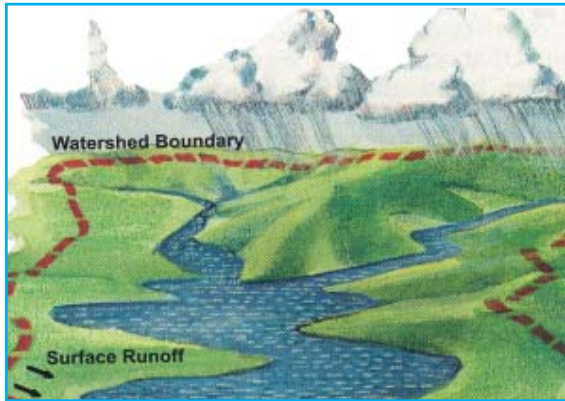


What is a watershed?

A watershed is another word for a basin. It's an area of land that's shaped like a bowl and drains runoff and smaller streams to a larger body of water like a river or lake. **We all live in a watershed!**



All the rain and snowmelt eventually runs off our properties and enters a nearby stream, river or lake.

How does a watershed work?

When it rains water rushes off impervious surfaces like roads, parking lots and driveways. In St. Clair County, our heavy clay soils and tiled farm fields also act like concrete shedding water at rapid rates. All this runoff is called storm water. Storm water picks up many sources of pollutants in its path like litter, pesticides, pet waste, metals, and fertilizers. These pollutants are conveyed through our county drain, road ditch and municipal storm drain systems to end up directly in our rivers.

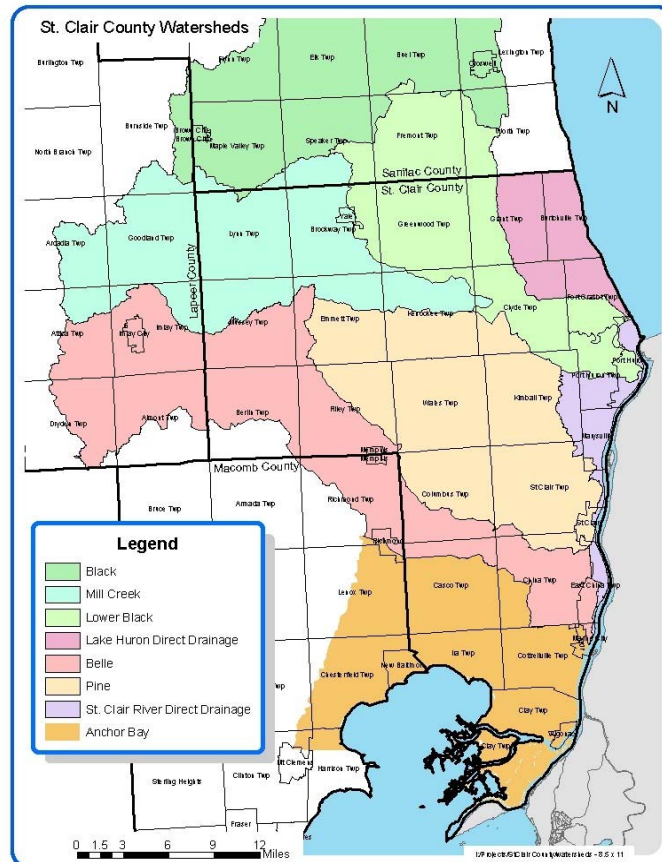


This polluted storm water is harmful for activities like fishing, boating, swimming and drinking.

Which watershed do you live in?

Find where you live or work on the St. Clair County map below. The watersheds are color coded and named for the body of water to where all the land drains. St. Clair County is divided into seven different watersheds. Which watershed do you live in? Your daily actions have an impact on this body of water!

- Black River
- Mill Creek
- Pine River
- Anchor Bay
- Lake Huron
- St. Clair River
- Belle River



Small sources of pollution throughout a watershed can add up to big problems for our streams and rivers.

Watershed planning

There are many sources of pollution affecting the 1,800 miles of waterways across our county, from failing septic systems to soil erosion to excess phosphorus from over-fertilization. At the St. Clair County Storm Water Program we are encouraging everyone to join us and do their part to protect our water. We provide workshops, educational materials and technical assistance on many topics related to water quality protection and restoration.



Volunteers establish a native plant buffer along the bank of Jordan Creek in St. Clair.

Protect your Watershed

The best way for you to protect your local stream or river is through our **Stream Leader Volunteer Monitoring Program**. This program provides free training and equipment for volunteers and it only requires one day of field work in the spring and fall. It's a great family, scout or group activity and it goes a long way towards helping us understand and protect our waterways.



Stream Leader volunteers monitor the health of their adopted stream.

Learn about **watershed** protection efforts in in your area

- ◆ **Sign up** for the Blue Watershed News
- ◆ **Visit** our website for upcoming events
- ◆ **Request** a presentation for a meeting
- ◆ **Send** us your comments and concerns
- ◆ **Help** with River Day & Stream Leaders

St. Clair County Storm Water Program

PHONE
(810) 987-5306

EMAIL
watersheds@stclaircounty.org

WEBSITE
www.stclaircountystormwater.org

St. Clair County WATER QUALITY HOTLINE

1-877-504-SWIM
(810) 987-7253

Report failing septic systems
Report suspicious dumping
Call for current beach closings



St. Clair County Health Department
Environmental Health Division
3415 28th Street
Port Huron, MI 48060

Your guide to St. Clair County's **Watersheds**



Our water. Our future. Ours to protect.