

# Explore Your Watershed *Handout*

Part 1 of 4 in the "Exploring the Watershed Atlas" Series

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Go to the website: [www.Pinellas.WaterAtlas.org](http://www.Pinellas.WaterAtlas.org)

1. Go to The Atlas > Interactive Map. You are looking at a Watershed Map of Pinellas County.
2. Find your home or school:
  - a. Under "Search for" on the right side of the screen, click "an address."
  - b. Click inside the text box. Enter your street address > Go. Don't type the city.
  - c. You will go right to a map with a red star for your house or school. Some addresses do not work, if this is the case, try another known address.
3. Find your watershed:
  - a. Use the Map Navigation Tools on the left side of the screen. Click on "Select a Watershed" button. The curser is now "loaded" with that action.
  - b. Click on the map to bring up your watershed. You may need to make the window full screen.
  - c. The name of the watershed is highlighted in red at the top of your screen. You are in the \_\_\_\_\_ Watershed.

4. What is a watershed?

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5. Find information about your watershed:

- a. How big is your watershed? \_\_\_\_\_ square miles
- b. What is the **Land Use** in your watershed? (Scroll down.)  
As of the year \_\_\_\_\_, the land use is \_\_\_\_\_% Agriculture, \_\_\_\_\_% Built, and \_\_\_\_\_% Conservation.
- c. What is the **land cover**?  
As of the year \_\_\_\_\_, the land cover is \_\_\_\_\_% Wetlands, \_\_\_\_\_% Uplands

d. Rainfall is essential to the watershed.

As of the date \_\_\_\_\_, the month-to-date rainfall is \_\_\_\_\_ inches, and the year-to-date rainfall is \_\_\_\_\_ inches. The historic average for this month is \_\_\_\_\_ inches.

Click on the ten-year trend and view the graph. What is the trend of yearly rainfall in this watershed?

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e. How many volunteers are active in your watershed? \_\_\_\_\_

f. Double click on the list of Water bodies (lakes and rivers) in your watershed. Select one you recognize, or one that has an interesting name.

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Name:

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g. What is the **Water Quality Index (Trophic State)** for your lake?  
As of the year \_\_\_\_\_ The Trophic Index is: \_\_\_\_\_

h. What is the **Water Clarity (Secchi Clarity)** of your lake?  
As of the year \_\_\_\_\_: \_\_\_\_\_ ft.

Name:

Date: