Our water quality and rivers clean?

remaining streams are considered unimpaired, though not necessarily in pristine condition. The main stem of the Cumberland River is considered impaired, but a staggering 74% remains of only 13 such rivers in the state.

WELCOME TO THE CORDELL HULL WATERSHED!

An overview of our water quality

The Cordell Hull Watershed, one of 14 major watersheds within the larger Cumberland River Basin, is generally rich in character. Without the presence of dams and reservoirs, the Cumberland River provides a naturally flowing channel through which the watersheds of the state are drained. The water quality in the Cordell Hull Watershed is generally excellent, due to the exceptional efforts of our residents, the state, and the federal government to maintain and improve the water quality.

WATER QUALITY

THE CORDELL HULL WATERSHED

While there are numerous watersheds within the Cumberland Basin, the Cordell Hull Watershed contains some of the highest quality water in the state. The Cordell Hull Watershed is a significant part of the Cumberlandian Combshell’s natural habitat, and is the home of several federally endangered aquatic species. The watershed contains 5 species of endangered freshwater mussels, including the Pink Mucket mussel, and the Spectaclecase Mussel, making it the least populous of the 6 watersheds along the Cumberland Basin, but pollution is still significant, much of it deriving from agriculture.

THREATS TO THE WATERSHED

Urban and rural streams also suffer from loss of riparian (streamside) vegetation, both from over-fertilizing lawns or agricultural fields). Over-fertilizing lawns results in excess nutrients, such as phosphorus and nitrogen (the result of over-applying slow release fertilizers), over-fertilizing lawns, or pesticides in your yard.

Both urban and rural streams are polluted. Urban streams are polluted by stormwater runoff, containing pollutants such as phosphates and pesticides. Urban streams also contribute to pollution in the streams from loss of riparian vegetation, both from over-fertilizing lawns over-fertilizing lawns and helping reduce pollution and erosion.

How can I do to keep my streams and rivers clean?

• Leave a 35’ to 100’ no-mow zone between streams and activity that disturbs, compacts, or removes soil
• Never pour used oil or antifreeze into the storm drain or streets
• Pick up after your dog, and dispose of the waste in the toilet or the trash
• Do not over-fertilize. Consider using organic or slow release fertilizers instead.
• Recycle yard waste in a compost pile and avoid a mulching mower.
• Use permeable surfaces like wood, brick or gravel in driveways and walkways, and allow rain to soak in and not run off.
• Become a member of the Cumberland River Compact and work with the Cordell Hull Watershed to keep my streams and rivers clean!
An overview of our water quality

Remaining streams are considered unimpaired, though not necessarily in pristine condition. The Cordell Hull Watershed also contains several streams that are listed on the National River Inventory, which includes some of the most popular and recreational streams. Some of these streams are still at risk from upstream impoundments, making them potentially unsafe for swimming or fishing.

The watershed contains 5 species of endangered freshwater aquatic species. Among the wildlife that can be found in the streams and rivers of the Cordell Hull Watershed are several federally endangered aquatic species. The watershed is relatively undeveloped. The land in the southeastern third of the watershed is primarily agricultural. Compared to other watersheds in the area, the Cordell Hull Watershed is relatively undeveloped. The land in the southeastern third of the watershed is primarily agricultural. About 40% of the land is agricultural.

How our water is being affected

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stream/Reservoir</th>
<th>Threats</th>
<th>Impact</th>
<th>Solution</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mill Creek</td>
<td>E. coli</td>
<td>Elevated levels of E. coli</td>
<td>Separate stormwater and sanitary sewer systems, treat runoff, keep your streets clean</td>
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<tr>
<td>Flat Creek</td>
<td>Pathogens, dissolved oxygen depletion</td>
<td>Elevated pathogen levels</td>
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<td>South Creek</td>
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<td>East Fork</td>
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<td>Blackburn Fork</td>
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<td>Spring Creek</td>
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The Compact provides many opportunities for residents to enjoy local waterways, resulting in a greater appreciation and awareness of water resources. These include the annual Cumberland River Dragon Boat Festival, the annual Catfish Pitchfork Fiddling and Blue Grass Festival, and the annual Catfish Pitchfork Fiddling and Blue Grass Festival, which promote the health and safety of our rivers. The Compact works regularly with residents and organizations – from schools to businesses, to neighborhoods and elected officials – to determine the water quality standards needed to improve water quality and protect the health of our rivers.

How the Cumberland River Compact helps.

TEACH
• The Compact provides many opportunities for residents to enjoy local waterways, resulting in a greater appreciation and awareness of water resources. These include the annual Cumberland River Dragon Boat Festival, which promotes sustainable development, and encourages the use of renewable and alternative energy sources to improve air quality and conserve renewable resources.

PROTECT
• We work with developers, city planners, and the agricultural community to take proactive steps in protecting water resources throughout the Cumberland Basin. We promote sustainable development, and encourage the use of renewable and alternative energy sources to improve air quality and conserve renewable resources.

CONNECT
• The Compact provides many opportunities for residents to enjoy local waterways, resulting in a greater appreciation and awareness of water resources. These include the annual Cumberland River Dragon Boat Festival, which promotes sustainable development, and encourages the use of renewable and alternative energy sources to improve air quality and conserve renewable resources.

What can I do to keep my streams healthy?

• Harvest rainwater from rooftops using rain barrels or other rainwater harvesting systems.
• Don’t pour toxic household chemicals down the drain; use products that don’t contain phosphates.
• Use hardy plants that require little or no watering.
• Encourage greenways, conservation easements, and other practices that protect the land around our rivers.
• Become a member of the Cumberland River Compact and visit www.cumberlandrivercompact.org to keep up-to-date on the Compact’s activities and to learn how you can help protect our streams.
Approximately 74 miles of the waterways in the Cordell Hull Watershed are considered impaired.