

State of the Water 2003-2017

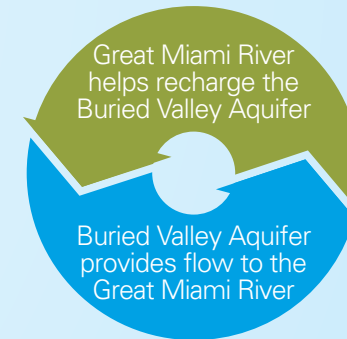
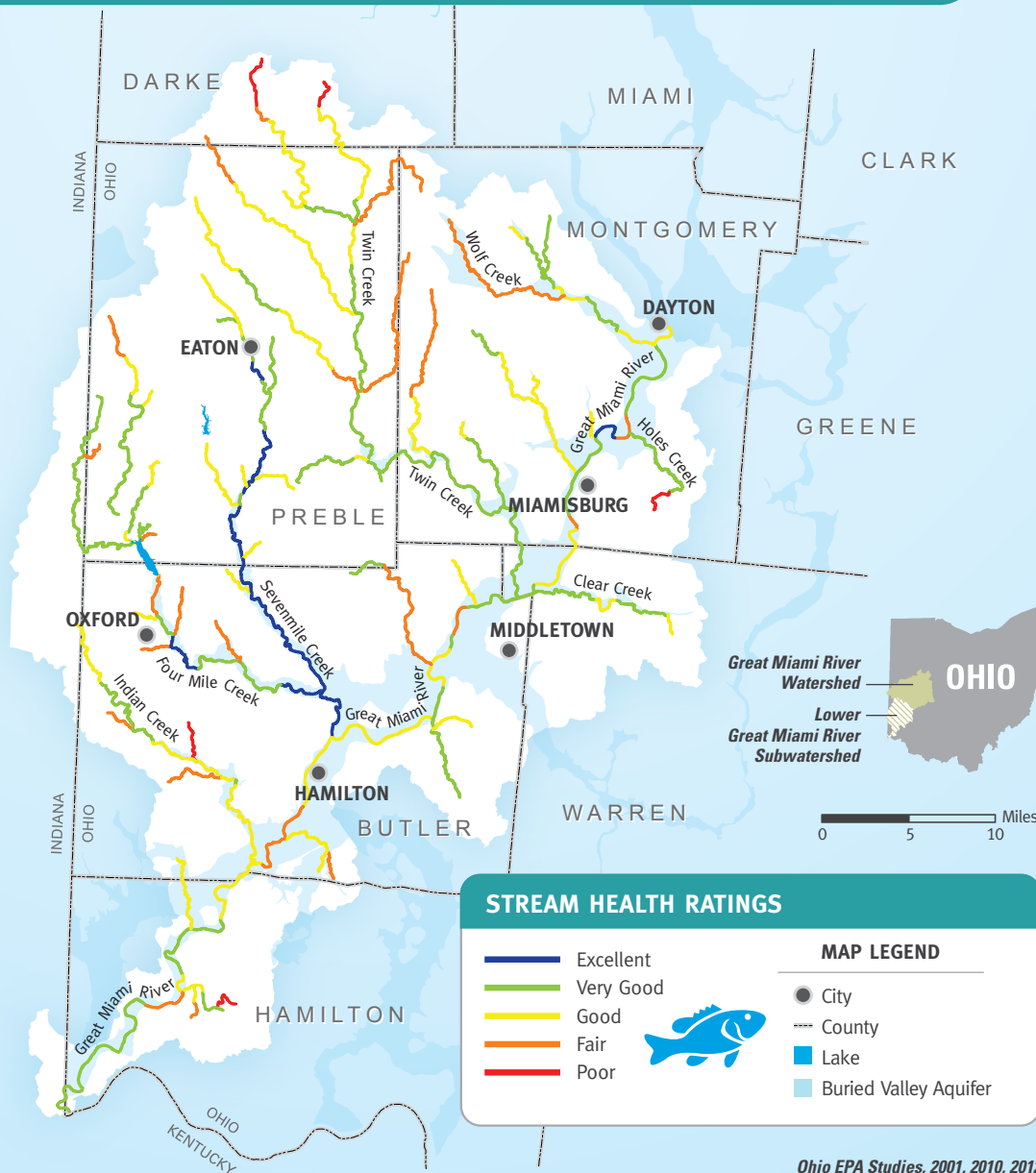
Lower Great Miami River

Subwatershed of the Great Miami River

Lower Great Miami River

in very good condition

Water quality challenges remain



77%

of stream miles meet Ohio water quality standards

— Ohio EPA studies 2001, 2010, 2012

2.3 million people



in southwest Ohio rely on groundwater for drinking. Water levels in Buried Valley Aquifer remain stable overall.

How healthy is the groundwater?

Groundwater in the Buried Valley Aquifer is generally of excellent quality. Under some conditions, naturally-occurring arsenic can be present at levels high enough to pose a risk to human health. Homeowners who drink water from a private well should have their water tested regularly.

Nutrients

Nitrogen and phosphorus enter waterways when it rains, impacting water quality. Both are found in fertilizers, animal waste, sewage, and wastewater.



— Miami Conservancy District studies 2005-2017

Causes of Unhealthy Streams

- Changes to the shape of the stream channel
- Increased impervious surfaces
- Unhealthy levels of nitrogen and phosphorus
- Destruction of floodplain