

Fourmile Creek watershed (051002-05-030)

Geography. The Fourmile Creek watershed occupies south-central Clark County. The land is in the Bluegrass physiographic region, which is characterized by hilly or undulating terrain, medium to very rapid rates of surface runoff, and slow to medium groundwater drainage. Much of the watershed lies above thick layers of easily dissolved limestone that form carbonate aquifers. Groundwater flows through channels in the limestone, so caves and springs are common in regions with this geology. Other parts of the watershed lie over interbedded shales and limestones (these are 20% limestone; water conduction is poor because of the clay content of the shale). Still other areas are underlain by interbedded limestones and shales (>20% limestone, allowing groundwater flow where the clay content is low enough).

Waterways. Fourmile Creek empties into the Kentucky River east of Ford. Among the creeks that feed it are Stoner Branch, Harris Branch, and East Fork Fourmile Creek.

Land and water use. Land in the watershed is 85% agricultural, more than 10% rural and wooded, and almost 3% residential. No businesses or organizations hold permits for discharges into the creeks. See the 2000 Assessment Report for full details.

Agency data assessment. The assessed creek segments in this watershed fully support their designated uses, based on biological and/or water-quality data. See the 2000 Assessment Report or 2000 305(b) list and the 2002 303(d) list of impaired streams for full details.

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>			
Low	Medium	Low	Low	Low	IV

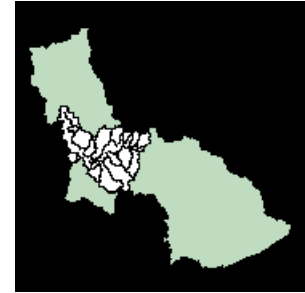
Watershed Highlights

Watershed covers 27 square miles.

Part of source water protection zones 1, 2, and 3 for the Winchester water system.

Groundwater is substantially more sensitive than the basin average.

Livestock density is substantially higher than the basin average.



Palisades Region



See the color map of this region on p. 133.

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 

