



City of Chattanooga  
Water Quality Program



# Welcome to the Wolftever Creek Watershed

**Administrator of Public Works**  
Steve Leach

**Deputy Administrator Public Works**  
Lee Norris

**City Engineer**  
William Payne

**Assistant City Engineer**  
Dennis Malone

**Water Quality Manager**  
Mounir Minkara

**Water Quality Supervisors**  
Don Green  
Rebecca Robinson

**Water Quality Staff**  
Jamon Bass  
Wayne Boyd  
Ray Harrington  
Tristan Johnson  
Quinn Lewis  
Leigh Ann Norris  
Joshua Rogers  
Corey Senich  
Trevor Slayton  
Matt Stone  
Mitch Underwood

**Public Information Specialist**  
Kimberly McClurkin

1250 Market Street  
Suite 2100

Chattanooga, TN 37402  
swm@chattanooga.gov  
Phone: 423-643-5863  
Fax: 423-643-5862

## What is a Watershed?

A watershed is an area of land that water flows across on its way to a particular body of water such as a pond, stream, river or ocean. In Chattanooga, all the watersheds drain to the Tennessee River.

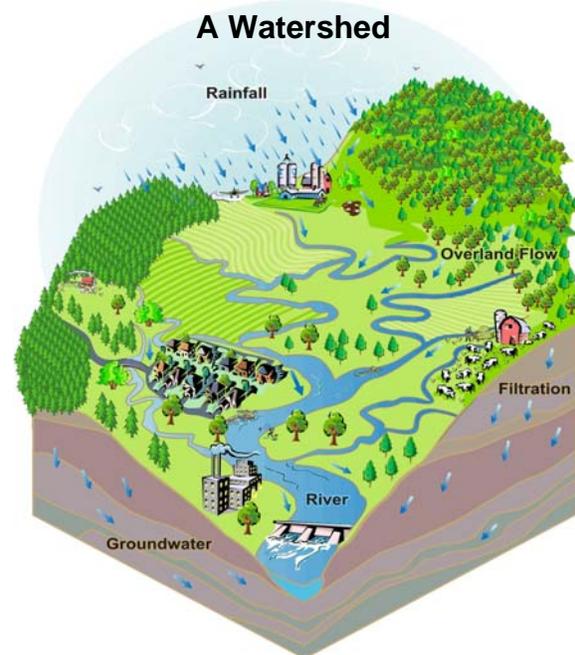
### Watersheds:

- Collect and move rain water from a higher elevation to a lower one.
- Can potentially transport pollutants such as oil, grease, trash and dirt by way of stormwater runoff to the receiving water body.

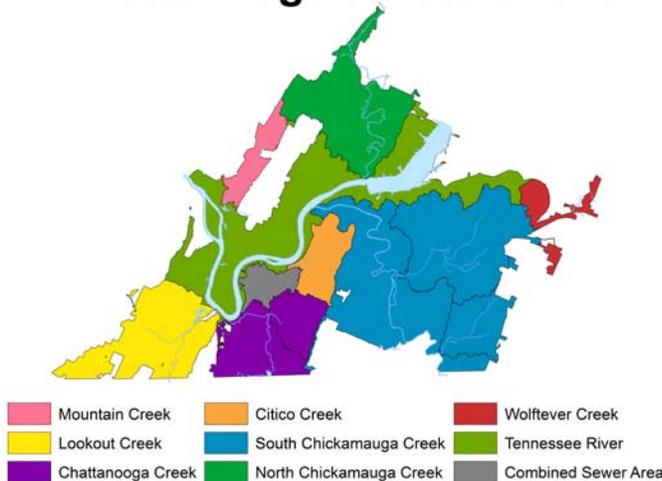
**We all live in a watershed.** The City of Chattanooga consists of 9 unique watersheds: Chattanooga Creek, Citico Creek, Combined Sewer Area, Lookout Creek, Mountain Creek, North Chickamauga Creek, South Chickamauga Creek, Tennessee River, and Wolftever Creek.

## Where am I?

The soils in Wolftever Creek Watershed are 430 million years old and up to 2000 feet deep in some areas!



## Chattanooga's Watersheds



## Wolftever Creek Watershed Facts:

- Wolftever Creek meanders .9 miles through the City of Chattanooga
- The watershed drains approximately 2,199 acres
- With a 1 inch rain, nearly 59,712,274 gallons of water discharge into the Tennessee River equaling 1,194,245 baths.

Wow— that's a lot of water!



## Water Quality Issues in the Wolftever Watershed

- Habitat Loss
- Pathogens
- Urban influences (i.e. trash, pet waste, grass clipping, motor oil, and gasoline)



## What is the City doing to manage the water quality issues in the Wolftever Watershed?

### Monitoring —

- A continuous field screening program is being used to detect illicit discharges and improper disposals into the storm-water system. Field screening involves testing chemical characteristics such as temperature, pH, conductivity, dissolved oxygen, phosphates, chlorine, detergents, phenol, copper, ammonia, and hydrogen sulfide. There are 3 field screening sites within the Wolftever Creek Watershed.
- The City also designed the Stream Corridor Evaluation (SCORE) program to provide a comprehensive and consistent approach to identify and evaluate stream channel stability, sediment loading, and in-stream habitat. In doing so, the Water Quality staff surveys all of the waterways within the City including the .9 miles of stream in the Wolftever Creek Watershed.

### Pathogen Reduction —

The Water Quality Program has partnered with Moccasin Bend Waste Water Treatment Authority and implemented a Sanitary Lateral Assessment Program (SLAP) to identify breaks in the sanitary sewer lines in an effort to eliminate potential sources of pathogens from contaminating our waterways. A sewer lateral is the pipe that carries the wastewater from the house to the sanitary sewer main line in the street. The sewer laterals are inspected by putting smoke in a public sewer main and observing if the smoke is escaping from the ground; indicating a compromised sewer lateral.

## What can I do to improve water quality in the Wolftever Watershed?

- Maintain vehicles to reduce the discharge of oil and other motor fluids to the watershed.
- Wash cars in grassy areas to prevent runoff of washing chemicals into the storm drains.
- Do not discard your used motor oil, leaves, paint, or anything else into storm drains.
- To avoid blockages in your sanitary service line, pour grease and/or cooking oil in closed containers to be disposed of in your trash cans instead of in the sink.
- Pick-up after your pet to reduce pathogens in the watershed.
- Dispose of your grass clippings/wood debris through composting or the brush pick-up service offered by the City.



To report an illicit discharge: Call 311 or email: [swm@chattanooga.gov](mailto:swm@chattanooga.gov)

### Additional Resources:

TN Department of Environment & Conservation (TDEC): [www.state.tn.us/environment/wpc/](http://www.state.tn.us/environment/wpc/)

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA): [www.epa.gov/owow/watershed/](http://www.epa.gov/owow/watershed/)

Center for Watershed Protection: <http://www.cwp.org/>

