



Environmental lab staff look for pollutants in water samples from marine and fresh water, industries and treatment plants.

How to contact us:

Water and Land Resources Division: (206) 296-6519

Our web site: <http://metrokc.gov/splash.htm>

Agriculture and livestock: (206) 296-1471

Flood preparedness: (206) 296-8001

Flood warning center (recorded gauge readings):
(206) 296-8200 or 1-800-945-9263

Household & small business hazardous waste:
(206) 689-3050

Open space: (206) 296-7800

Noxious weed control: (206) 296-0290

Surface water management fee questions:
(206) 296-8332

Urban drainage emergencies (after hours):
(206) 296-8100

Volunteer opportunities: (206) 296-8359

Water quality and drainage information:
(206) 296-1900

Wildlife: (206) 296-7266

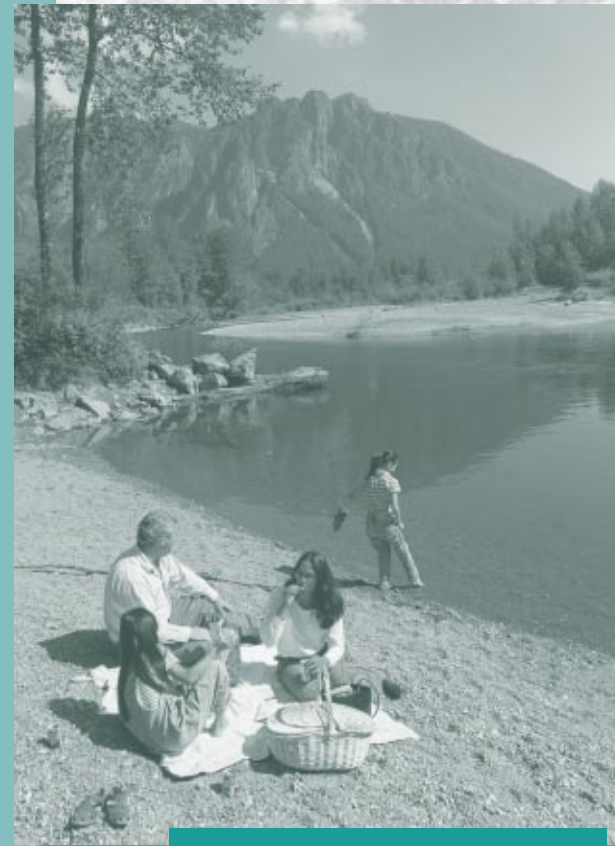
This information will be available in alternative formats for individuals with disabilities upon request.

Printed on 100% recycled post-consumer waste paper with soy-based ink.

WLR NT8:Finished/WLR/9709WLR brochure



Water and Land Resources Division



*Protecting water and land
for a healthy future*



KING COUNTY
Department of Natural Resources

Our role

Water and land resources are important to us—we all want clean water, open space, healthy fish and wildlife and flood prevention—and a wonderful environment in which to work, live and raise our families. King County works to enhance and protect valuable water and land resources so that tomorrow's citizens enjoy the same quality of life we have today.

Water and land resources...



Each year, 1,000 volunteers of all ages "get their feet wet" with projects to protect King County resources.

Keys to our quality of life

What lies ahead

As King County continues to grow, so does the challenge of protecting our region's valuable water and land resources, while still meeting the needs of an expanding population. Partnering with cities large and small, tribes, businesses and citizens, we are committed to facing this challenge for today and tomorrow.

Healthy water and land...our work, our legacy

Open space for recreation, wildlife, farms and forestry is increasingly precious—and harder to find—as new homes, jobs and roads increase growth pressures on our region. We work to protect these open spaces through tax incentives, acquisitions and educational programs.



As more buildings, homes and roads are built, rain rushes off paved surfaces in higher volumes, gathering pollutants from streets and parking lots along the way. We design, construct and maintain projects that improve water quality and fish habitat while controlling floods.



