

Resources + Actions for community members on safe fishing & swimming, water quality, and more!

Take Action!

- **Water Reporter**
<https://www.re-sources.org/initiative/water-reporter/>
Learn how to recognize and report pollution using a free, easy to use app.
- **Petition to protect Lake Whatcom drinking water:** <https://p2a.co/LI35yPm>
Sign a petition to Whatcom County and City of Bellingham Councils to prioritize our health and to take actions to protect our drinking water
- **North Sound Stewards**
<https://www.re-sources.org/initiative/citizen-science/>
You can participate in community based science by becoming a North Sound Steward.

Resources for Swimmable and Fishable Waters

- **Bellingham Bay Toxic Cleanup Self-Guided Tour**
<https://www.re-sources.org/2020/04/take-a-self-guided-tour-of-bellinghams-waterfront/>
An online, interactive map that explores the industrial history of Bellingham Bay and how it is being cleaned up
- **Lake Whatcom Drinking Water Quality**
<https://cob.org/services/environment/lake-whatcom/water-quality-lw>
Annual reports showing that our drinking water is meeting all state and federal regulations.
- **Lake Whatcom Monitoring Project - WWU Institute for Environmental Studies**
<https://www.wvu.edu/iws/>
Provides data on Lake Whatcom water quality that has been collected over the last 50 years.
- **Lake Whatcom TMDL - Total Maximum Daily Load**
<https://ecology.wa.gov/Water-Shorelines/Water-quality/Water-improvement/Total-Maximum-Daily-Load-process/Directory-of-improvement-projects/Lake-Whatcom-Watershed-multi-parameter-TMDL>

Lake Whatcom water quality is declining and is listed as an impaired body of water. It does not currently meet state standards for Dissolved Oxygen, Phosphorus, and Fecal Coliform Bacteria.

- **Beach Environmental Assessment, Communication & Health (BEACH)**
<https://ecology.wa.gov/Water-Shorelines/Water-quality/Saltwater/BEACH-program>
Find out the health of marine beaches in your area through a map and annual report.
- **Washington State Toxic Algae**
<https://www.nwtoxicalgae.org/>
This site provides toxin data related to algae blooms in Washington lakes, ponds, and streams.
- **Washington State Department of Health Shellfish Safety Information**
<https://www.doh.wa.gov/CommunityandEnvironment/Shellfish/RecreationalShellfish>
Learn about where it is safe to harvest and consume shellfish in regards to biotoxins.
- **Washington State Department of Health Fish Advisories**
<https://www.doh.wa.gov/DataandStatisticalReports/HealthDataVisualization/MobileFishAdvisoriesFreshwaterAreasMap>
Learn about the safety of the fish you may catch and consume in your local waters.
- **Washington State Water Quality Atlas**
<https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/waterqualityatlas/StartPage.aspx>
Use this site to find out if a lake, stream, or beach near you is healthy or polluted
- **Whatcom County Water Quality Program**
<https://www.whatcomcd.org/water-quality>
Find the most recent fecal coliform results from freshwater and marine water in Whatcom County

Learn more about Washington State Water Quality

- **2018 Salish Sea Toxics Monitoring Synthesis: A Selection of Research**
<https://www.eopugetsound.org/articles/2018-salish-sea-toxics-monitoring-synthesis>
A synopsis of recent contaminant research and monitoring that provides an overview of the conditions in the Salish Sea.
- **Washington State Water Quality Standards for Groundwater**
<https://apps.leg.wa.gov/WAC/default.aspx?cite=173-200>
- **Washington State Water Quality Standards for Surface waters**
<https://apps.leg.wa.gov/WAC/default.aspx?cite=173-200>
- **Coho Urban Stream Syndrome**
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.aquatox.2019.105231>
- **Mussel Watch Program**
<https://www.whatcomcountymrc.org/projects/mussel-watch/>
Mussels are grown for 3 months in marine waters and are then analyzed for a wide variety of toxic contaminants.