

# State of the Water 2003-2017

## Mad River

Subwatershed of the Great Miami River



**STREAM HEALTH RATINGS**

- Excellent
- Very Good
- Good
- Fair
- Poor

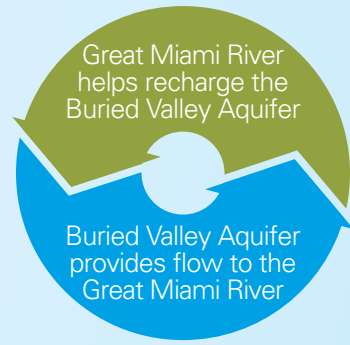
**MAP LEGEND**

- City
- County
- Lake
- Buried Valley Aquifer

Ohio EPA Studies, 2001, 2010, 2012

## Mad River in very good condition

Water quality challenges remain



**78%**  
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