

# **About Bowker Creek**

Bowker Creek, located in Victoria, British Columbia, has been increasingly developed over the last two centuries. Since the mid 1800's, the creek has been used for agriculture, commercial, residential, industrial and urban use. Other than some aquatic species, birds, and insects, much of the wildlife that formerly lived around the creek does not reside there today. However, many native plants still do grow along the water.

Some places along the creek are called a riparian ecosystem where saturated soil allows for plants to bloom. The ecosystems also soak up excess water to prevent flooding downstream. Unfortunately, not many riparian ecosystems remain, due to artificial changes to the creek. Oak Bay High students have been doing their best to restore the Bowker Creek riparian ecosystem on the school's property.

The Coast Salish people (for more information read the Coast Salish Peoples article) used the native plants that grow along and around Bowker Creek for medicinal purposes. This is what will be talked about in this project. We hope you enjoy!

Below is an image of what Bowker Creek currently looks like. We have to remember to take care of this wonderful creek, so generations to come can still enjoy it.

