# WEST VIRGINIA WATERSHEDS

A watershed is simply the geographic area through which water flows across the land and drains into a common body of water, whether a stream, river, lake, or ocean. The watershed boundary will more or less follow the

highest ridgeline around the stream channels and meet at the bottom or lowest point of the land where water flows out of the watershed, the mouth of the waterway. Much of the water comes from rainfall and stormwater runoff. The quality and quantity of stormwater is affected by all the alterations to the land--mining, agriculture, roadways, urban development, and the activities of people within a watershed. Watersheds are usually separated from other watersheds by naturally elevated areas.



# WHY ARE WATERSHEDS IMPORTANT?

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October 2021

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Watersheds are important because the surface water features and stormwater runoff within a watershed ultimately drain to other bodies of water. It is essential to consider these downstream impacts when developing and implementing water quality protection and restoration actions. Everything upstream ends up downstream. We need to remember that we all live downstream and that our everyday activities can affect downstream waters.

#### WV WATERSHEDS

West Virginia has 32 watersheds divided according to hydrologic unit codes (HUC) that contribute to the Chesapeake Bay and the Gulf of Mexico. The waters west of the eastern continental divide flow into the Ohio River. The Ohio joins the Mississippi River at Cairo, IL. The Mississippi flows into the Gulf of Mexico at New Orleans, LA. The eastern continental divide also changes the course of five of our eastern rivers towards the Potomac River. The Potomac enters the Chesapeake Bay southeast of Washington DC. A few streams in the southeastern corner of the state flow towards the James River. Information is from the WV DEP. For more information check out https://dep.wv.gov/WWE/getinvolved/sos/Pages/Watersheds.aspx

 $Did\ you\ know?$  West Virginia has over 9,000 streams covering 32,000 stream miles.



Elizabeth Elswick

## What are Hydrologic Unit Codes?

The U.S. is divided and sub-divided into successively smaller hydrologic units which are classified into four levels: regions, subregions, accounting units, and cataloging units. The hydrologic units are arranged or nested within each other, from the largest geographic area (regions) to the smallest geographic area (cataloging units). Each hydrologic unit is identified by a unique hydrologic unit code (HUC) consisting of two to eight digits based on the four levels of classification in the hydrologic unit system. Below are the USGS Hydrologic Unit Codes (HUC 8) and DEP Watershed Names for WV.

50200004 Cheat
2070007 Shenandoah Jefferson
2070006 Shenandoah Hardy
2070001 S. Br Potomac
5050006 Upper Kanawha
5030101 Upper Ohio North
5020006 Youghiogheny

5050009 Coal 5050007 Elk 5050008 Lower Kanawha 2070002 N Br Potomac 5020001 Tygart Valley 5050005 Gauley 5070102 Lower Gauley 5030201 Middle Ohio North 5030202 Middle Ohio South 2070004 Potomac Drains 5070201 Tug Fork

5050003 Greenbrier 2080201 James 5030203 Little Kanawha 5050004 Lower New 5020003 Monongahela 5050002 Upper New 5070204 Big Sandy 2070003 Cacapon 5020005 Dunkard 5090101 Lower Ohio 5090102 Upper Guyandotte 5030106 Upper Ohio South 5020002 West Fork

### WHAT'S HAPPENING IN SA?

St. Albans Historical Society
Morgan's Kitchen Fall Fest
2600 MacCorkle Ave
SAT OCT 9th 10am

St. Albans Farmers Market
LAST MARKET OF THE SEASON
SAT OCT 9th 9:30am - 12:30pm
At Morgan Kitchen Museum
2600 MacCorkle Ave

On Purpose WV

Learn and help us in maintain the city flower beds 2nd Tuesday of the month 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm For more information: 304-400-5609 ONPURPOSEWV@gmail.com Facebook @onpurposesa



## SA LEAF PICK UP

#### CITY OF ST. ALBANS PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT FALL LEAF PICKUP

Leaf Pickup will begin Monday, October 18, 2021 and end at the first snow fall.

\*Please have leaves in one large pile at the curb. Please avoid leaves going in the street\*

Monday – Wards 1 & 2 Tuesday – Wards 3 & 4 Wednesday – Wards 5 & 6 Thursday – Wards 7 & 8 Friday – Ward 9



