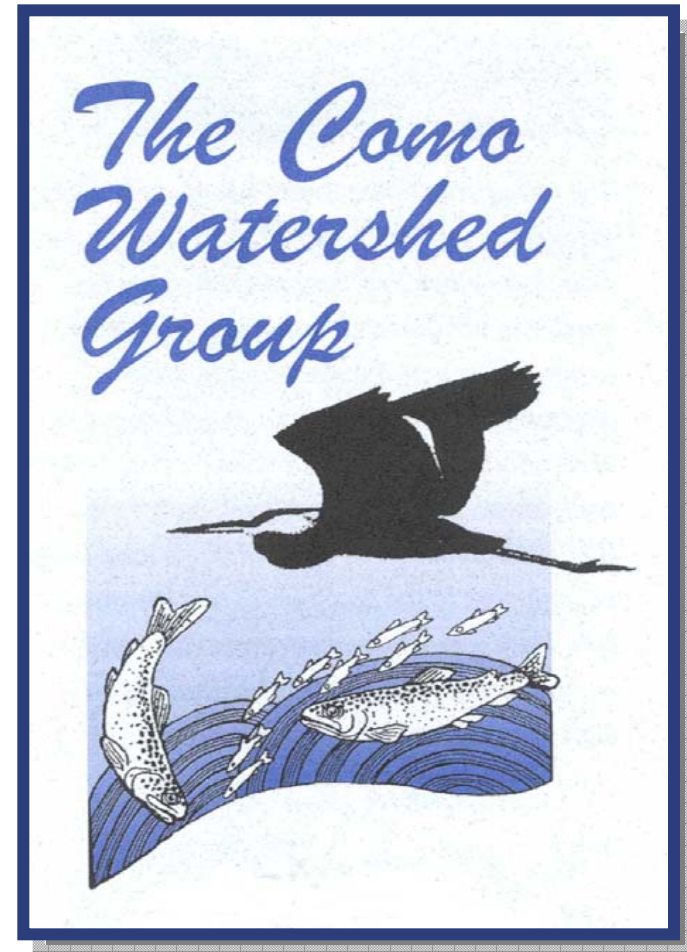
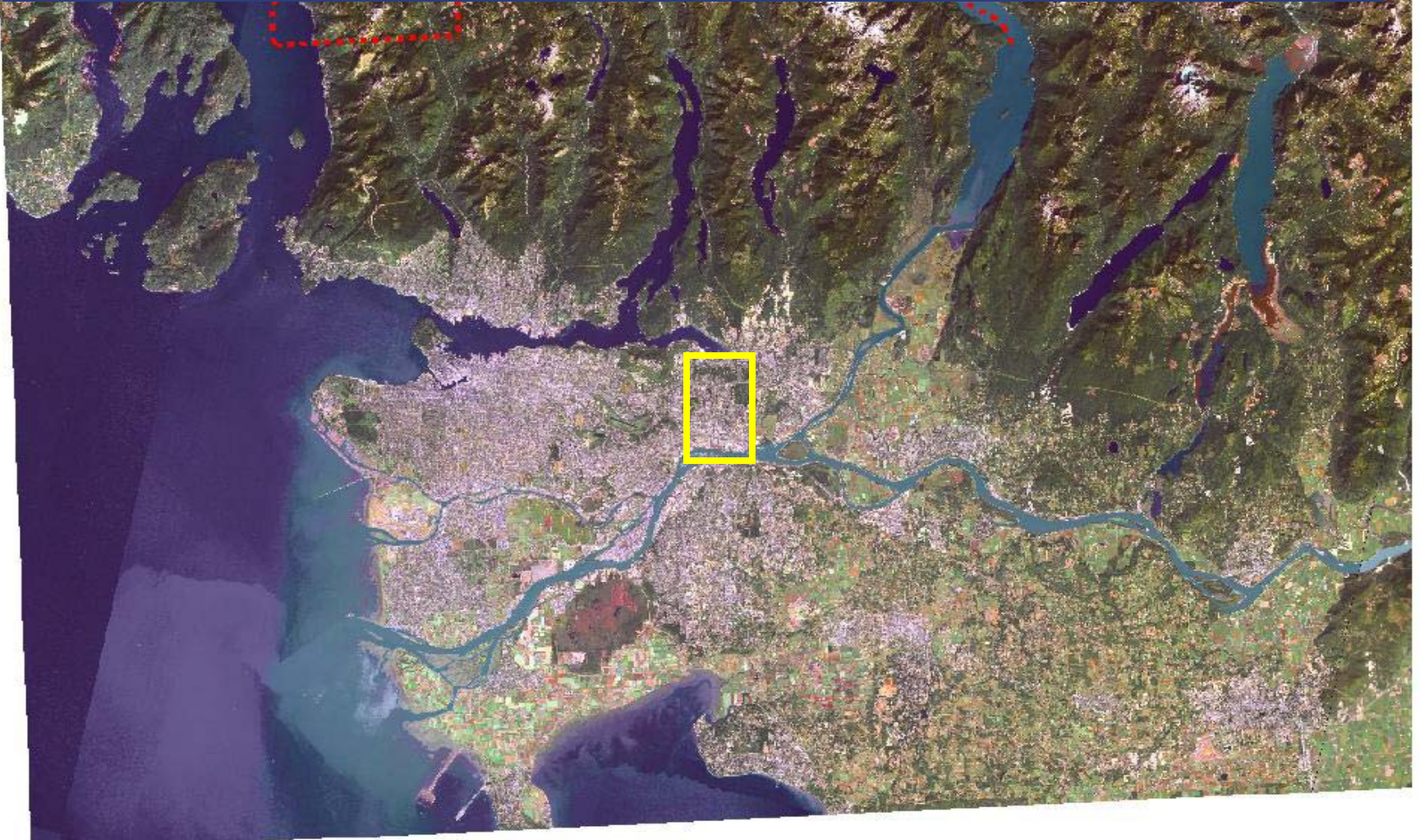


