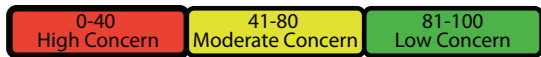
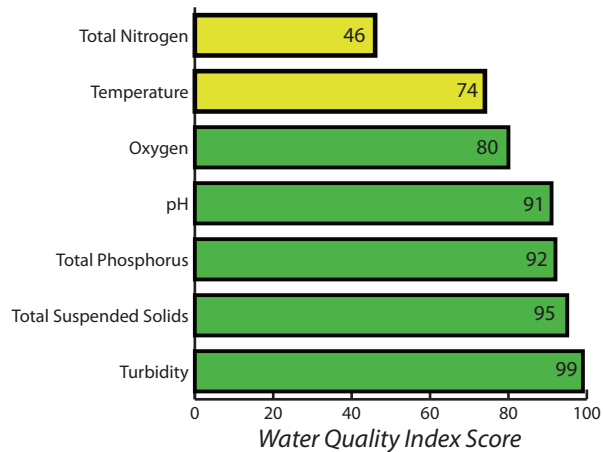




2023 Water Quality

84 Overall Health: **Some or Low Concern**
-1 Since 2022

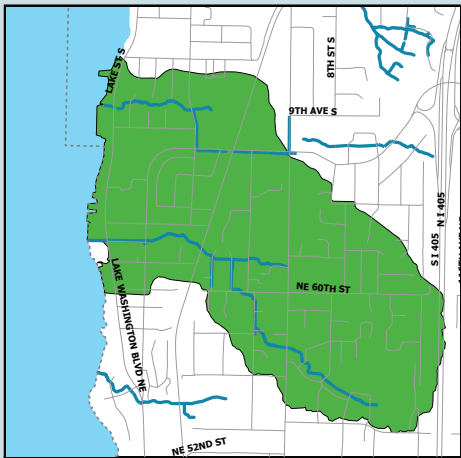
Higher levels of nitrogen and high creek temperatures are the primary reasons this creek did not score higher.



How to Help Nitrogen and Temperature in Northwest CollegeCreek

- ✓ **Minimize fertilizer use** in your lawn and garden to reduce nitrogen runoff.
- ✓ **Plant a tree** - shade from trees helps lower water temperatures.
- ✓ If pressure washing, **use cold water only**. Avoid heated water and chemicals.

Basin Facts



□ **Basin Area** 377 acres
 🌳 **Tree Cover** 26%
🏠 **Impervious Area** 49%

- 71% of the stream channel in the Houghton Slope A basin is in pipes.
- The basin has the lowest amount of tree coverage of any basin in Kirkland. This impacts habitat quality, increases rainwater runoff, and reduces water quality.
- Development in this basin has led to a significant increase in hard surfaces like pavement and buildings. This impacts the creek’s water quality, aquatic habitat, and increases the potential for flooding.

Thanks for helping protect our waterways!



Yard Care and Maintenance

Minimize use of fertilizers and chemicals in your yard. Follow directions on label and never use more than suggested.

Do not sweep, blow, or dump yard debris into streets, sidewalks, ditches or drains. Dispose of yard waste in yard waste bins.

Did you know? More than 35 different pesticides have been detected in our local creeks. Adding just a 3-inch layer of mulch in your garden can prevent weeds as effectively as yard chemicals.



Pressure Washing

Use a broom to sweep up dirt and debris. Divert wash water to a landscaped area where wash water can soak into the ground. If you can't divert wash water, use only cold water with no soap or chemicals.

Don't allow soap, chemicals, or dirt into street or storm drain.



Roof Cleaning

Use a broom, stiff brush, or leaf blower to remove moss. If you must use chemical cleaners, disconnect roof downspouts so chemicals do not flow into the stormwater drainage system.

Direct wash water to adjacent lawn and landscape to soak into the ground.



Car Washing

Use a commercial car wash or wash your car on a lawn or gravel area. Keep soap (even biodegradable soap) and dirty water out of streets and storm drains.

Did you know? The average driveway car wash wastes more than 120 gallons of water. The average commercial car wash uses 60% less water and keeps soap and chemicals out of our streams.



Paint and Chemical Disposal

Never dump chemicals, paint, or rinse water in your yard or down storm drains. Always rinse paint brushes and rollers in a sink, never outside.

Visit hazwastehelp.org for info on safe disposal of household chemicals or paintcare.org/WA for FREE paint disposal.

If you see soap, oil, or other pollution in your neighborhood storm drains or creeks, call our 24/7 Spill Hotline:

425-587-3900

Learn more at kirklandwa.gov/stormwater