



Campbell Creek Science Center

Watershed Wonders Module 5 Glossary

abiotic: nonliving things in an ecosystem

biotic: living things in an ecosystem

dam: a barrier preventing the flow of water

dissolved oxygen: the amount of oxygen that is present in water

downstream: the lower part of a waterway; with the flow of the water

estuary: the place where a river meets the ocean

greenbelt: an area of undeveloped land in an urban setting such as a city

headwaters: small streams and wetlands at the highest end of a watershed

hydroelectric power: a form of energy that uses the power of flowing water to generate electricity

land management: the process of guiding the development and use of natural resources

macroinvertebrate: animals without a backbone that are visible to the naked eye, such as insects, worms, and snails

natural resources: materials found in nature that can be used by people

recreation: activity done for enjoyment, often outside

redd: a nest made out of stones in the gravel of a lake or stream where salmon lay their eggs

reservoir: a large natural or human-made lake used as a water supply source

sediment: solid material, such as rocks and soil, moved from one place to another by water, wind, or ice

steward: a person who takes care of the land and the natural environment

upstream: the higher part of a waterway; against the flow of the water

urban runoff: polluted water that flows off the land surface without being absorbed into the soil

valley: a low point between mountains or hills, usually with a river running along the bottom

water quality: the measurement of how clean and healthy water is

watershed: an area of land that drains rainwater or snow melt into a river or other body of water

waterway: a body of water, such as a stream, creek, river, or lake