**An
Introduction to
the Como
Creek
Watershed**

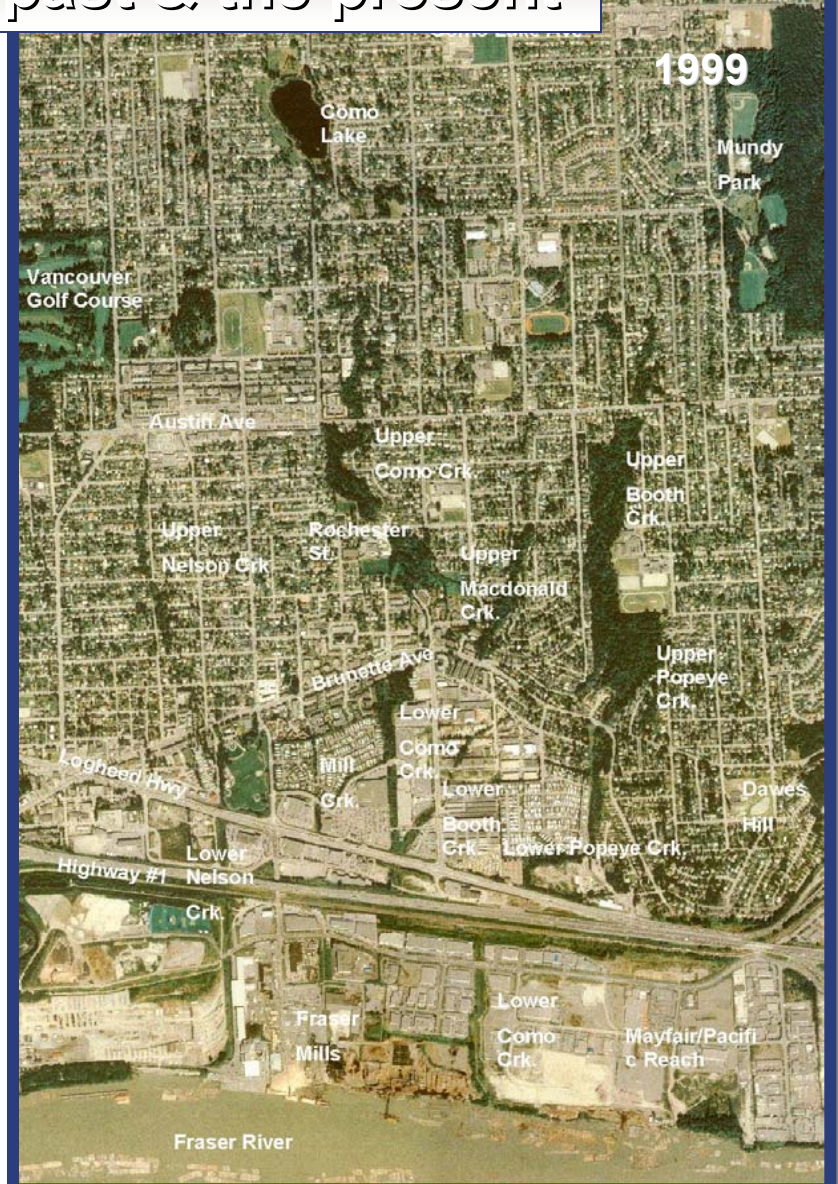


- **The Como Creek Watershed**
- **About the “CWG”**
- **Local flora and fauna – our natural capital**
- **Making a difference-getting involved**
