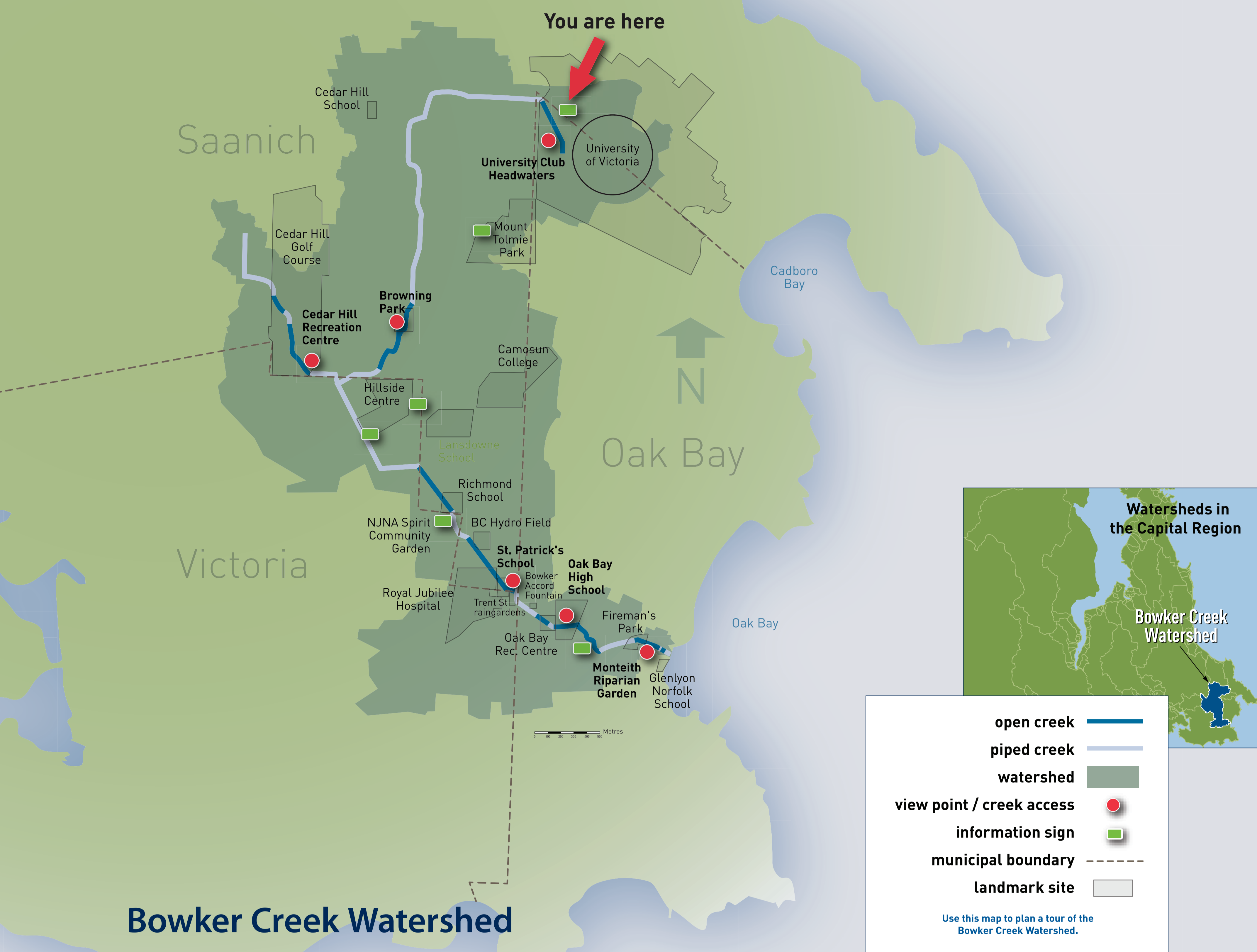


University of Victoria: The Bowker Creek Headwaters

The University of Victoria is a proud partner in the Bowker Creek Initiative and steward of the headwaters of this highly urbanized creek. This is the largest open area in the entire watershed, providing important wildlife habitat, rainwater storage capacity as well as recreational and educational opportunities for students, faculty, staff and the community.

Guided by a Stormwater Management Plan, the university continues to reduce the amount of impervious surfaces on campus and minimizes runoff using permeable paving and green building design. These features help increase the resilience of the watershed to the climate changes predicted for the region. The university protects the ecological diversity of natural areas on campus by managing invasive species using an Integrated Pest Management Plan and incorporating native vegetation into landscaping.

This is a unique natural space: please respect it by staying on designated trails and keeping pets on leash.



Bowker Creek Watershed

- 1028 hectares in area
- Home to approximately 30,000 people
- 56% of the watershed is impervious
- Bowker Creek is 9.4 km long, with a 1.4 km tributary at Cedar Hill Park
- 60% of the original creek is piped underground

A watershed is the land that drains surface and groundwater to a common waterway such as a creek, lake or ocean. In an urban watershed, hard surfaces such as buildings, roads and parking lots block water from soaking into the soil. When it rains, the water collects pollutants as it quickly flows into underground pipes and then into creeks. This can cause flooding, streambank erosion, water pollution and habitat loss.

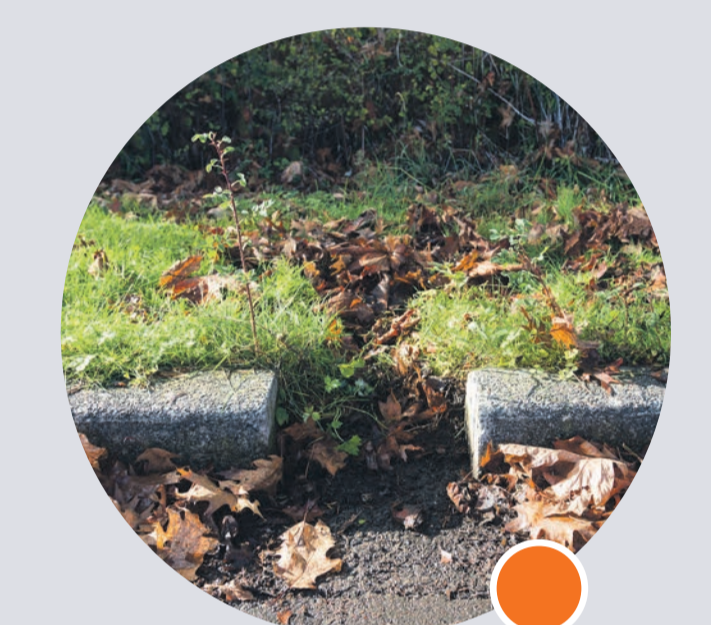
The Bowker Creek Blueprint

Improving the watershed will take time. The Blueprint is the 100-year action plan that guides this work. UVic is an active participant in the implementation of the Blueprint and the CRD-sponsored Bowker Creek Initiative.

Find out more about Bowker Creek: bowkercreekinitiative.ca



Campus Stormwater Management



CURB CUTS



GREEN ROOF



PERMEABLE PAVEMENT



WATER DETENTION OR BIOSWALE