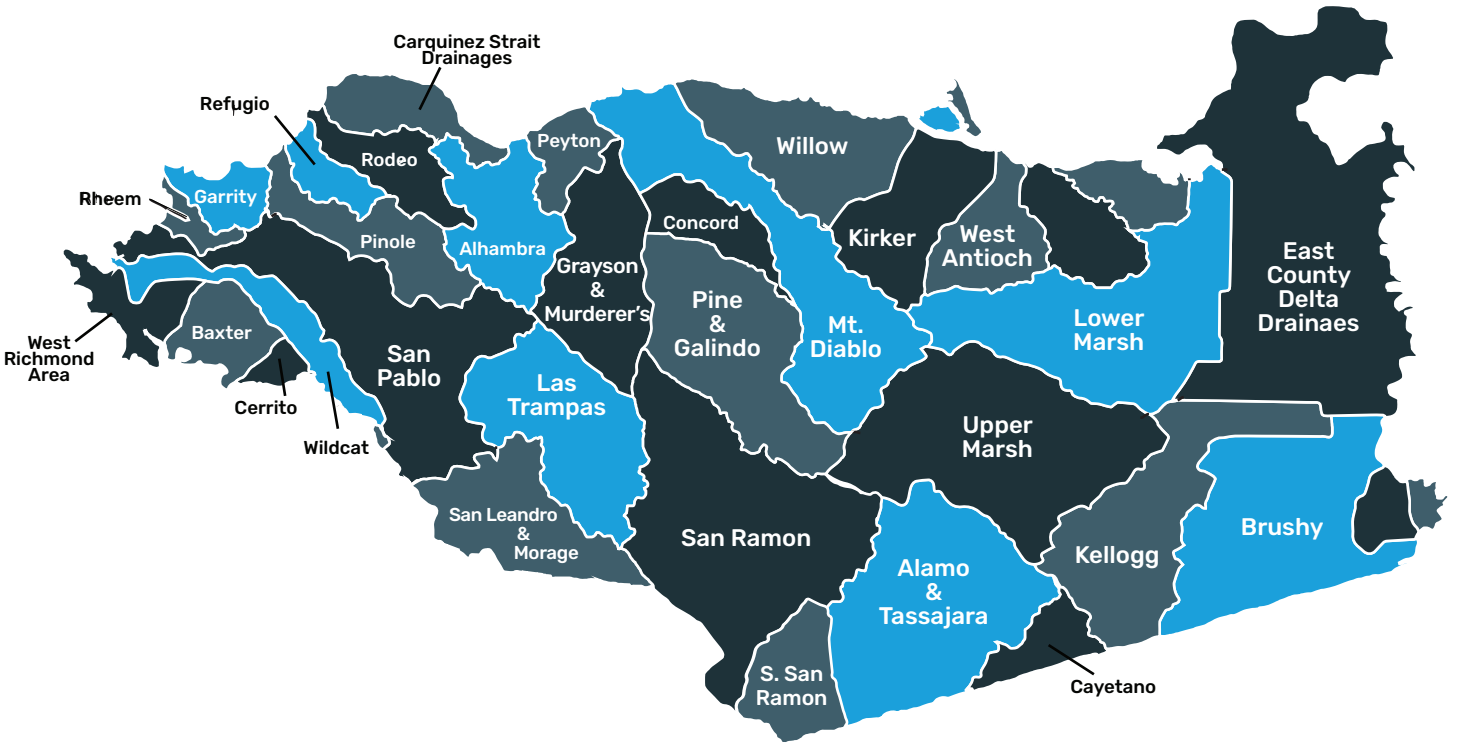
WHERE IS MY WATERSHED?

CONTRA COSTA CLEAN WATER PROGRAM



A watershed is like a giant bowl in the land that collects rainwater and sends it into rivers and oceans. It's the area where water from hills and mountains gathers and flows down into lower places. Watersheds can be big or small, and they can stretch across different areas like counties and states. No matter where you are, even at home, you're part of a watershed!

- How a watershed works: Water from higher elevations must flow down. As it flows down by gravity, it settles in lower elevations.
- Contrary to its name, a watershed is NOT the body of water itself, but the area of land that rainfall and snowmelt lands on and eventually drains into a body of water such as a creek, stream, or river. The watershed collects the water and drains it into a creek, stream, or river where it eventually ends up in a large body of water such as the Delta, Bay or ocean.
- Contra Costa County has 31 major watersheds that drain to the San Francisco Bay or Delta.
- Healthy watersheds lead to high-quality water and outdoor recreation sites at rivers, streams, the Bay, and the Delta.
- Trash in watersheds can impact aquatic life as well as our quality of drinking water.

ACTIVITY TIME!

WHERE IS MY WATERSHED?

Visit **https://mywaterway.epa.gov/** to search for your local watershed and to learn about your water. Place your home's zipcode in the search bar to get started on your water journey. Answer the following questions.

1. What is the name of your watershed? _____

2. How many bodies of water are in your watershed? _____

3. Fill in the chart below to indicate the name and conditions of the bodies of water located in your watershed:

Your School's Watershed

Name of Body of Water	Condition of Water Good or Bad?	What is the Water Used for?	Any Issues With the Water?	Who/What Does The Issue(s) Affect? Click to find out.

Your Local Watershed

Name of Body of Water	Condition of Water Good or Bad?	What is the Water Used for?	Any Issues With the Water?	Who/What Does The Issue(s) Affect? Click to find out.

The watershed I'm protecting when I'm at school is _____.

The watershed I'm protecting when I'm at home is _____.