- **The path ahead**

The Como Watershed in southwest Coquitlam, Lower Mainland BC

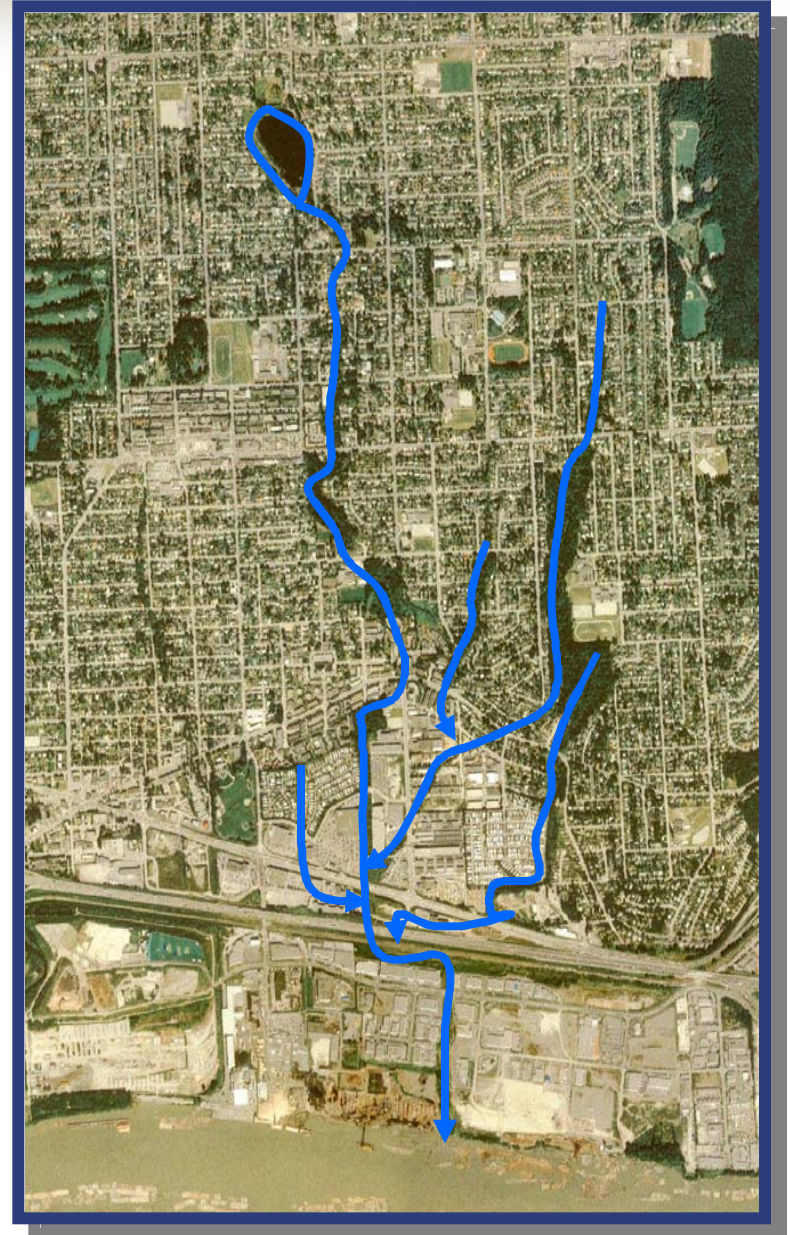


Comparing the past & the present



Como Creek starts at Como Lake and flows south along with four tributaries to the Fraser River.

