

Crystal Creek watershed (051002-01-230)

Geography. The Crystal Creek watershed lies in central Lee County. The land is in the plateau area of the Eastern Kentucky Coal Field physiographic region, which is characterized by rolling terrain, medium to rapid surface runoff, and slow to moderate groundwater drainage. The watershed is underlain by coals, sandstones, and shales: this geology is generally conducive to productive wells, although water quality may be low for wells that draw from coal layers. Parts of the watershed lie over sandstone aquifers.

Waterways. Crystal Creek empties into the Kentucky River at Beattyville. Among the creeks that feed it are Threemile Branch. Silver Creek, just to the west, is also included in this watershed.

Land and water use. Land in the watershed is mostly rural and wooded, but 15% is agricultural. No businesses or organizations hold permits for discharges into the creeks. See the 2000 Assessment Report for full details.

Agency data assessment. No creeks in this watershed were assessed.

Kentucky River Basin Management Plan, 2002. Information is from the first basin cycle (1997-2002), including the 1998-1999 monitoring effort and the 2000 Assessment Report. See kywatersheds.org or www.uky.edu/WaterResources/Watersheds for the complete Assessment Report and Management Plan.

Watershed Restoration Ranking			Watershed Protection Rank	Overall Watershed Rank	Framework Mobilization Category
<i>Observed Impacts</i>	<i>Potential Impacts</i>	<i>Combined Rank</i>			
Medium	Low	Medium	Medium	Low	IV

Watershed Highlights

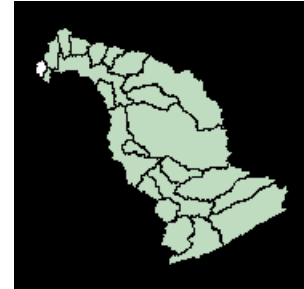
Watershed covers 8 square miles.

The potential for agricultural erosion is substantially higher than the basin average.

Watershed is in PRIDE service region. PRIDE identified 1 failing septic system in the watershed.











North Fork Region



See the color map of this region on p. 121.

LEGEND

- Area of this watershed

- Sewage plants

- Public water supplies

- Other water withdrawals

- Locks & dams

- Cities and towns

- Rivers and larger streams

- Smaller streams

- County borders
