

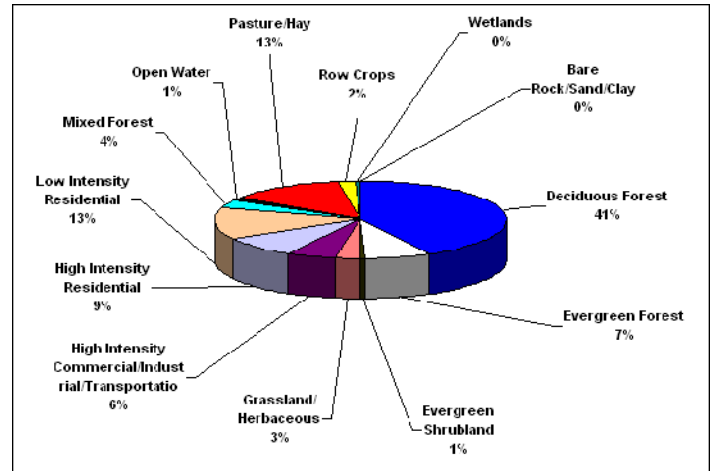
Summary – Cheatham Lake Watershed (05130202)

In 1996, the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation Division of Water Pollution Control adopted a watershed approach to water quality. This approach is based on the idea that many water quality problems, like the accumulation of point and nonpoint pollutants, are best addressed at the watershed level. Focusing on the whole watershed helps reach the best balance among efforts to control point sources of pollution and polluted runoff as well as protect drinking water sources and sensitive natural resources such as wetlands. Tennessee has chosen to use the USGS 8-digit Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC-8) as the organizing unit.

The Watershed Approach recognizes awareness that restoring and maintaining our waters requires crossing traditional barriers (point vs. nonpoint sources of pollution) when designing solutions. These solutions increasingly rely on participation by both public and private sectors, where citizens, elected officials, and technical personnel all have opportunities to participate. The Watershed Approach provides the framework for a watershed-based and community-based approach to address water quality problems.

Chapter 1 of the Cheatham Lake Watershed Water Quality Management Plan discusses the Watershed Approach and emphasizes that the Watershed Approach is not a regulatory program or an EPA mandate; rather it is a decision-making process that reflects a common strategy for information collection and analysis as well as a common understanding of the roles, priorities, and responsibilities of all stakeholders within a watershed. Traditional activities like permitting, planning and monitoring are also coordinated in the Watershed Approach.

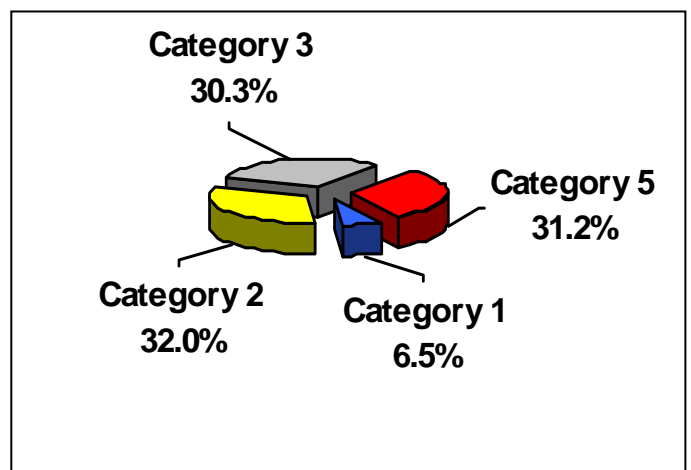
A detailed description of the watershed can be found in Chapter 2. The Cheatham Lake Watershed is approximately 647 square miles and includes parts of six counties. A part of the Cumberland River drainage basin, the watershed has 773.3 stream miles and 7,507 lake acres.



Land Use Distribution in the Cheatham Lake Watershed.

One wildlife management area, and one stream listed in the National Rivers Inventory are located in the watershed. Sixty rare plant and animal species have been documented in the watershed, including five rare fish species, one rare crayfish species, and one rare mussel species.

A review of water quality sampling and assessment is presented in Chapter 3. Using the Watershed Approach to Water Quality, 800 sampling events occurred in the Cheatham Lake Watershed in 2000-2005. These were conducted at ambient, ecoregion or watershed monitoring sites. Monitoring results support the conclusion that 55.0% of stream miles assessed fully support one or more designated uses.



Water Quality Assessment of Streams and Rivers in Cheatham Lake Watershed. Assessment data are based on the 2006 Water Quality Assessment of 773.3 stream miles in the watershed.

Also in Chapter 3, a series of maps illustrates overall use support in the watershed, as well as use support for the individual uses of Fish and Aquatic Life Support, Recreation, Irrigation, and Livestock Watering and Wildlife. Additional maps illustrate streams that are listed for impairment by specific causes (siltation, nutrients, E. coli).

Point and Nonpoint Sources are addressed in Chapter 4 which is organized by HUC-12 subwatersheds. Maps illustrating the locations of STORET monitoring sites and stream gauging stations are also presented in each subwatershed.

Chapter 5 is entitled *Water Quality Partnerships in the Cheatham Lake Watershed* and highlights partnerships between agencies and between agencies and landowners that are essential to success. Programs of federal agencies (Natural Resources Conservation Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Geological Survey, and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers), and state agencies (TDEC/State Revolving Fund, TDEC Division of Water Supply, Tennessee Department of Agriculture, and Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency). Local initiatives of organizations active in the watershed (Cumberland River Compact, Central Basin RC&D Council, Five Rivers RC&D Council) are also described.

Point and Nonpoint source approaches to water quality problems in the Cheatham Lake Watershed are addressed in Chapter 6. Chapter 6 also includes comments received during public meetings, links to EPA-approved TMDLs in the watershed, and an assessment of needs for the watershed.

The full Cheatham Lake Watershed Water Quality Management Plan can be found at: <http://www.state.tn.us/environment/wpc/watershed/wsm/plans/>

HUC-8	HUC-10	HUC-12
05130202	0513020201	051302020101 (Cumberland River)
		051302020102 (Madison Creek)
		051302020103 (Cumberland River)
		051302020104 (Cumberland River)
		051302020105 (Whites Creek)
		051302020106 (Richland Creek)
		051302020107 (Cumberland River)
		051302020108 (Marrowbone Creek)
	0513020202	051302020201 (Mill Creek, Upper)
		051302020202 (Mill Creek, Lower)
	0513020203	051302020301 (Sycamore Creek, Upper)
		051302020302 (Sycamore Creek, Middle)
		051302020303 (Sycamore Creek, Lower)

The Cheatham Lake Watershed is Composed of thirteen USGS-Delineated Subwatersheds (12-Digit Subwatersheds).

Point source contributions to the Cheatham Lake Watershed consist of 35 individual NPDES-permitted facilities. Other permits in the watershed (as of October 13, 2008) are Mining Permits (5), Aquatic Resource Alteration Permits (323), Tennessee Multi-Sector Permits (247), Construction General Permits (297), UST Permits (1), and Ready Mix Concrete Plant Permits (15). Agricultural operations include cattle, chicken, hog, and sheep farming. Maps illustrating the locations of permit sites and tables summarizing livestock practices are presented in each subwatershed.