

How to Define, Delineate and Investigate your Local Watershed.

Watersheds and their change over time.
What stories are in your watershed?

SWAC Meeting - May 10th, 2012

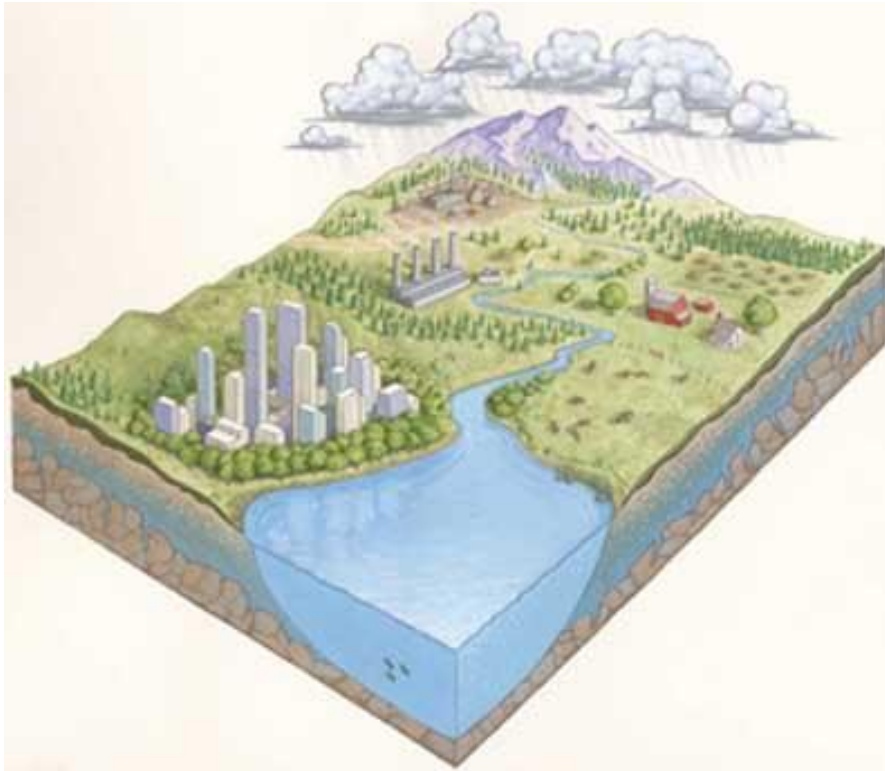
A Watershed, from Drop to Drain

- Define a watershed.
- Learn how to track the flow and change over time.
- Identify stream health through basic water quality sampling methods.

Can a watershed be as small as a puddle
and large as all of the Great Lakes?

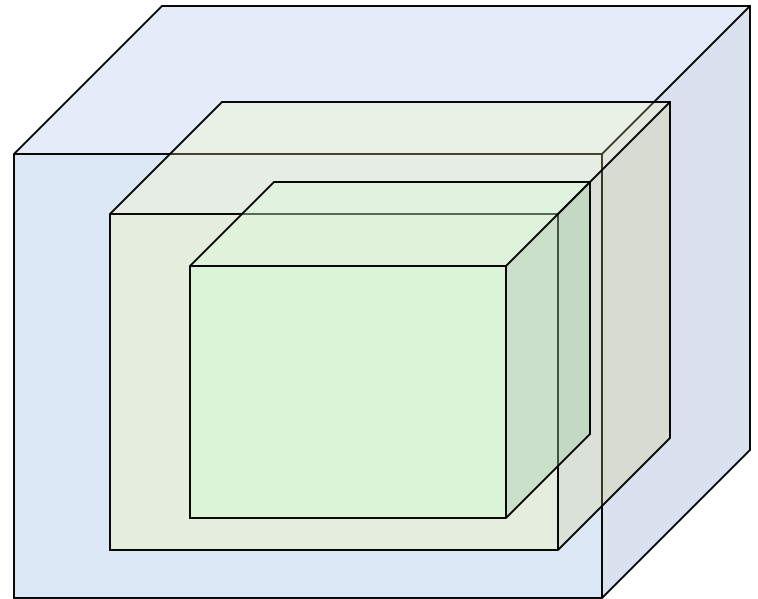
Can you think of example of a watershed
a.k.a. basin inside your home?

What is a Watershed?

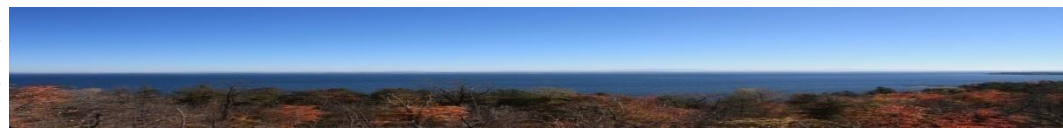
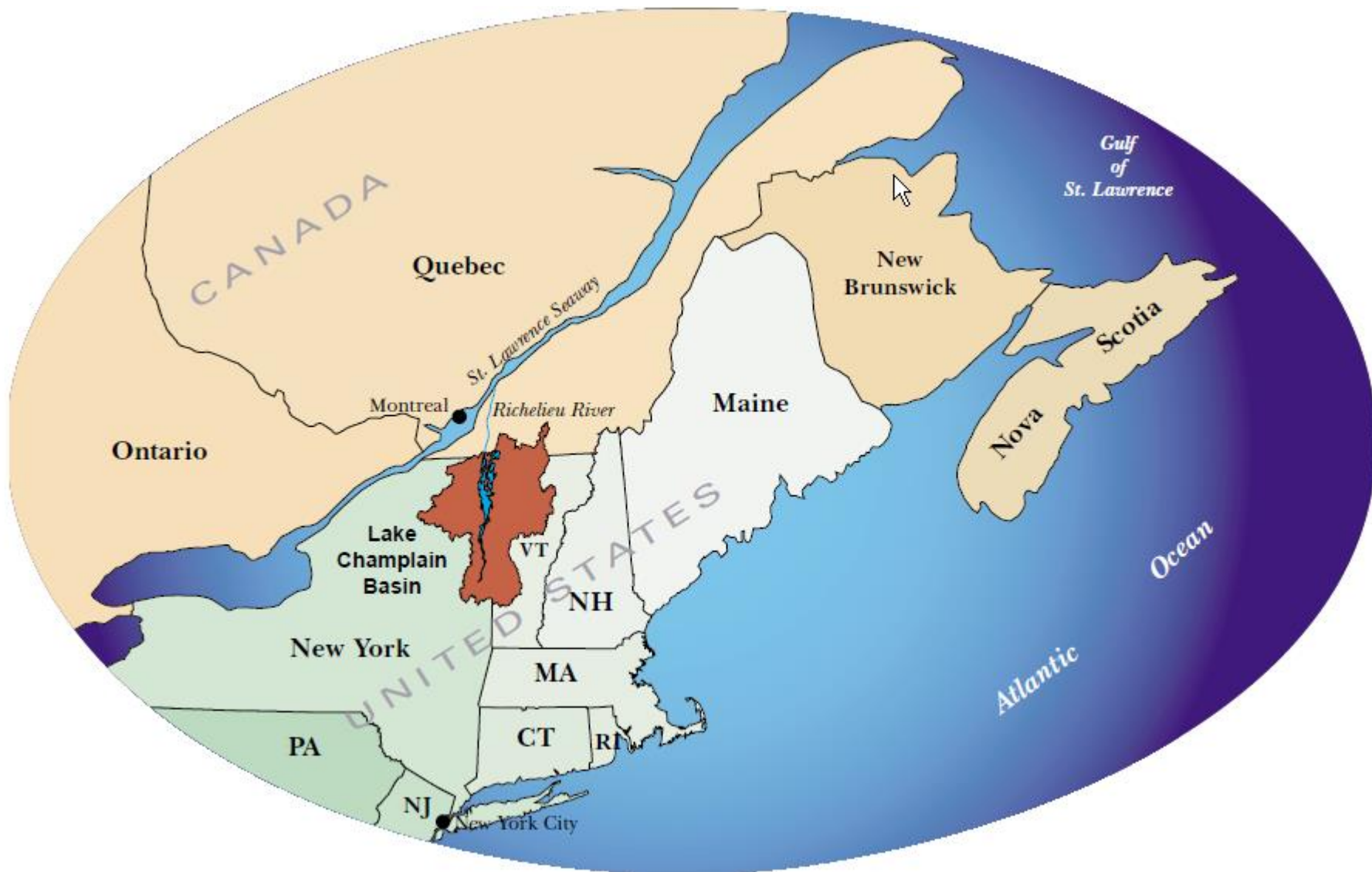


