

Maple River Watershed

Hydrologic Unit Code: 04050005

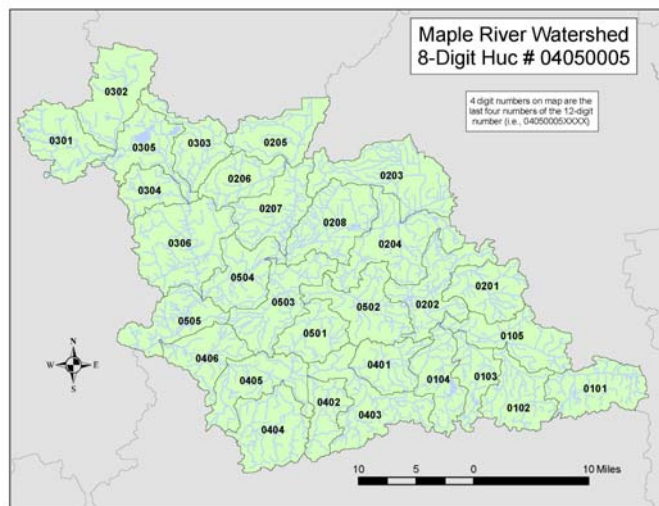
For more information see the USEPA website at cfpub.epa.gov/surf/huc.cfm?huc_code=04050005 or contact the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality at 517-335-6969 to request a copy of report number MI/DEQ/WD-03/017, "A Biological Survey of the Maple River Watershed and Selected Tributaries, Shiawassee, Clinton, Montcalm, Gratiot, and Ionia Counties, Michigan, August 2002."

Watershed Groups

- Friends of the Maple River — www.friendsofthemapleriver.org

Watershed Overview

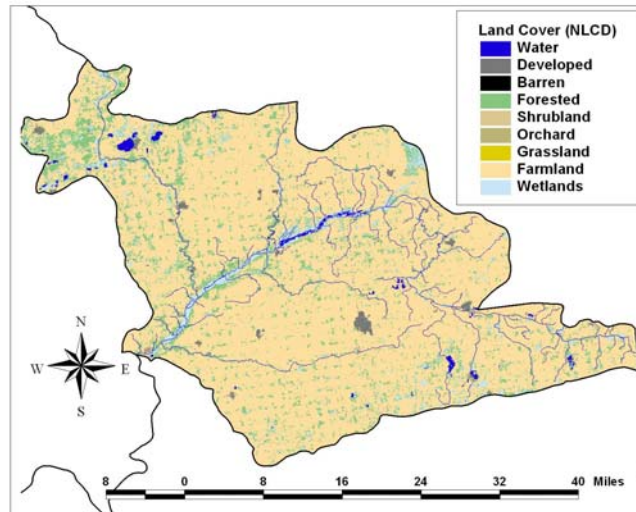
- The Maple River watershed covers over 937 square miles.
- The watershed has 404 miles of waterways that flow year round.
- The Maple River watershed feeds into the Lower Grand River.
- The watershed is over 81 percent agricultural.
- In the cropland areas of the Watershed there are about 1,789 farms covering about 405,706 acres. The average size farm is 250 acres. Primary crops include soybeans, corn, dry edible beans, forage and sugar beets.
- The Maple suffers from high turbidity due to the soil types in its drainage basin.
- The watershed boundaries include 604,226 acres in central Michigan. The watershed is located in Clinton, Gratiot, Ionia, Montcalm and Shiawassee counties.
- The Maple River State Game Area contains the largest contiguous wetland complex in mid-Michigan. It primarily consists of floodplain, lowlands, and marshes associated with the Maple River corridor. The eastern end of the area has been divided into wildlife management units. These units are easily accessed by US-27 and offer prime wildlife viewing.
- Wetland-related wildlife may be viewed here year-round. Spring waterfowl viewing is excellent, as thousands of ducks, geese, and swans stop over in these wetlands on their annual migration to northern breeding grounds. Viewing is best from March through May.
- The geography of the Maple River watershed is diverse. It ranges from large flat swamp land at the eastern headwaters, to areas of significant relief further down stream, to the west. In addition, the width of the river ranges dramatically from its narrow headwaters to a wide area, called "The Lake" that runs from Maple Rapids north for about a mile.
- There are five dams and impoundments in the Maple River Watershed.



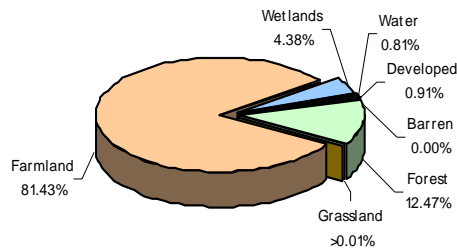
Subwatersheds of the Maple River Watershed

0101 Spring Brook-Maple River
 0102 Coon Creek-Bear Creek
 0103 Alder Creek
 0104 Little Maple River
 0105 Ovid-Maple River
 0201 Baker Creek
 0202 Stevens Drain-Maple River
 0203 Nile Drain-Bear Creek
 0204 Ferdon Creek-Maple River
 0205 River Styx-Pine Creek
 0206 North Shade Drain
 0207 Pine Creek
 0208 Collier Creek-Maple River
 0301 West Branch Fish Creek
 0302 Upper Fish Creek
 0303 County Ditch No 131
 0304 Butternut Creek
 0305 Middle Fish Creek
 0306 Lower Fish Creek
 0401 Spaulding Drain
 0402 Bad Creek
 0403 Holden Drain-Stony Creek
 0404 Muskrat Creek
 0405 Kloeckner and Fuller Creek-Stony Creek
 0406 Stony Creek
 0501 South Fork Hayworth Creek
 0502 Doty Brook-Hayworth Creek
 0503 Hayworth Creek
 0504 Reynolds and Sessions Drain-Maple River
 0505 Maple River

Data Sources. Land cover map and percentages: National Land Cover database, 1992 (edc.usgs.gov/products/landcover/nlcd.html); Land use change: NOAA Coastal Change Analysis Program, 1996 and 2001 (www.csc.noaa.gov/crs/lca/ccap.html); Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Impaired Waters: Surf Your Watershed (www.epa.gov/surf)



Land Cover: Maple River Watershed



Total Acreage: 937 sq. miles

Between 1996 and 2001, there has been a slight increase in developed land, farmland, forest and wetland, and a slight decrease in grassland.

Impaired (303d) Waters

Waterbody Name	Impairment
Alder Creek	Algal Growth, Phosphorous
Lost Creek	Phosphorus, Algal Growths, Bacterial Slimes, Fish Community Rated Poor, Macroinvertebrate Community Rated Poor
Maple River	Phosphorus, Nuisance Plant Growths
Ovid Lake	Mercury (Fish Tissue)
Peet Creek	Phosphorus, Nuisance Plant Growths
Pine Creek	Nuisance Plant Growths, Phosphorus