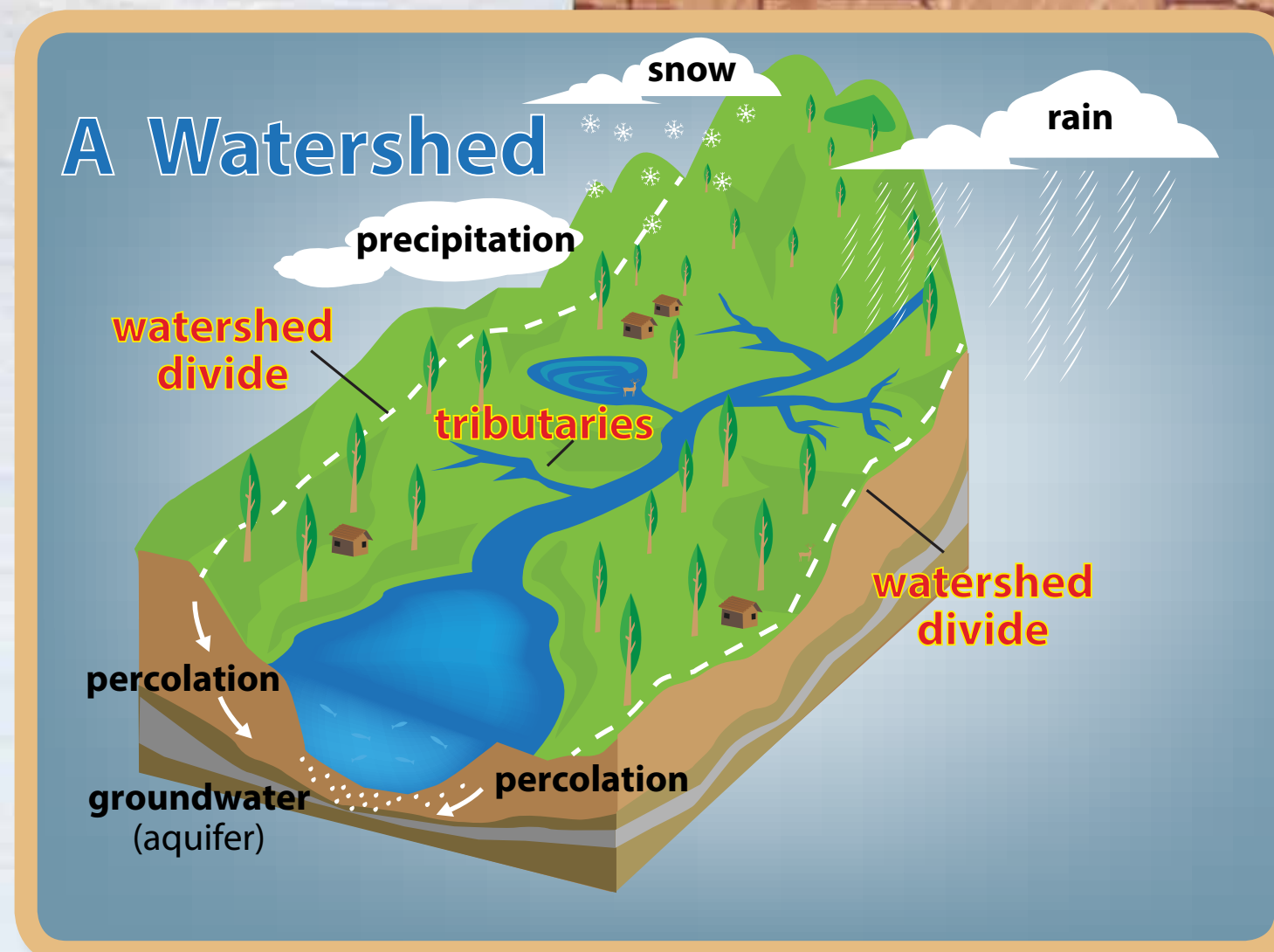


Tiawasee Creek

Where Are You In The Watershed?

A watershed is... the area of land that drains to one water body. Each river, stream, or bay has its own watershed. Topography is the key to determining the area of any watershed. Its boundary is the highest elevation surrounding the water body. Any rain falling within it runs downhill to its receiving water, and any falling outside of it runs to a different watershed.



Watersheds come in all shapes and sizes, frequently crossing geopolitical boundaries. Large watersheds are made up of many smaller ones. The Tiawasee Creek Watershed is part of the larger D'Olive Creek Watershed which ultimately drains to the even larger Mobile Bay Watershed.

Did You Know...

That Mobile Bay is where five major rivers meet the Gulf of Mexico.

Rivers, creeks, and streams from over 65% of the State of Alabama and portions of Mississippi, Georgia, and even Tennessee carry freshwater into Mobile Bay where it mixes with salty Gulf waters to form the brackish Mobile Bay estuary. By area, the Mobile Bay Watershed is the sixth largest in the nation, but in terms of freshwater delivery, it is the nation's fourth largest. Wind and tides push salty water from the Gulf into this relatively shallow Bay, so the salinity or "saltiness" of the water constantly changes.

Mobile Bay By the Numbers

Drains: 43,662 square miles
Receives: 62,000 cubic feet of freshwater per second
Average Depth: 10 feet
Length, North to South: 32 miles
Widest Point: 23 miles
Width at City of Mobile: 10 miles



The Tiawasee Creek Watershed

Over the last 40 years, the Tiawasee Creek Watershed has seen a transition of land use from farming practices to residential and commercial developments. This change in land use has resulted in more impermeable surfaces (roofs and roads) resulting in increased volumes and velocities of stormwater entering the creeks contributing to the following:

- loss of natural wetlands and riparian areas;
- inadequate natural flood plains;
- water quality impacts to the creek and Mobile Bay; and
- threats to aquatic and wildlife species survival and habitat.

Restoring Tiawasee Creek Watershed

Over the past 10 years, Daphne has partnered with the Mobile Bay National Estuary Program, other federal, state and local groups to restore Tiawasee Creek, D'Olive Creek and Joe's Branch. The partners' efforts have resulted in millions of dollars' worth of restoration funding.

Tiawasee Creek Watershed By the Numbers

Area: 3,654 acres or 5 square miles
Location: West/Central Baldwin County adjacent to Mobile Bay. It includes portions of Daphne and unincorporated areas of the County.

You Are Here –

Tiawasee Creek Watershed includes Tiawasee Creek and its tributaries. Tiawasee Creek flows into Lake Forest Lake along with D'Olive Creek, which continues over the Lake Forest Lake dam before its confluence with Joe's Branch, before discharging into D'Olive Bay just south of I-10.

