1942 when many Bellevue's strawberry farmers were incarcerated as part of the Japanese Internment. In 1987 the festival was resumed as a one evening event, and in 2003 it was expanded back to a multi-day festival.

Places of interest

Bellevue Arts Museum

The Bellevue Arts Museum first opened in 1975, then moved to Bellevue Square in 1983. In 2001, the museum moved into its own building, designed by Steven Holl. The museum subsequently ran into financial difficulties and was forced to close to the public in 2003. After a lengthy fundraising campaign, a remodel, and a new mission to become a national center for the fine art of craft and design, the museum reopened on June 18, 2005 with an exhibition of teapots. The Rosalie Whytel Museum of Doll Art - now closed - contained one of the largest doll collections in the world ◆ more than a thousand dolls ◆ displayed on two floors of a Victorian-style building, which is now the site of the KidsQuest Children's Museum. Near Interstate 405 is Meydenbauer Center, a convention center that brings corporate meetings and charity events to the downtown area. Meydenbauer also includes a 410-seat theater which attracts operas, ballets, and orchestral performances.

The city government has planned to build a performing arts center, tentatively named the Tateuchi Center (named for philanthropist Ina Tateuchi), since the 1980s. It would include a 2,000-seat concert hall, offices, and creative spaces at a site in Downtown Bellevue. The \$200 million project is partially funded with private donations and grants from the city and county governments.

Sports and recreation

Since the 1970s, the city has taken an active role in ensuring that its commercial development does not overwhelm its natural land and water resources. Today, the Bellevue Parks and Community Services Department manages more than 2,500 acres (10 km2) of parks and open spaces, including the Downtown Park and the Bellevue Botanical Garden, as well as several playgrounds, beach parks, and trails. More than 5,500 Bellevue residents participate in volunteer activities through this department annually.

Bellevue was home to the American Basketball Association team, the Bellevue Blackhawks. The Blackhawks in 2005, despite being ranked 13th in the league, made it to the championship game in front of 15,000 fans in Little Rock, Arkansas. The team has been inactive since 2006.

Notable people

This section contains embedded lists that may be poorly defined, unverified or indiscriminate. Please help to clean it up to meet Wikipedia's quality standards. Where appropriate, incorporate items into the main body of the article. (October 2015)

William S. Ayer, former president and CEO of Alaska Airlines

Ricky Horror, guitarist and backing vocalist of Motionless in White

Peter Horton, actor

James Love, Director, Knowledge Ecology International

Rob McKenna, former Attorney General of Washington

Satya Nadella, CEO of Microsoft

Gabe Newell, owner of Valve

Timothy Omondson, actor

Larry Sanger, Wikipedia co-founder

Ann Wilson, co-founder of Heart

Nancy Wilson, co-founder of Heart

Athletes, coaches, and sportscasters

Matthew Boyd, MLB player, pitcher for Detroit Tigers

Matt Hague, first baseman for Toronto Blue Jays

Tim Lincecum, MLB pitcher for San Francisco Giants, Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim

Dave Niehaus, broadcaster for California Angels and Seattle Mariners, recipient of the Ford C. Frick Award

John Olerud, MLB player for Toronto Blue Jays, Seattle Mariners

Matthew Sheldon, professional soccer player for Tulsa Roughnecks F.C.

Robert Stock (born 1989), MLB player

Chuck Swirsky, NBA broadcaster for Chicago Bulls, Toronto Raptors

Russell Wilson, professional football player, quarterback for Seattle Seahawks

Sister cities

Bellevue has the following sister cities:

Hualien, Taiwan

Yao, Osaka Prefecture, Japan

Kladno, Czech Republic

Liep7ja, Latvia

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