

What is a Watershed?



A watershed is the area of land which collects the water that ends up in a river or lake. If you live in the area shown on the map to the right, you live in the Ausable Watershed. Every drop of rain that falls on your lawn, driveway, roof, etc., ends up in the Ausable River.



How does Water get Polluted?

Whether your property directly adjoins the river or is on top of a hill, when it rains, water flows off your lawn or soaks into the ground and eventually makes its way into the river. On its way to the drainage ditch, stream, or river water picks up dirt, sediment, motor oil, dog droppings, septic overflow, anything in its path. This dirty water drop then pollutes the river, this is called *non-point sourced pollution*.



What Can Watershed

Planning do for You?

- Improve the quality of your drinking water
- Increase the number of fish and wildlife you see
- Enhance the beauty of the river you see
- Make the government work for you
- Improve flood control, flood forecasting for you
- Reduce the amount of sediment that smothers fish
- Minimize the amount of salt going into your river

WE ALL SHARE THE WATER