



# Focus on: North Creek Water Quality Action Plan

from Ecology's Water Quality Program, Northwest Regional Office

## Pollution in the North Creek Watershed

### Did you know?

- North Creek exceeds state bacteria standards for swimming and wading?
- Ecology is developing an ACTION PLAN to reduce bacterial pollution in North Creek?

## Why is North Creek Polluted?

### Pollution in North Creek comes from many sources:

- A variety of pollutants come from failing septic tanks, animal wastes, at-home car washing, lawn and garden care, and other daily activities.
- Impervious surfaces – roofs, roads, and parking lots greatly affect North Creek by altering stream flows and transporting pollutants to local streams.
- Lower summer flows lead to concentration of pollutants, higher water temperatures, and lower water oxygen levels.

## Open House/Public Information Meeting

**Wednesday, June 11, 2003**

**KOC Meeting Hall, 24323 Bothell-Everett Hwy/#527 (in Bothell 1.2 miles south of I-5 next to Lake Pleasant RV Park). We'll have an Open House from 6-7 p.m. followed by a brief presentation, then questions and discussion of the Water Cleanup Action Plan.**

*To save costs, this information notice has been sent to every third household address in the North Creek Watershed. Please tell your neighbors about this plan to clean up North Creek.*



## What Can You Do?

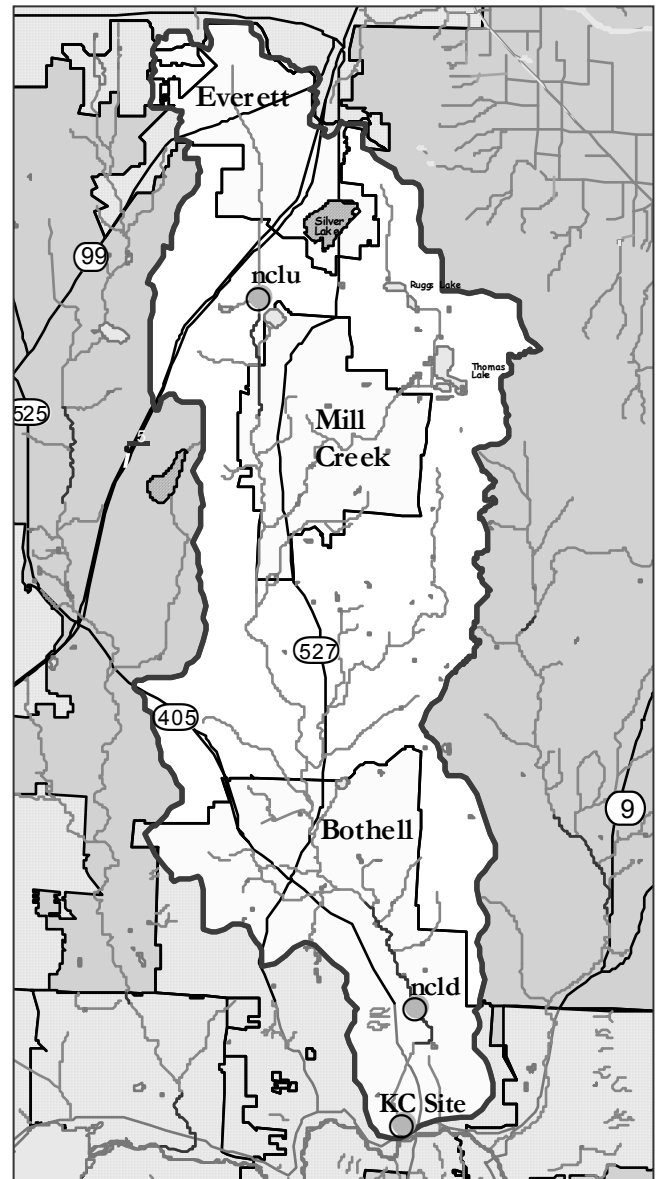
First, you can comment on the Draft ACTION PLAN in writing from *May 26 until June 20, 2003*. In addition, the ACTION PLAN contains many ideas about how you can help to reduce pollution reaching North Creek right now!

- Keep pet and horse wastes out of streams.
- Properly maintain your septic tank.
- Reduce impervious surfaces.
- Landscape without fertilizers and pesticides.
- Wash cars on lawns and gravel driveways
- Plant trees and perform other activities to help local streams.
- Get involved in your local government's efforts to clean up North Creek.
- Work with your neighbors, community association, or local citizens group to improve North Creek water quality.

## How Can You Stay Involved?

Citizen involvement is essential to making North Creek a better place for people and fish and keeping it that way. Stay involved by participating in future watershed activities:

- Get involved with Adopt-A-Stream or in other on-the-ground community fish habitat restoration and water pollution prevention activities.
- Get a no cost, no-risk environmental audit of your property by contacting your local county Watershed Steward, Craig Young. ([c.young@co.snohomish.wa.us](mailto:c.young@co.snohomish.wa.us)).
- Let your local elected officials know that clean water is important to you.



## **Federal Law Requires Cleanup Of Polluted Water**

Ecology's Water Cleanup Action Plan is part of the federal process for determining how much pollutant a water body can accept (also called the Total Maximum Daily Load, or TMDL, process). The ACTION PLAN identifies potential pollution sources and what needs to be done to return North Creek bacteria levels to state standards.

## **Where Can You Find Ecology's Draft Water Cleanup Action Plan?**

The draft ACTION PLAN will be available at:

1. The open house meeting (see first page).

2. The Mill Creek Library:

15429 Bothell-Everett Hwy

Mill Creek, WA 98012

phone: (425) 337-4822

hours: Monday - Thursday 10 a.m. -- 9 p.m.

Friday - Saturday 10 a.m. -- 6 p.m.

3. Ecology's Bellevue Office (address is below).

4. On the Internet at:

**<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/tmdl/watershed/index.html#nwro>**.

5. To obtain a copy by mail, to ask questions or get information, or to send written comments; please contact:



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*If you require this publication in an alternate format, please contact  
Douglas Palenshus at (425) 649-7041 or (TTY) at 711 or 1-800-833-6388.*



# Is Your Water Safe?



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