

Clark County's CLEAN WATER PROGRAM



Our streams have higher concentrations of metals, synthetics, and litter in the urbanized areas while higher nutrient and bacteria levels occur in agricultural and pastoral areas.



STREAM HEALTH REPORT

Protecting streams, rivers and other waterways from pollution is a primary goal of Clark County's Clean Water Program.

First compiled in 2004, the updated 2010 Stream Health Report provides a snapshot of the overall condition of our waterways, based on data collected by Clark County and other local agencies.

The report concluded that streams are typically in fair to good health across much of Clark County, but many smaller streams in urban areas languish in poor condition.

This user-friendly report allows county residents to learn about the condition of our watersheds and examine specific trends. The entire report is online at: www.clark.wa.gov/water-resources/stream.html.

Grading stream health

The report used scientific calculations, or metrics, to assess water quality, biological health and waterway flow to come up with an overall report card on stream health.

The water quality score is based on stream temperatures and levels for dissolved oxygen, particulates, nutrients and bacteria, all of which can affect aquatic life.

The biological health score reflects the number and diversity of insects found in county streams, which provides an assessment of the combined effects of stream degradation.

Waterway flows indicate whether streams are getting the right amount of water, along with modest seasonal fluctuations, to sustain healthy conditions.

How to read the score card

Stream health is presented in color-coded score cards.

Each watershed has its own score card. Ratings are assigned a color that corresponds to health quality:

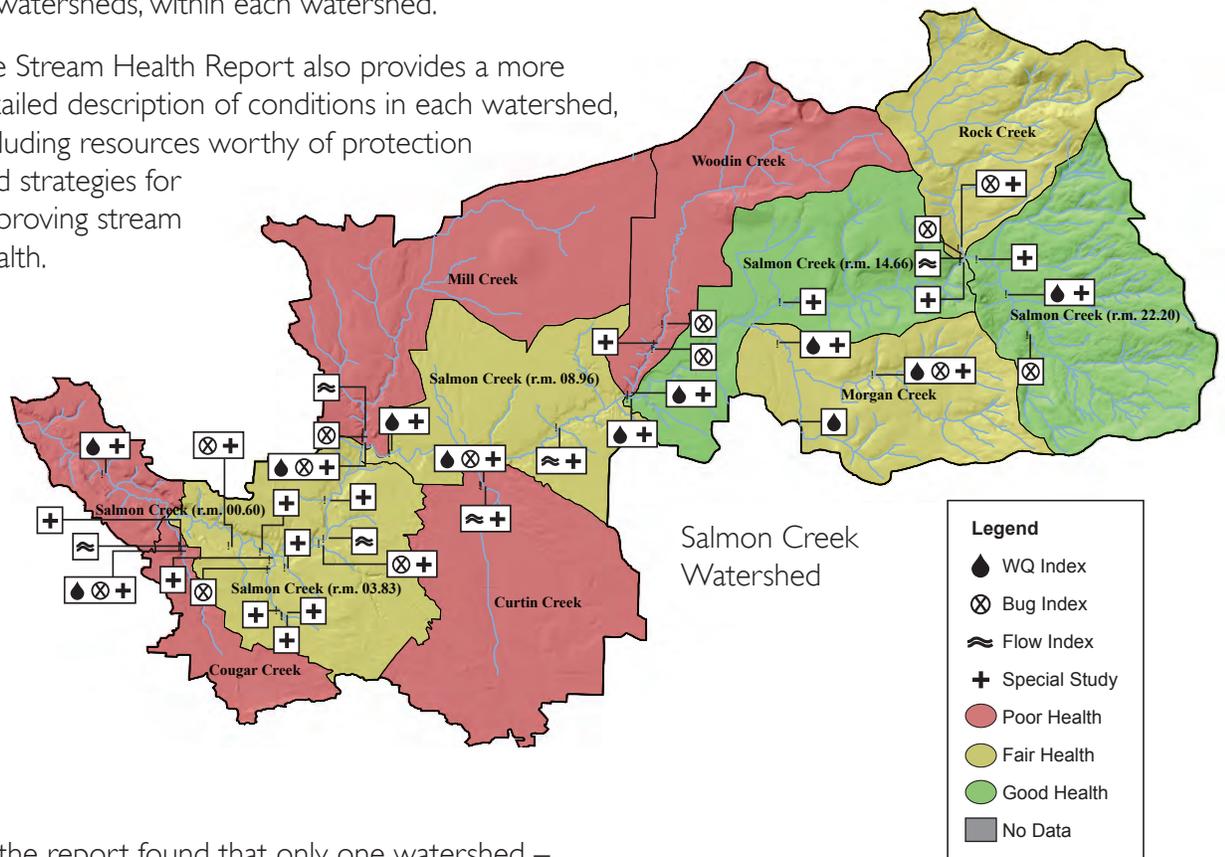
-  = poor health
-  = fair health
-  = good health

Continued on back

A healthy community needs clean water.

A color-coded report card for each of the 10 watersheds is available in the report, making it relatively easy for county residents to gain a quick assessment of stream health in different areas. These report cards provide an assessment of individual creeks, or subwatersheds, within each watershed.

The Stream Health Report also provides a more detailed description of conditions in each watershed, including resources worthy of protection and strategies for improving stream health.



Overall, the report found that only one watershed – Washougal River – was in “good” health.

Three watersheds – Burnt Bridge Creek, Vancouver Lake/Lake River and West Slope – were in “poor” health.

Five watersheds – East Fork Lewis River, Gibbons Creek, Lacamas Creek, North Fork Lewis River and Salmon Creek – were assessed as in “fair” health.

Finally, one watershed, Columbia Slope, was not rated due to a lack of data.

Subwatershed	Water Quality	Biological Health	Flow	Subwatershed Rating
Mill Creek	●	●	●	●
Cougar Creek	●	●	●	●
Salmon Creek (r.m. 03.83)	--	●	●	●
Salmon Creek (r.m. 08.96)	●	--	●	●
Salmon Creek (r.m. 14.66)	●	--	●	●
Curtin Creek	●	●	●	●
Woodin Creek	●	●	--	●
Rock Creek	--	●	--	●
Morgan Creek	●	●	--	●
Salmon Creek (r.m. 22.20)	●	●	●	●
Salmon Creek (r.m. 00.60)	●	--	--	●
Indicator Rating	●	●	●	
Overall Watershed Rating:				Fair ●

Download Clark County's
2010 Stream Health Report

at www.clark.wa.gov/water-resources/watersheds.html



Clark County Environmental Services | P.O. Box 9810 | Vancouver, WA 98666-9810
www.clark.wa.gov/environment | cleanwater@clark.wa.gov | (360) 397-2121 | Printed February 2012

For other formats, contact the Clark County ADA Office: **Voice** (360) 397-2322;
Relay 711 or (800) 833-6388; **Fax** (360) 397-6165; **E-mail** ADA@clark.wa.gov.