

Fact Sheet

The Ausable River Watershed

A watershed is...

A watershed is the area of land that collects the water which drains into a river, wetland, and/or lake.

Some interesting facts about the Ausable River Watershed:

- The Ausable has a total of 94 miles of river channel broken into the East Branch, the West Branch and, the Main Stem
- The Ausable River Watershed covers 516 square miles
- There are seven Towns and two Villages in the Ausable River Watershed: Au Sable, Black Brook, Chesterfield, North Elba, Wilmington, Keeseville, and Lake Placid. The people who live in these municipalities and the watershed share the same water of the Ausable River!
- All of the rain that falls in the Ausable River Watershed flows into the Ausable River, it then flows northeast and empties into Lake Champlain!
- It is nationally ranked for its trout fishing
- It is on the list of NYS Wild, Scenic, and Recreational Rivers
- It is recognized for its exceptional white-water rafting and canoeing
- The highest peaks in New York State lie within this watershed:
 - Mt. Marcy (The East Branch starts on Mt. Marcy!)
 - Algonquin (The West Branch starts on Algonquin!)
 - Allen
 - Mt. Haystack
 - Gothics
 - Whiteface

What do we know about the Ausable River Watershed?

- The watershed also contains the following nationally ranked scientific investigation stations:
 - One of two mountain cloud monitoring stations (Clingman's Dome, in the Great Smokey Mountains of Tennessee, is the only other station in the US!)
 - Three of the fifty-two lakes monitored by the Adirondack Lakes Survey for acid rain affects lie within the Ausable Watershed
 - One of three federally funded atmospheric deposition stations,
 - One of five NYS DEC rainfall monitoring stations located in the Adirondack Park,
 - One, real time, USGS stream gauging station is located on the river below Au Sable Forks. Check out the flow at: <http://waterdata.usgs.gov/nwis/uv?04275500>

Wow! That's Cool!

You say "Ausable" I say "Au Sable" ...

According to the U.S. Dept. of Geographic Names, both spellings are correct. The river, valley, and watershed are spelled Ausable. The Town, Village, and School are officially spelled Au Sable.