

Millers Creek Tributary at Lakehaven Court Fact Sheet

Site History

This small creek flows into Millers Creek shortly downstream, near Huron Parkway. Millers Creek has a reputation in Ann Arbor as a highly degraded stream. Whenever a substantial amount of rain falls or snow melts, Millers Creek rapidly becomes a torrent. The potential of Millers Creek to cut its banks and move the channel results from three features. First, the creek's path was shortened when the City constructed Huron Parkway. Second, it has a very steep gradient. Third, the watershed is covered by extensive impervious surface, which results in excess runoff during rain events. The rapid change in water levels makes Millers Creek very inhospitable to macroinvertebrates which are indicators of stream health.



Photo credit: Ed Rosch

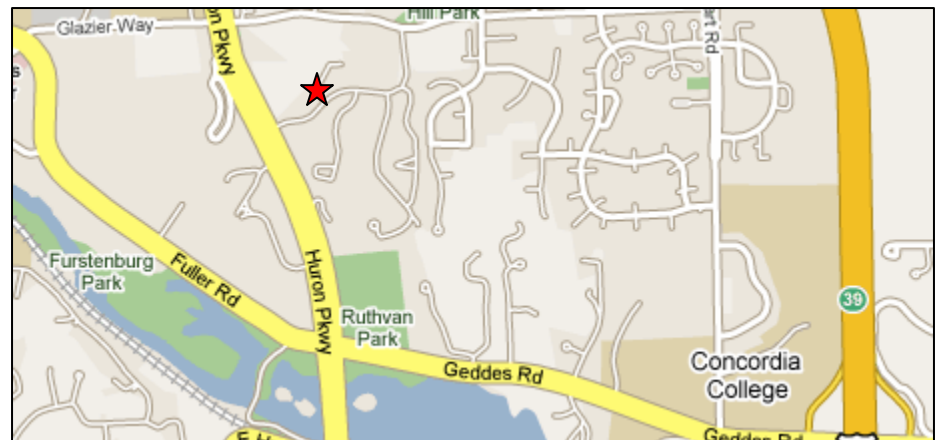
Watershed Information

Area of land draining to this site: 0.3 mi²

Local government: Washtenaw Co; City of Ann Arbor

Watershed land use: 0% Agriculture, 93% Urban, 3% Forest, 5% Open, 0% Wetland.

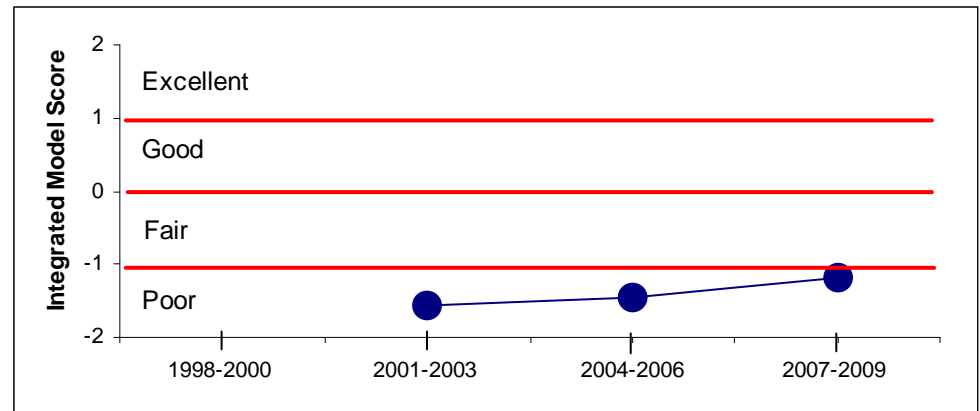
23% of this land is impervious surface



Google 2009

Site Rating: Poor

Each site is rated as one of the following categories (going from worst to best): poor, fair, good, and excellent. This rating comes from an integrative model that is based on the last 3 years of insect data, the most recent habitat data, stream temperature, and stream size.



Insect Community First Monitored: 4/13/02 Times monitored: 18

From 2007-2009, the average number of insect families found at this location are:

Total Insect Families: 7.7

Sensitive Insect Families (quickly affected by pollution): 0

Mayfly, Stonefly, and Caddisfly Families: 0.7

Stonefly Families (Winter Stonefly Search): 0

Insects found from 2007-2009:

Belostomatidae- giant water bug

Gerridae- water strider

Veliidae- short-legged strider

Hydropsychidae- net-spinner caddisfly

Aeshnidae- darner dragonfly

Libellulidae- common skimmer dragonfly

Calopterygidae- broad-winged damselfly

Coenagrionidae- narrow-winged damselfly

Chironomidae- midge larva

Culicidae- mosquito larva

Simuliidae- black fly larva

Stream Habitat

Water Temperature (Summer 2002):

Average weekly minimum: 60 °F

Average weekly maximum: 69 °F

Conductivity: 1389 μ S

This is a 3 year average of samples taken 1-3 times per year. 800 μ S or lower is considered normal.

Measuring and Mapping Program

Times monitored: 2

Measurements and Observations from most recent event held on 8/2/08:

Avg. Depth (ft): 0.6

Max Depth (ft): 1.2

Avg. Width (ft): 4

Bank Height (ft): 1.3

% Fine Substrate: 70

% Coarse Substrate: 30

% Riffle Embeddedness: <25

% Banks Bare: 0

Bad Appearance or Odor: No

Overall habitat score (100 max): 49