

## **Pollutants of Bowker Creek**

There are many possible sources of pollution for Bowker Creek. A large concern is runoff (caused by rainfall) from automotive fluids (oil, gas, etc), fertilizer remnants, chemicals and garbage. Automotive fluids, chemicals and garbage can enter the creek by disposal into storm drains which empty out into Bowker Creek. Fertilizer is also a significant polluter as it may hold excess nitrogen or phosphorus which can lead to the death of aquatic organisms. Heavy rainfall can increase the amount of runoff into the creek, causing more pollution. Additionally, heavy rainfall can lead to erosion of the stream bank; thus creating excess sediment which can affect the living organisms of the creek. The presence of E.Coli bacteria found in Bowker Creek can be connected to the cross contamination between stormwater and sewer water.