



Watershed Management Plan

Our streams, our future



As our city grows, we need to act to protect our waterways. The City of Bellevue is developing a 20-year Watershed Management Plan. Known as ***Our Streams, Our Future***, the plan will recommend actions to improve the health of our streams for people and wildlife.

Help us plan for healthier streams

Bellevue's landscape has changed dramatically in the past 150 years, from forests and farmland to a bustling city. Growing our thriving communities has affected the health of our waterways and the fish and wildlife who call them home.



Did you know?

A watershed is an area of land that drains to a body of water that includes streams, lakes, and wetlands.

How do our actions impact our watersheds?



More pollution enters our streams from stormwater.

Stormwater is rainwater that runs off hard surfaces like rooftops, paved streets, highways, and parking lots. When rain falls over these surfaces, it picks up pollutants like fertilizers, soap, oil, and dirt. This polluted stormwater flows into storm drains and can harm streams, lakes and wetlands.

Natural surfaces filter water and help prevent stormwater from entering streams. Too much stormwater running into streams from hard surfaces, even if it's not carrying pollution, can erode stream banks and harm fish and wildlife habitat.

What happens in our watersheds impacts the water quality and habitat conditions of Lake Sammamish and Lake Washington, and ultimately, our Puget Sound.

What actions will the plan recommend?

The Watershed Management Plan will recommend actions for the City in four categories.

Projects, such as controlling and treating rainwater runoff from city streets before it gets into streams.






Programs, like helping people who live near streams to better care for them and removing barriers so fish can move easily through our streams.

Policies or regulations, such as incentives for developers or homeowners to build facilities to clean runoff before it gets into streams.

Enhanced maintenance, like more street sweeping to prevent pollutants from entering streams.

Get involved and make an impact on our stream health

Here are some ways you can help us develop an effective plan to improve our streams now and in the future:

-  Visit the *Engaging Bellevue* website (live July 16)
[EngagingBellevue.com/watershed-management](https://www.bellevuewa.gov/engaging-bellevue/watershed-management)
-  Watch our video to learn more and find out how you can help shape the plan.
-  Take our short survey by Aug. 30 to help us plan for healthier streams.
-  Learn more about upcoming events and sign up for email updates.
-  Attend a community briefing this summer to talk with City staff and ask questions about the plan.



Did you know?

Bellevue has more than 80 miles of streams that are home to salmon and many other types of fish and wildlife.

What's happening next?

- **Summer 2021:** Learn about the plan and take our survey.
- **Summer 2022:** Review draft plan elements and give input on priorities for the City's investments.

Contact

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For alternate formats, interpreters, or reasonable accommodation requests, please phone at least 48 hours in advance 425-452-5215 (voice) or email jguthrie@bellevuewa.gov. For complaints regarding accommodations, contact City of Bellevue ADA/Title VI Administrator at 425-452-6168 (voice). If you are deaf or hard of hearing, dial 711. All meetings are wheelchair accessible.