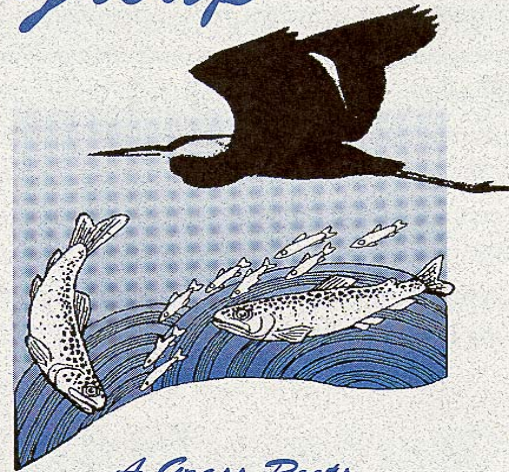
- The headwaters – Como Lake
- Popeye Creek
- Booth Creek
- MacDonald Creek
- Como Creek
- Mill Creek



About the CWG:

- How We Started
- Our Mission
- What We Do

The Como Watershed Group

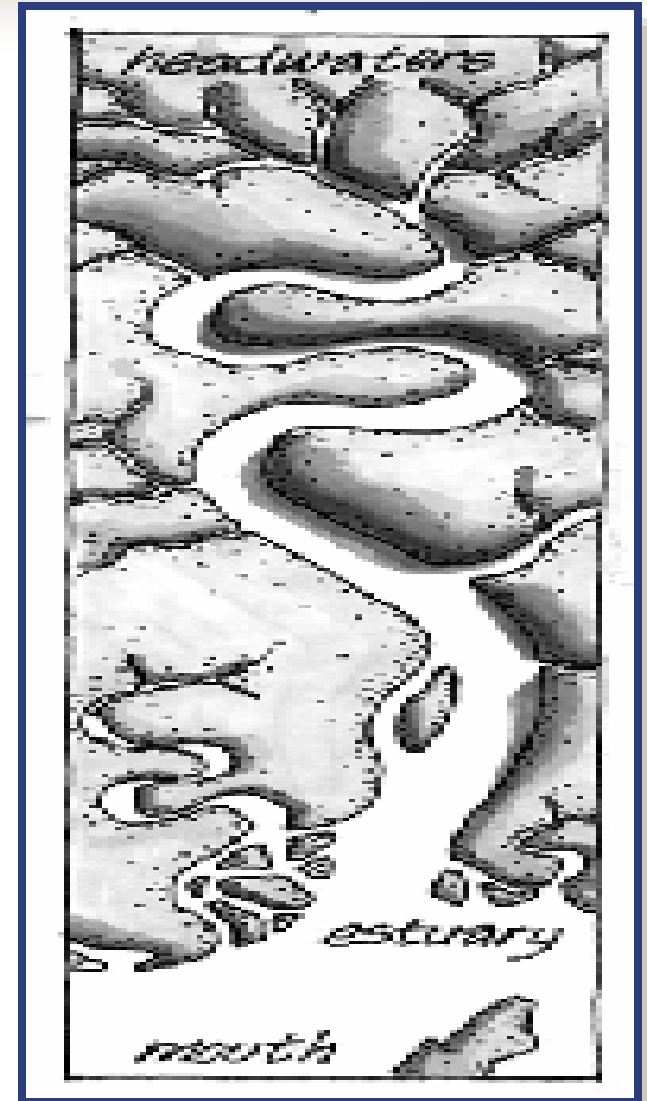


*A Grass Roots
Community Partnership
Working to Enhance
and Restore One of
Coquitlam's Most
Valuable Assets*

—◆—
The Como Watershed

How we started:

- Founded in 1996 as “Como Lake Keepers”
- A “holistic” approach to the watershed & community
- Society incorporated in 1999
- 80+ informal members
- 7 Current Board of Directors.



CWG's Mandate:

Vision: *“The society envisions the Como Watershed as a community that conserves and enhances its diverse urban wildspaces.”*

Mission: “To foster healthy urban wildspaces and instil a sense of pride and stewardship by:

- Conducting habitat monitoring and restoration in the Como Watershed,
- Promoting the value of environmental conservation and protection of natural diversity,
- Raising awareness of the value of urban wildspaces through collaborative partnerships and educational activities and,
- Promoting the use of ecosystem based land use decision making.



