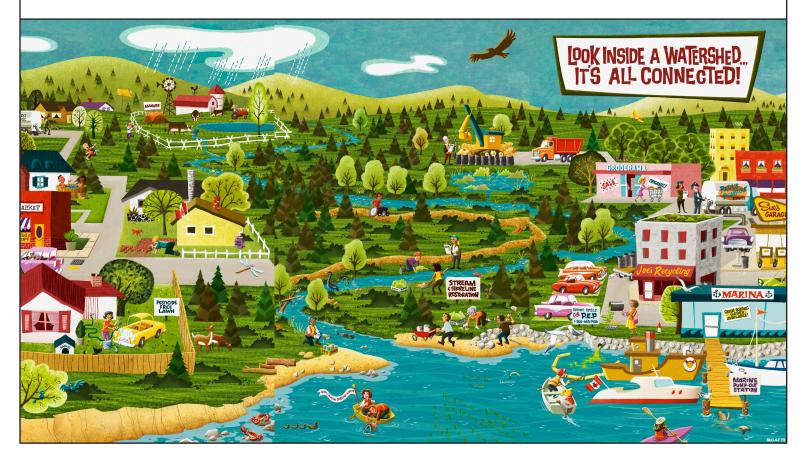




A watershed is an area of land that drains precipitation and groundwater to a common point, such as a creek, wetland, lake or ocean. A healthy watershed functions to slow, clean and store water, by allowing the water to absorb into the landscape.

The flow of water is changed by the clearing of land and development such as roads, driveways, parking lots and buildings. Precipitation, hose and irrigation water that falls on these surfaces wash pollution, soil and litter into stormdrains leading directly to our creeks, harbours or ocean, without the benefits provided by a healthy watershed.

We all live in a watershed whether natural, rural or urban, and our daily actions and activities can impact our watershed. There are a number of things we can each do to protect our watersheds. Look inside to see how we can all be watershed wise.



Look Inside a Watershed...



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CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES,

if not managed properly, can have a negative impact on water quality. Silt fences and other erosion and sediment control measures can help minimize these impacts.

WETLANDS, LAKES and PONDS help to slow the water down, reducing high flows and erosion of downstream watercourses while providing important wildlife habitat.

RESTORING SHORELINES to a more natural state helps to stabilize the shore and provides better habitat for marine species.

EELGRASS & UNDERWATER VEGETATION, which provide important habitat for many marine species, can be negatively impacted by poor water quality.