

Ashley Creek Landowner Survey

Information about the survey

Thank you for participating in our survey. Your response is important! We are reaching out to landowners near Ashley Creek to understand your concerns and interests regarding water quality in the creek. Survey responses will help to provide water quality protection and restoration information and services to interested landowners.

The survey should take about 5 minutes. Your responses are confidential. If you have any questions about the survey, or wish to discuss your concerns about water quality in Ashley Creek, please contact Constanza at criticallands@flatheadlakers.org or 406-883-1341. You may also enter your contact information at the end of the survey and we will contact you to follow up on your concerns.

Thank you! The Flathead Lakers is a nonprofit organization working to protect water quality in Flathead Lake and the streams and rivers in the Flathead. We partner with Soil & Water Conservation Districts of Montana, and other groups and natural resource government agencies, to help landowners to improve the quality of their land and streams. To learn more about our work visit www.FlatheadLakers.org, SWCDM.org, and [Flathead River Steward Program](#).

YOU CAN ALSO ANSWER THIS SURVEY ONLINE at
www.FlatheadRivertoLake.org/LandownerSurvey

1. What is important to you about your land near Ashley Creek?

Choose all that apply and rate their importance to you.

	Most important	Somewhat important	Least important	Not important
This land is my residence. It is my home.				
This land provides income (farming, logging, other)				
It is an investment				
It is important to me for its beauty and enjoyment (views, peaceful, private, wildlife, other)				
It is important to me for recreation (fishing, bird watching, other)				
It is my legacy to my children				

Other (please specify): _____

2. How do you use the water in Ashley Creek?

Choose all that apply and rate how often you use it for that purpose.

	Often	Sometimes	Rarely	Never
Irrigation				
Water livestock				
Drinking				
Fishing				
Aesthetic appreciation				

Other (please specify): _____

3. How long have you lived along or near Ashley Creek?

Years: _____

Less than 1 year: _____

4. Do you think any of the following are a problem in Ashley Creek? *Choose all that apply.*

- Water is too warm for native fish
- Water is polluted by sewage (e.g. septic systems, sewage treatment plant)
- Water is polluted by sediment erosion (e.g. stream banks, upland, roads, runoff)
- Too much algae
- Water is polluted from lawn or farm fertilizers
- Water is polluted from forest fires, smoke
- Water flows are too low
- Water flows are too high
- I don't see any problems with Ashley Creek near my property
- Don't know

Please tell us if you have other concerns about water quality in Ashley Creek: _____

5. Do you think any of the following will help improve water quality in Ashley Creek?

Check all that apply.

- Planting trees along creeks
- Stabilizing creek banks to stop soils eroding
- Controlling dust from roads
- Improving water flows in the creek
- Fencing livestock away from creek
- Reducing nutrients from lawn or farm fertilizers
- Landscaping to improve aesthetics
- Improving native fish and wildlife habitat
- I don't know that any improvements are needed

Other (please specify or expand on any of the above if necessary): _____

6. How important would the following types of assistance be if you were considering a water quality improvement project on your land near Ashley creek?

Choose all that apply.

	Very important	Somewhat helpful	Not needed
Technical advice, i.e., advice on what to do and how to do it			
Funding assistance. e.g. cost-share			
Assistance with labor, materials, or implementation			
I prefer to do it all myself			

Other (please specify): _____

7. Would you be willing to do any of the following to learn about Ashley Creek pollution problems and solutions?

	Yes	No	Undecided
Attend a meeting in my neighborhood			
Go on a field trip to see what my neighbors are doing to improve water quality			
Read printed materials to learn about how to improve water quality in the creek			
Read materials online to learn about how to improve water quality in the creek			
Talk to a hired consultant or a natural resource professional			

Other (please specify): _____

8. If you are willing to attend a meeting, go on a field trip, or talk to a professional.

Select the times likely to work for you.

	Most likely	Somewhat likely	Least likely	Not likely
Weekday (Monday-Friday) morning				
Weekend (Saturday/Sunday) morning				
Weekday afternoon				
Weekend afternoon				
Weekday evening				
Weekend evening				

Other (please specify): _____

9. Are you aware of the following assistance programs for landowners?

Check all that apply.

- Flathead Conservation District Cost-Share program - provides funds for conservation practices
- Flathead Conservation District Seedling Program – facilitates orders from small-acreage landowners to the DNRC Conservation Nursery
- Ranching for Rivers Cost-Share program - provides funds for equipment and materials to improve or protect riparian pasture
- Flathead River Steward Program - provides riparian planting and fencing assistance
- USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service - provides conservation programs (Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP), Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), Agricultural Management Assistance (AMA).
- Department of Environmental Quality 319 - provides grants for water quality improvement projects
- Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks Future Fisheries Improvement Program - provides funding for native fish improvement projects
- I am not aware of any of the above

Other (please specify): _____

10. Thank you for your time! Please enter your contact information if you wish to be contacted by the Flathead Lakers to discuss your concerns about water quality in Ashley Creek. You can also contact us to discuss your concerns by contacting Constanza at criticallands@flatheadlakers.org or 406-883-1341.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____

Zip Code: _____

Email: _____

Phone Number: _____

Please return your survey to either of these locations

Flathead Lakers
P.O. BOX 70
Polson, MT 59860

OR

Soil & Water Conservation Districts of MT
133 Interstate Lane
Kalispell, MT 59901

Or bring the survey to our Ashley Creek Landowners Informational Meeting

Tuesday, December 4, at 6 p.m. at the Smith Valley Grange Hall
U.S. Highway 2 West Kalispell