



# 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. 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 a lot in the past 150 years, from forests and farmlands to a busy city. Growing our community has impacted the health of our streams and the fish and wildlife who also call Bellevue home.

### Our actions impact our watersheds

Pollution enters our streams from stormwater runoff. 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.



#### Did you know?

A watershed is the entire area that drains to a specific body of water such as a stream, lake or a wetland.

#### 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, our partners and you to improve watershed health.



**Projects**, such as building a stormwater facility that filters rainwater runoff from the city streets before it gets to streams.



**Programs**, like planting and retaining more trees citywide to provide stormwater flow control.



**Maintenance**, such as regular street cleaning to keep chemicals and trash from entering streams.



**Policies or regulations**, like changes in city code to encourage developers to include building features that clean runoff before it enters streams.

## You are an important part of this plan

Here are ways that you can help us build a plan that improves Bellevue's stream health for generations to come:



**Visit** the *Engaging Bellevue* website:  
[EngagingBellevue.com/watershed-management](https://www.bellevuewa.gov/engaging-bellevue/watershed-management)



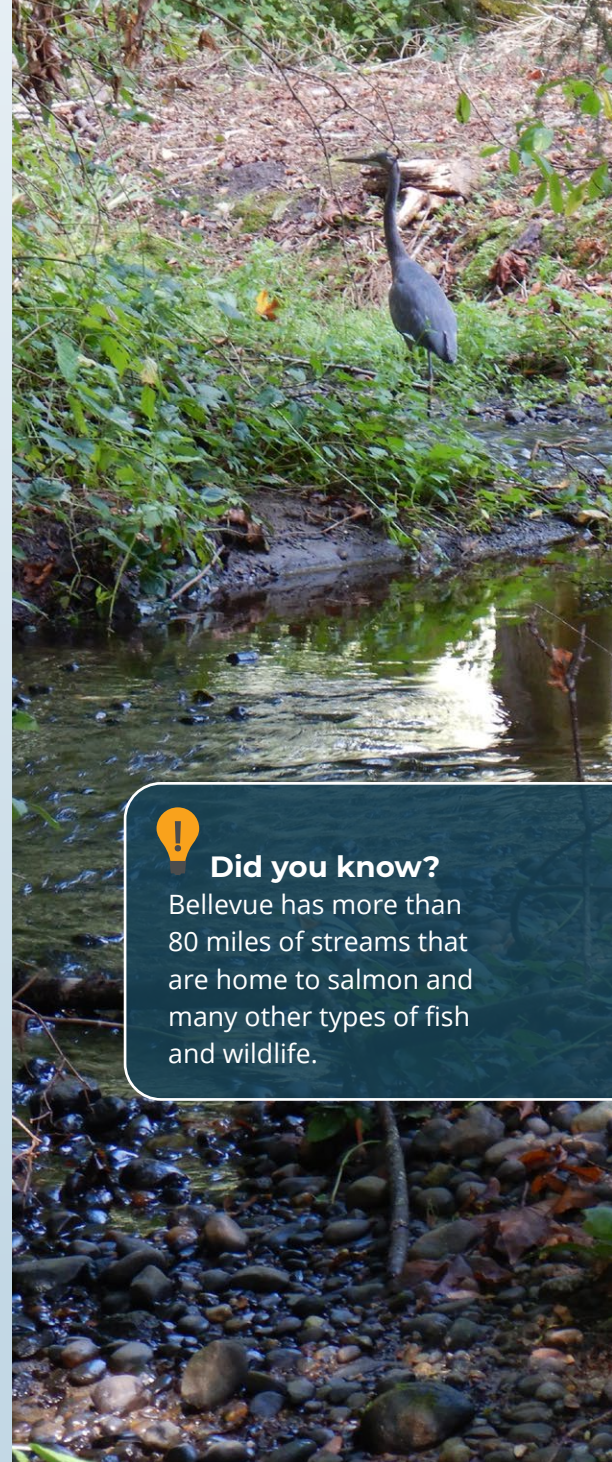
Watch our video to learn more and find out how you can help shape the plan.



Check if you are eligible to participate in a focus group.



Learn more about upcoming events and sign up for email updates.



### 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?

- **2024:** Gather community input to help decide how to prioritize investments.
- **By late 2024:** Finalize a Watershed Management Plan that can be applied over the next 20 years.

## Contact

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