

# Impervious Surfaces in Snohomish County, Washington



**Topic:** Environmental management, land cover change

**Problem Statement:** During the past two decades, accelerated residential and commercial development in the Pacific Northwest has resulted in a significant expansion of impervious surfaces. Many communities need to understand the extent of this change in land cover in order to address related environmental issues.

**Level:** Beginning remote sensing, intermediate GIS

**Software:** ArcGIS, ENVI, Excel, 7-zip

**Description:** Remote sensing and GIS enable students to examine and map the expanding impervious surfaces in several urban areas and to examine environmental issues associated with this land use change.

**Key words:** Impervious surfaces, Landsat, urbanization

