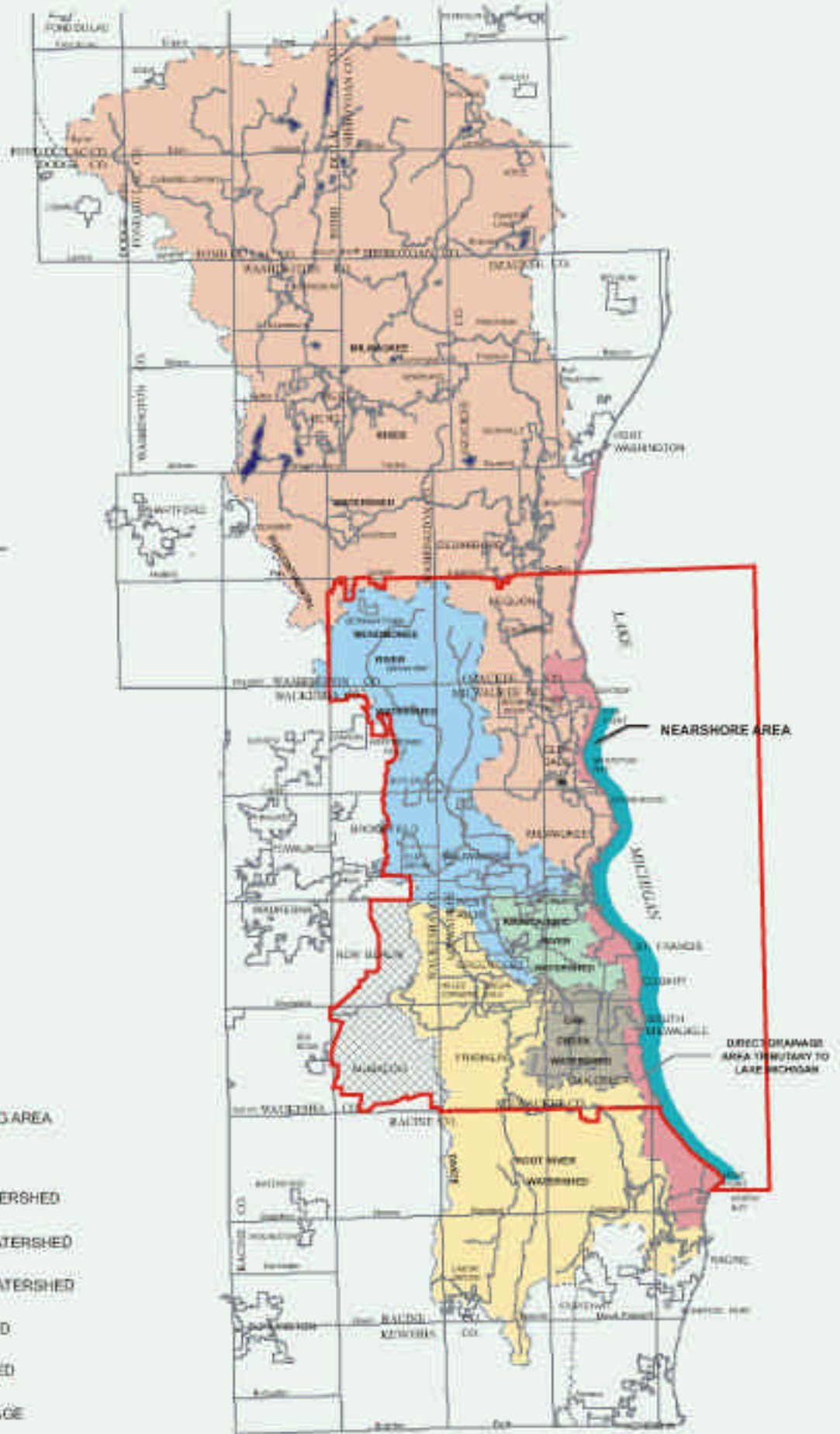


Watershed Location Map



LEGEND

-  MMSD 2020 PLANNING AREA
-  SEWERS ONLY
-  MILWAUKEE RIVER WATERSHED
-  MENOMONEE RIVER WATERSHED
-  KINNICKINNIC RIVER WATERSHED
-  OAK CREEK WATERSHED
-  ROOT RIVER WATERSHED
-  LAKE MICHIGAN DRAINAGE



At A Glance

The Kinnickinnic River Watershed is the smallest of the six watersheds in the Greater Milwaukee Watersheds planning area and is completely urbanized.

The map at the left shows the location of the Kinnickinnic River Watershed (shaded in green) within the context of the Greater Milwaukee Watersheds planning area (six watersheds in all). The Kinnickinnic River Watershed is the smallest watershed in the planning area, but is one of the most highly developed.

Kinnickinnic River Watershed

A Few Facts

- One of the six Greater Milwaukee Watersheds, the Kinnickinnic River Watershed, covers an approximately 26 square-mile drainage area located entirely within Milwaukee County. This drainage area contains parts or all of the cities of Milwaukee, Cudahy, Greenfield, St. Francis, and West Allis and the Village of West Milwaukee.
- The Kinnickinnic River originates in a storm sewer located at South 60th Street, immediately south of the Kinnickinnic River Parkway in the City of Milwaukee.
- The watershed includes these waterways:
 - Kinnickinnic River (8.0 miles)
 - Wilson Park Creek (6.1 miles)
 - 43rd Street Ditch (1.1 miles)
 - Villa Mann Creek (0.8 miles)
 - Lyons Park Creek (1.5 miles)
 - Holmes Creek (1.2 miles)
 - Edgerton Channel (0.4 miles)

- The Kinnickinnic River flows into Milwaukee's Inner Harbor, about one-third of a mile south of where the Milwaukee River enters Milwaukee's Outer Harbor, and then into Lake Michigan.

Population

- Culturally diverse, nearly 145,000 people call the Kinnickinnic River Watershed home; making it the most densely populated watershed in the region, with the equivalent of 5,500 people per square mile.

Natural History

- With its mouth opening to Lake Michigan, wild rice and river commerce defined the Kinnickinnic River in Milwaukee's early years. It offered a means of moving commercial goods to and from the interior of the city by boat. The heavy river traffic resulted in intense development of dock facilities and expansion of the lower river through dredging and channeling.

Current Land Use

- Virtually all available land has been developed within the Kinnickinnic River Watershed. Land use consists primarily of:
 - Transportation, Communications, Utilities - 46%
 - High Density Residential - 26%
 - Outdoor Recreational Wetland, Woodland - 10%
 - Low Density Residential - 8%
 - Other - 10%
- These land uses have large percentages of impervious land surfaces which cause rapid and large volumes of runoff during heavy rain. This can result in flash floods along the Kinnickinnic River and its tributaries.

Sanitary Sewer Service

- The sanitary sewer service area is entirely within MMSD's service area.

Pollution Sources

- Stormwater runoff from impervious urban land areas (parking lots, rooftops, and roadways).
- Leaking underground fuel storage tanks.
- Eroding streambanks and roadsides.
- Wildlife, pets, & residential lawns.
- Erosion from construction sites in developing urban areas.
- Industrial and municipal point source discharges to the Kinnickinnic River Watershed include:

Sanitary and combined sewer overflows, and industrial discharges. There are 23 combined sewer overflows (CSO) outlets and 47 industrial discharges permitted by the WDNR.