

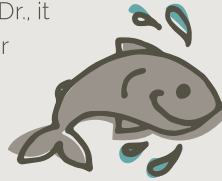
WALLEY CREEK



WHERE IS WALLEY CREEK?

Walley Creek drains into the ocean near Neck Point in the Hammond Bay area of Nanaimo. Beginning at a marsh west of Entwistle Dr., it flows parallel to Hammond Bay Rd. past Harry Wipper Park, under roads, through detention ponds & behind houses. Water also flows to the creek from surrounding neighbourhoods through storm pipes.

SEE MAP ON OTHER SIDE ←



WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

Fish such as stickleback, cutthroat trout and Coho salmon live in the lower part of the creek. There are amphibians, birds and other wildlife all along the creek. Walley Creek is an important nature corridor, providing habitat in an otherwise urbanized area. The riparian ecosystem – the streamside forested area – provides many benefits as shown in the illustration below.



CHALLENGES IN THE CREEK

Walley Creek is an urban stream that has been impacted by development. Surface water carrying run-off from Hammond Bay Road and surrounding neighbourhoods flows into the creek through storm drains. Heavy rain events can lead to erosion along the creek, filling in the streambed with sediment. During summer, water levels drop and fish habitat can be restricted to deeper pools.

ONGOING PROJECTS

STREAMKEEPERS Walley Creek

Streamkeepers (WCSk) are involved in projects to enhance the creek for fish and wildlife. They sample water quality in the creek in the low flow and fall flush periods as part of the ongoing RDN Community Watershed Monitoring Network. The WCSk engage local students in invasive species & garbage removal, native planting of the riparian area and recently did an ecological survey of the creek.

WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP THE CREEK

IF YOU LIVE NEAR THE CREEK:

EVERYWHERE IN THE WATERSHED:

Be careful of what runs off your property and into the storm drain, as that flows directly into the creek. It is best to never dump anything down a storm drain.



LITTER

Always dispose of garbage properly; trash collects into debris jams and blocks water flow.



VEGETATION

Shade keeps the water cool for fish and help stabilize the banks. Do not remove vegetation within 15 metres of any stream.



PETS

When entering streams, pets erode stream banks, and disturb wildlife and fish. Their waste pollutes not composts.



YARD WASTE

Illegal disposal of grass, branches or weeds along the creek prompts erosion, spreads invasive species and reduces oxygen in the water. Yard waste is collected at curbside via your green bin.

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DID YOU KNOW

The grey area on the map shows the catchment area of land that drains to Walley Creek. Water from the steep inland areas off of Hammond Bay Road drains to the creek through a storm pipe system. Even if you don't live right next to the creek, if you are in the catchment area you have a connection to the creek!



UPCOMING EVENTS

RIVERS DAY highlights the many values of our waterways and strives to increase public awareness and encourage the stewardship of rivers in our community. Visit Bowen Park for an assortment of activities for everyone!

Bowen Park on Sunday Sept. 23rd
from 11am – 2:30pm

See nanaimo.ca/goto/discovernature
for more information



We'd love to hear from you! Give us feedback at waterprotection@rdn.bc.ca