

Watershed Education Programs for Grades 9-12



The City of Maple Valley is sponsoring FREE Classroom and Field Trips to High School students through a partnership with Nature Vision.

Nature Vision is an award-winning environmental education non-profit organization serving over 70,000 students in our region annually. They foster appreciation and stewardship of our environment by educating and connection community to the world around us. The programs offered are shown below.



Be the Solution (Grades 11-12)

Students will become knowledgeable in the many issues facing Puget Sound's present health. They will understand the important role we all play in recovering Puget Sound by becoming familiar with what daily actions Maple Valley community members can take to create more positive impacts in our watersheds. As a class, students will make clear the many facets affecting Puget Sound by Interpreting the most recent State of the Sound report.

Water Connection Field Trip (Grades 9-12)

Students will visit a local lake, wetland, or pond near their school and explore it with a naturalist. Students will observe plants and animals in this environment, examine and identify local freshwater invertebrates, and will learn about the health of our greater watershed systems. Older students may also participate in water quality tests for oxygen, pH, temperature and more.



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Microplastics (Grades 9-12)

Recently scientists have begun to study the impact of microplastics on our environment. This multi session class focuses on the creation and transportation of microplastics, how they impact our water resources and environment, and what we can do to work toward a solution. Students will engage in debate regarding individual and collective action to address this issue, and have the opportunity to engage in optional teacher-led community science data collection.

Watershed Dynamics (Enviroscape) (Grades 9-12)

Students will interact with a tabletop model of a typical community to learn how their everyday choices affect the water quality in our watershed. Alternative choices to prevent watershed contamination are discussed.



Salmon Cycle (Grades 9-12) *

Discover the connection between salmon, people, and the water we share. The salmon life cycle and what this keystone species requires from its ecosystem is discussed. Students will explore water quality issues and understand why healthy salmon habitat is good for Northwest ecosystems and people too!

Healthy Water, Healthy Ecosystems (Grades 9-12) *

Experiment with soils from different watershed ecosystems in Washington, and develop an understanding of what each ecosystem needs to be healthy and sustainable. Conduct an analysis of plant needs and create a restoration plan that matches an appropriate soil within an ecosystem. Determine how soil pollution creates disruptions within these ecosystems

Teachers, please note: *Healthy Water, Healthy Ecosystems* is a two session program. You may register for two separate 50 minute class periods or one 90 minute block.

*Programs also available as a video call



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Each program is taught by an experienced educator from Nature Vision. These programs support the Next Generation Science Standards, the WA State Science Standards, and STEM Education.

Scheduling considerations:

- We are available to visit your school between 7:30 AM and 3:30 PM
- Please allow 45-50 minutes for each program.
- Feel free to schedule programs back to back (10:00, 11:00, 12:00), but if possible please leave 10 -15 minutes in between.
- Pre-registration is required.

To schedule programs or field trips, visit <http://www.naturevision.org/program-registration/>. Register online or print out the registration form and fax it in per the instructions.



If you have questions about these programs, please do not hesitate to contact Nature Vision directly:

Email: info@naturevision.org

Phone: (425) 836-2697

These programs are provided by Maple Valley City Council to support the work of the Lake Wilderness Citizen Advisory Committee and the Surface Water Management Program.