What We Do:

Watershed

Conservation:

- Habitat Restoration
- Bio-inventories
- Environmental Monitoring & Assessments
- Plantings & Salvages
- Expertise and professional resources to municipal staff and landowners



An Introduction to the Como Creek Watershed – The Como Watershed Group

Services to the Community:

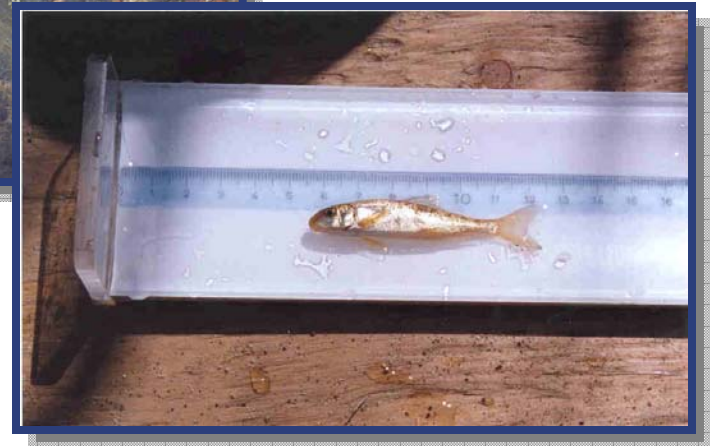
- Interpretive Tours
- Eco-education
- Media information & Special Events
- Newsletters and regular watershed updates
- Native plant nursery
- Naturescaping projects
- Long-term conservation planning



Our Natural Capital:

Fisheries:

From salmon to suckers there have been at least 20 species of freshwater fish found in the watershed.



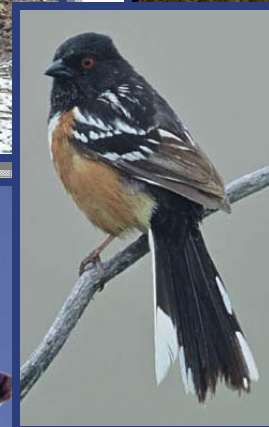
Mammals:

From the warm and fuzzy to night-time mosquito control there are at least 30 species of mammals in the watershed.



Birds:

Waterfowl,
waders,
divers and
songsters
over 50
species of
birds have
been
recorded
(and we are
still
counting)!

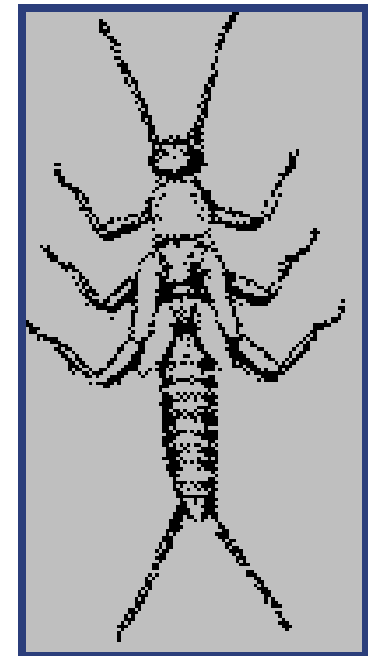
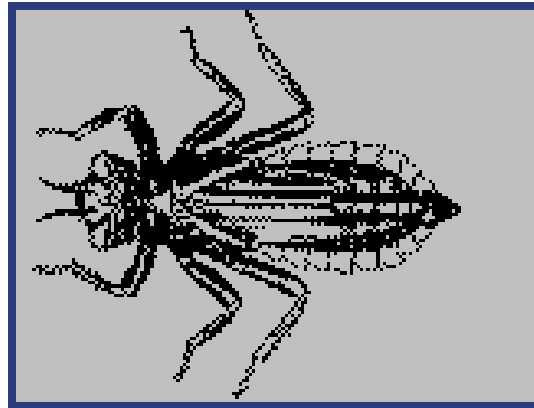
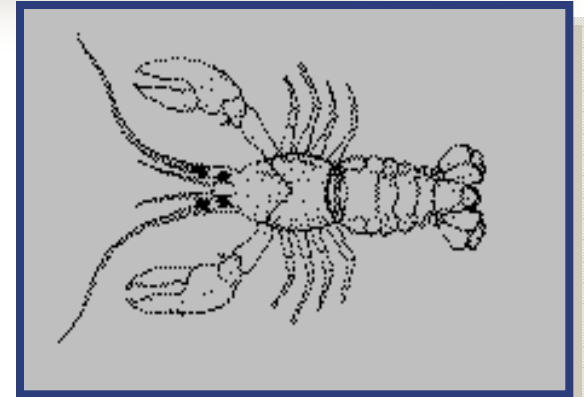


Reptiles & Amphibians:

The not so warm and fuzzy, but equally important these critters tell us a lot about how healthy our watershed is.

