65 Norton Creek at West Maple

Adopt-a-Stream Site Report

— Updated August 2021 —

Huron River Watershed Council

Site Condition: POOR

At this site there are very few kinds of bugs and none of them are sensitive. The water has a high concentration of unknown pollutants and is low in dissolved oxygen. The stream banks, streambed, and streamside vegetation are average here but overall the stream has a "poor " rating since it does not support a rich variety of aquatic life.

Photo credit: *Ron Fadoir*

Sampling Experience

Site Access: EASY

Parking is nearby along the road or in the nearby subdivision.

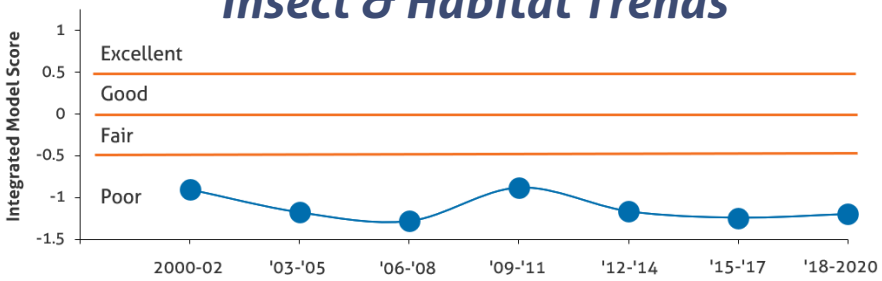
Team Operations: HARD

The stream is fairly overgrown, making it hard for the team to get to the collector.

Collection: HARD

Overhanging vegetation, sand, and muck make this a hard site to collect.

Insect & Habitat Trends



Monitoring Data

		2000 - 2009	2010 -2019	2020 -2030
Number of Site Visits	Fall	7	4	0
	Spring	7	7	0
	Winter	7	5	0
Average Insect Diversity		6.29	4.91	-
Average Sensitive Diversity		0.07	0	-
Average Winter Stonefly Families		0	0	-
Habitat	# of Surveys	2 (2005, 2009)	1 (2016)	0
	Summer Water T (F)	62.5 - 66.6 (2001)	Not Monitored	-
	Stream Width (ft)	11.04	13.97	-
	% Big Rocks	18.33	1.71	-
	% Rocks & Gravel	16.73	6.84	-
	% Sand	51.85	47.01	-
	% Muck	10.06	38.46	-

Measuring Stream Quality

Why bugs?

When a stream is rich in habitat variety, it will have many diverse kinds of bugs (called families). Some bugs (known as "sensitive") can only live in good quality streams. Thus, streams with sensitive families have the clean water and good habitat required by those bugs to survive.

Norton Creekshed

Adopt-a-Stream Creekshed Profile

— Updated January 2020 —

Huron River Watershed Council

Creekshed Profile

Norton Creekshed is a growing Detroit suburb and industrial hub. Norton Creek historically suffered from numerous impairments, and has seen little improvement as the area has become increasingly suburbanized. While stormwater retrofit projects helped to decrease phosphorous loading downstream, several water quality impairments still exist.

75-100	Healthy to Pristine
50-74	Slightly Impacted
25-49	**Highly Impacted**
0-24	Extremely Disturbed

29

Water Quality Parameters

	Grade
Land Use	F
Natural Areas	C
Stream Flow	Unknown
Stream Habitat	C
Macroinvertebrates	F
Fish Community	Unknown
Phosphorus	D
E. coli	Unknown
Total Suspended Solids	F
Stream Temperature	A
Conductivity	D
Dams	B
Contaminants	F

What You Can Do!

At home

- Minimize your turf lawn; plant deep rooted native plants that do not need to be fertilized or watered.
- Have your septic system checked regularly. Leaking septic systems can be a source of phosphorus and E. coli.

In your community

- Learn to identify environmental impairments like algal growth in waterways; follow up with HRWC when you see something wrong!