

Did you know...

YOU are in a watershed?



That's right! All land is part of some watershed, so no matter where you go, YOU are in a watershed!

A watershed is an area of land that drains to a common waterway, such as a stream, lake, river, or even the ocean. Precipitation, such as rainfall or snow, flows across or under the ground and makes its way to this common waterway.

Watersheds come in all shapes and sizes. They cross county, state, and national boundaries. In the United States, there are 2,267 watersheds.

CHECK OUT THE MAP!

Look at the map, and think about where you live. Do you think you live within the shaded area? If so, then you live in the Rio Grande watershed! Covering 335,000 square miles, the Rio Grande watershed is bigger than the entire state of Texas, or 11 percent of the United States!



YOUR WATERSHED MATTERS!

Watersheds are very important. They provide us with water for drinking and for recreational activities on hot days, like swimming and water balloon fights! But watersheds are also important for the survival of plants and animals.



PROTECT YOUR WATERSHED

You aren't the only one living in your watershed! Plants, animals, and other people all live there too. Things that happen in the upper part of the watershed will flow down to affect other people, plants, and animals. This is why it's so important to know ways that you can protect your watershed.



HOW CAN YOU HELP?



DON'T LITTER!

By throwing away your own trash, you can reduce the amount of litter that can potentially make its way into the water. Pick up any trash that you see lying around too, but remember to wash your hands afterward.



PICK UP AFTER YOUR PET!

Pet waste contains bacteria that can be hazardous to humans and animals. If you have a pet, remember to pick up its waste. Don't have a pet? You can still help by encouraging others to pick up after their pets.



GET INVOLVED!

You can make a big difference in your watershed by joining other organizations that focus on watershed health. Ask your parents and teachers to help you find an organization that you would like to be a part of.



SHARE IT!

Share what you've learned with your friends, family, and classmates. If everyone pitches in to protect our watershed, we can do more to keep it healthy!



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