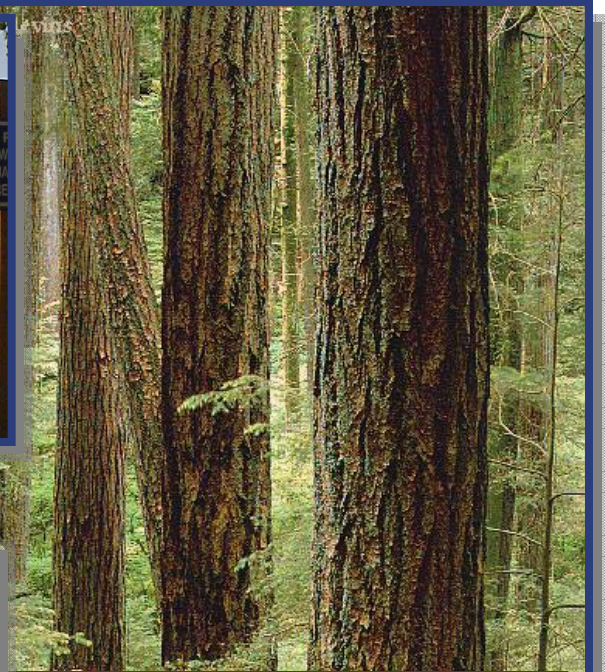


Invertebrates:
From the micro to the macro these critters are major components of watershed food chains and indicators of watershed health



The Landscape:

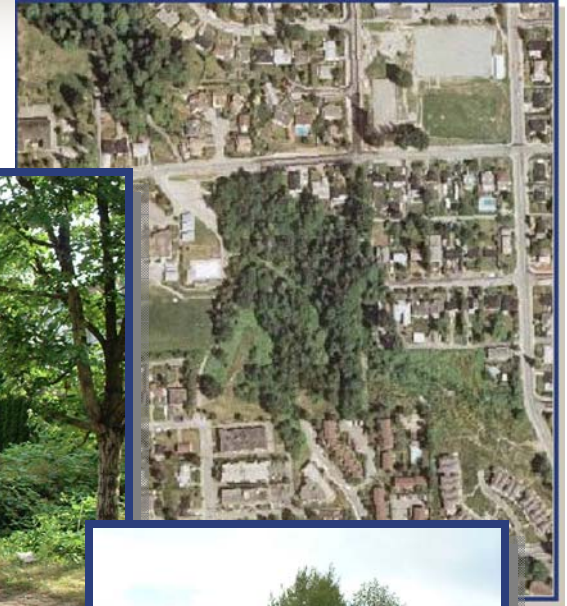
From upland forests, wetlands, streamside areas and lowland floodplains the Como watershed is home to a diverse array of plant communities and ecosystems.



An Introduction to the Como Creek Watershed – The Como Watershed Group

**Parks and ravines,
even roadside
ditches and your
own backyard!**

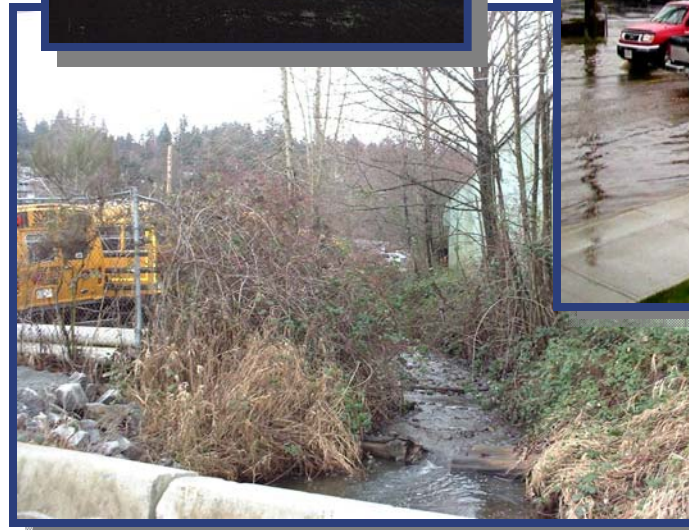
**These form the
connective
network of living
systems that our
fish and wildlife
depend on for
survival.**



An Introduction to the Como Creek Watershed – The Como Watershed Group

But its no “Garden of Eden”

As we have seen the watershed has undergone a lot of changes over time. With a growing population (people and more people) comes impacts from “alien invaders”, habitat loss, and pollution.