In our wet corner of the world, winter flooding is a fact of life. We restore riverbanks and maintain flood control facilities while preserving natural river functions. During flooding, we provide information about river heights and safety concerns.

Even small amounts of some chemicals can harm human health and wildlife. That's why we help homes and businesses handle their hazardous materials in a way that's responsible—and cost effective.

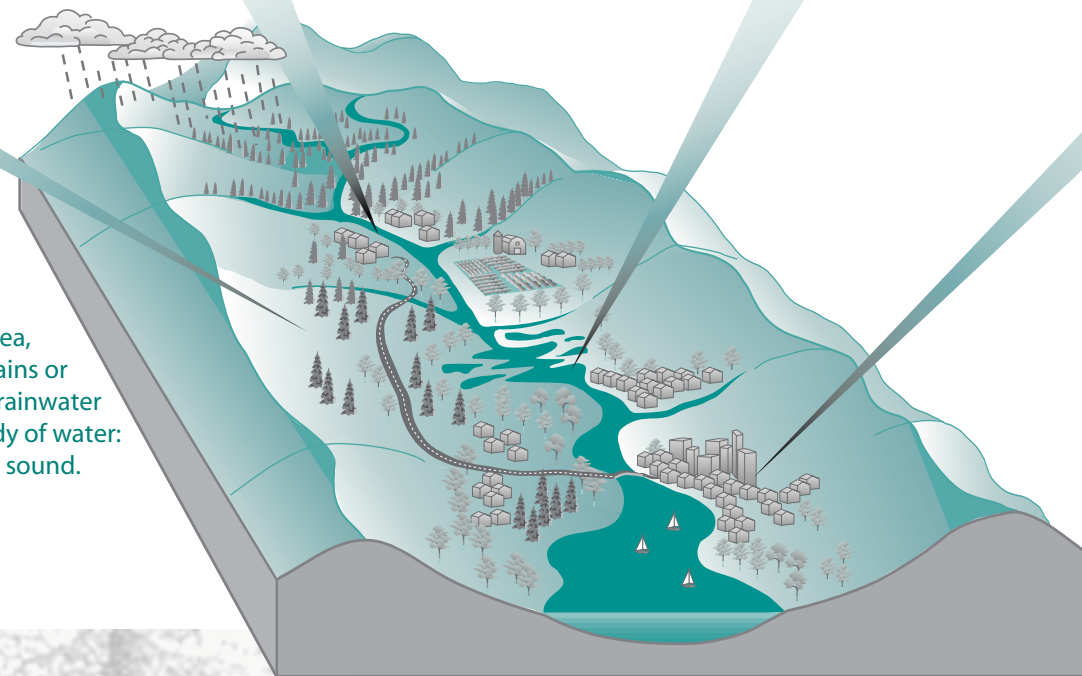


Facts about your county

- A total land area of 2,134 square miles
- Over 760 lakes and reservoirs covering 43,200 acres
- Approximately 3,000 total stream miles
- 976 inventoried wetlands
- 4 major river systems (Snoqualmie, Cedar, Green, White)
- Wildlife species that range from urban gulls and pigeons to otters, black bear and elk
- Over 11,000 acres of open space acquired since 1989

What is a watershed?

A watershed is an area, bounded by mountains or hills, from which all rainwater flows to a single body of water: lake, stream, river or sound.



What you can do:

You can help protect King County's water and land resources by starting in your own back yard:

- Care for your lawn and garden with as few chemicals as possible; use organic fertilizers
- Wash your car on the lawn, not the street, or take it to a commercial car wash
- Fix your car's oil leaks right away
- Scoop pet waste
- **And volunteer!** Plant trees along streams, salvage native plants from areas slated for construction, pull up invasive weeds or monitor lakes, wetlands or wildlife. Call **296-8359** for our calendar of volunteer opportunities.