

Clear Creek watershed (051002-05-220)

Geography. The Clear Creek watershed covers northwest Jessamine County and southern Woodford County. The land is in the inner subregion of the Bluegrass physiographic region, characterized by undulating terrain and moderate rates of both surface runoff and groundwater drainage. 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.

Waterways. Clear Creek empties into the Kentucky River just below Lock and Dam Number 6. Among the creeks that feed it are Tanners Creek, Spring Creek, and East Fork Clear Creek.

Land and water use. Land in the watershed is mainly agricultural; almost 5% is rural and wooded, and 2% is residential. One business holds a permit for discharges into the creeks. See the 2000 Assessment Report for full details.

Agency data assessment. The assessed creek segments in this watershed include one designated as threatened, 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	High	Low	High	Medium	III

Watershed Highlights

Watershed covers 73 square miles.

Part of source water protection zone 3 for the Lawrenceburg and Versailles water systems.

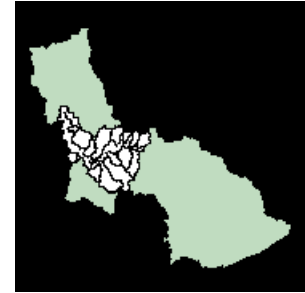
An unnamed tributary of East Fork Clear Creek is classified as threatened [2000 305(b)].

Groundwater is substantially more sensitive than the basin average.

Livestock density is substantially higher than the basin average.

The Jessamine County portion of the watershed is in the PRIDE service region. PRIDE identified 52 straight pipes or failing septic systems in that part of the watershed.

This is a Watershed Watch Citizen Action Plan watershed.











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 