Making a Difference Getting Involved:

- Nursery maintenance
- Fundraising
- Special events
- Promotions
- Plantings
- Monitoring
- Newsletter



An Introduction to the Como Creek Watershed – The Como Watershed Group

- Special projects
 - Graphic designing
 - Membership
 - Grant applications
 - Flyer distribution
 - Accounting
- There is no shortage of opportunities for actively contributing To what happens in the Como watershed!

The screenshot shows the homepage of the Como Watershed Group. At the top, it says "WE'RE HOSTED BY THE VANCOUVER COMMUNITYNET" with icons of a computer monitor and a person. The main heading is "Como Watershed Group Home Page" in a stylized font. Below this is the group's logo, which features a bird in flight over a stylized wave. A quote reads: "A non-profit society committed to the long-term conservation of the Como Creek watershed and the environmental health of our community." The main text describes the group's history, starting in 1996 in consultation with the City of Coquitlam, and its focus on water quality monitoring, watershed restoration, and environmental education. It mentions a membership of over 80 individuals and a core group of active volunteer members. A sidebar on the left contains several links: "CWG Home" (with a small image of a stream), "The Como Watershed" (with a small image of a stream), "Activities & Community Projects" (with a small image of people), "Watershed Wise Program" (with a small image of a tree), "Stewardship & Conservation Links" (with a small image of a tree), and "News & Events News & Events" (with a small image of a bird). At the bottom of the sidebar is a "Top" button. The main content area includes a "Last Updated: January, 2003" and "Web Design by: Ely Ho & Pamela Zevit" notice, a small image of a stream, and a "by FreeWebWare" logo. At the very bottom, there is a navigation menu with buttons for "HOME PAGE", "THE COMO WATERSHED", "CWG ACTIVITIES", "WWP", "NEWS & EVENTS", and "CONTACT US".

WE'RE HOSTED BY THE VANCOUVER COMMUNITYNET

Como Watershed Group Home Page

The Como Watershed Group

"A non-profit society committed to the long-term conservation of the Como Creek watershed and the environmental health of our community."

Founded in 1996 in consultation with the City of Coquitlam, our society began life as the "Como Lake-Keepers" involved in stewardship of Como Lake. The lake is a renowned urban fishing and recreation area in the city of Coquitlam as well as the Lower Mainland. By 1998, the organization had grown and expanded recognizing the need for taking a holistic approach to working within the watershed and the community. The CWG was incorporated as a society in 1999 and has a membership of over 80 individuals, a core group of active volunteer members, a board of directors and an executive. Presently, the society is involved in a host of collaborative activities from water quality monitoring to watershed restoration to input into land use planning processes and environmental education. Members offer a diverse array of professional and personal expertise to the group enhancing its ability to provide a credible long-term resource to the city and the community. The CWG has participated along with other key stakeholders in an integrated stormwater planning strategy for the watershed, as well as local trail planning and neighbourhood revitalization and growth strategies. Our most recent work has been the development of the Watershed Wise Program an education and awareness resource program designed to increase understanding of the value of urban watersheds and wildspaces.

Last Updated: January, 2003
Web Design by: Ely Ho & Pamela Zevit

[Home Page](#) [The Como Watershed](#) [CWG Activities](#) [WWP](#) [News & Events](#) [Contact Us](#)

The Path Ahead:

- **Increase awareness**
- **Increase membership / volunteer involvement**
- **Increase presence / active voice in community**
- **Watershed Wise Program**
- **Secure adequate funding**
- **Increase project capacity**
- **Develop effective partnerships**
- **Continue with restoration activities and ecological monitoring**

CWG Contact Information

- E-mail
cwg@vcn.bc.ca
- Website
www.vcn.bc.ca/cwg
- Phone
604-939-0523

*The Como
Watershed
Group*

