



The self-guided trail at the Outdoor Classroom property is open for exploration year-round (when classes are not in session). We only ask that you respect the nature preserve and not disturb the wildlife and plants. Please have your dog on a leash while you walk, and pick up poop. The trail and boardwalk platforms are wheelchair accessible. Comments can be left in the kiosk mailbox.

Whidbey Watershed Stewards | PO Box 617, Langley WA 98260 | whidbeywatersheds.org

STATION GUIDE

1. A forested wetland: Look for skunk cabbage, salmonberry, false lily-of-the-valley, and red alder. Wetland plants filter pollutants, the soil holds water year-round, and wetlands do not harbor mosquitos because the water isn't stagnant.
2. Each spring, 5th graders release 500 juvenile Coho salmon right here in Maxwelton Creek.
3. Leave that log! The decaying wood holds moisture and provides nutrients for the seedlings of other plants.
4. Listen! The birds, flowing water, and wind make the music of the forest.
5. The "Pepsi-Cola" Creek: Maxwelton Valley has large areas of peat soils which are loaded with decomposing plants that contain acids called tannins. They give the water its brown color; tiny organisms living in the water create a film on the surface that is churned into a foam at small riffles.
6. The Native Plant Garden. Look for trillium, sword fern, salal, huckleberry, and Oregon Grape!
7. What can you do? Even small actions have an impact: Conserve water, maintain your septic system, reduce use of pesticides and fertilizers, and grow native plants!
8. If this stump could talk: This once-tall Douglas fir provided habitat for animals and birds a hundred years ago. After it was logged, the decaying stump became home for insects, birds, and seeds that sprouted and brought new life.