<http://www.fs.fed.us/spf/coop/images/watershed.jpg>

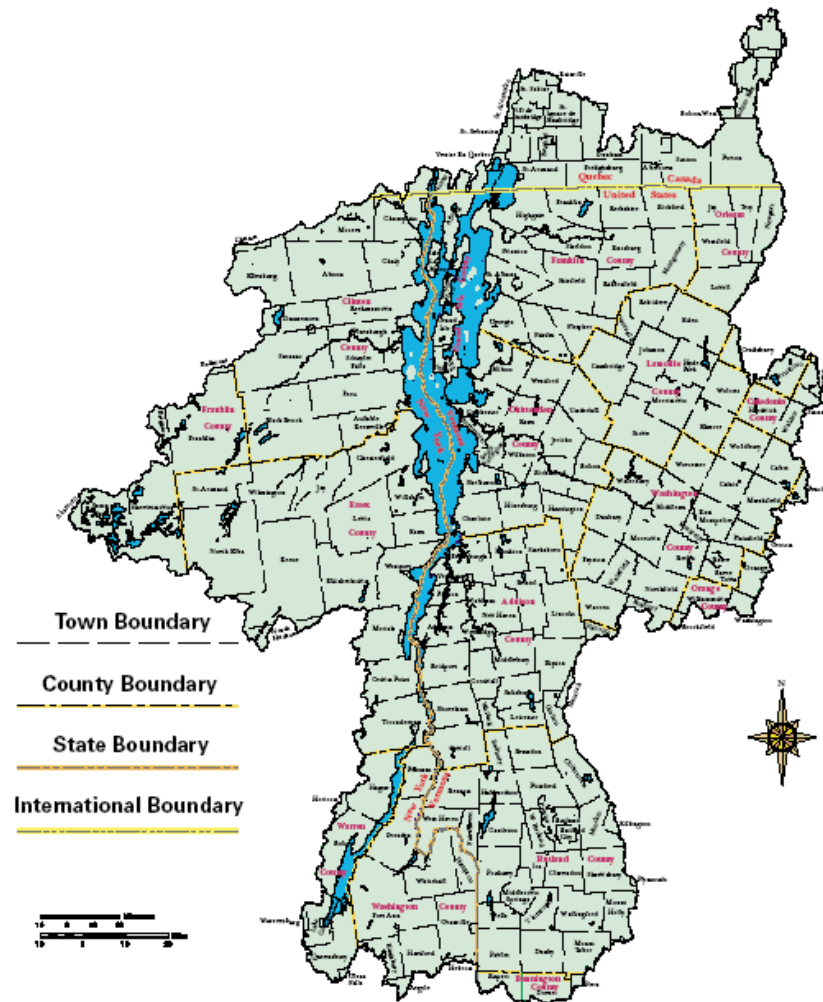
The area of land that drains water, sediment (soil), and dissolved substances into a common body.



Basins or watersheds are nested.



Political Boundaries

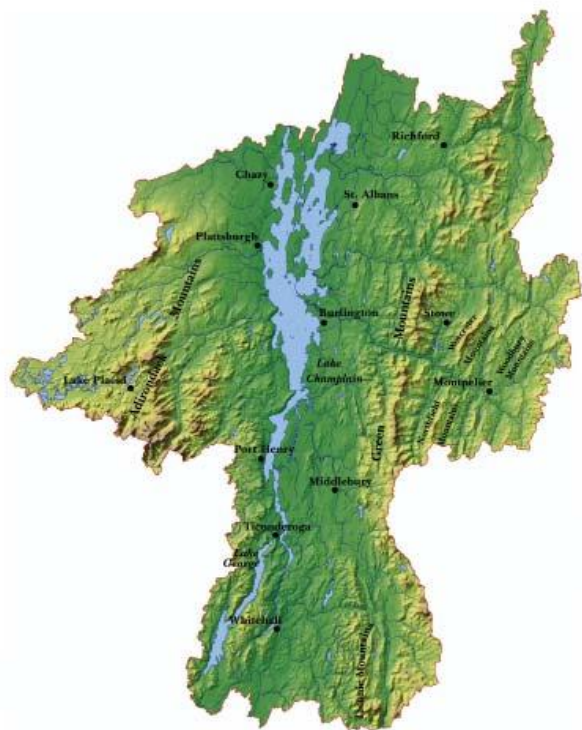


Map by Northern Cartographic



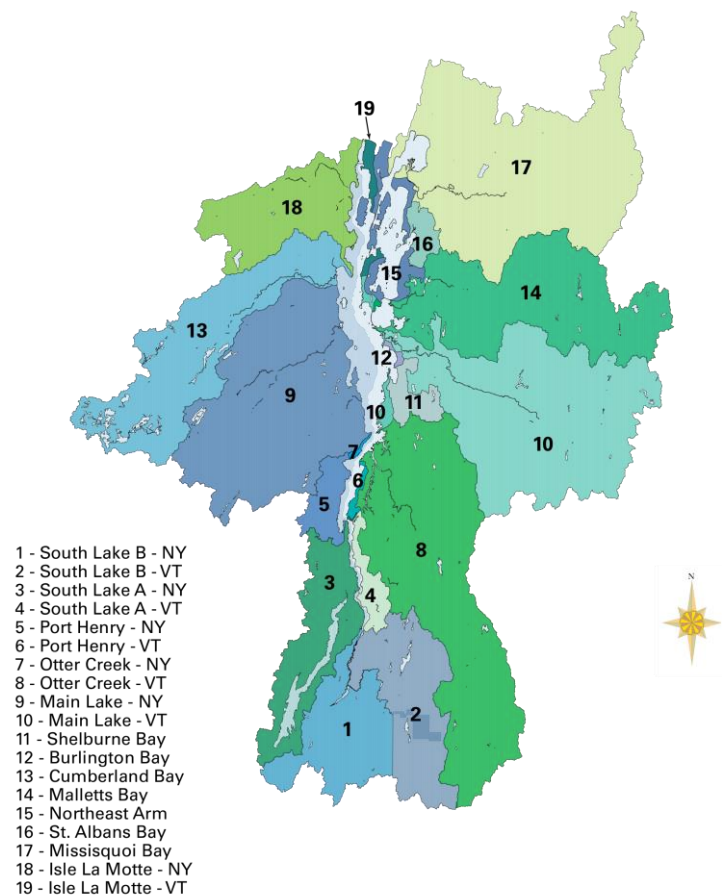
Watersheds within Watersheds

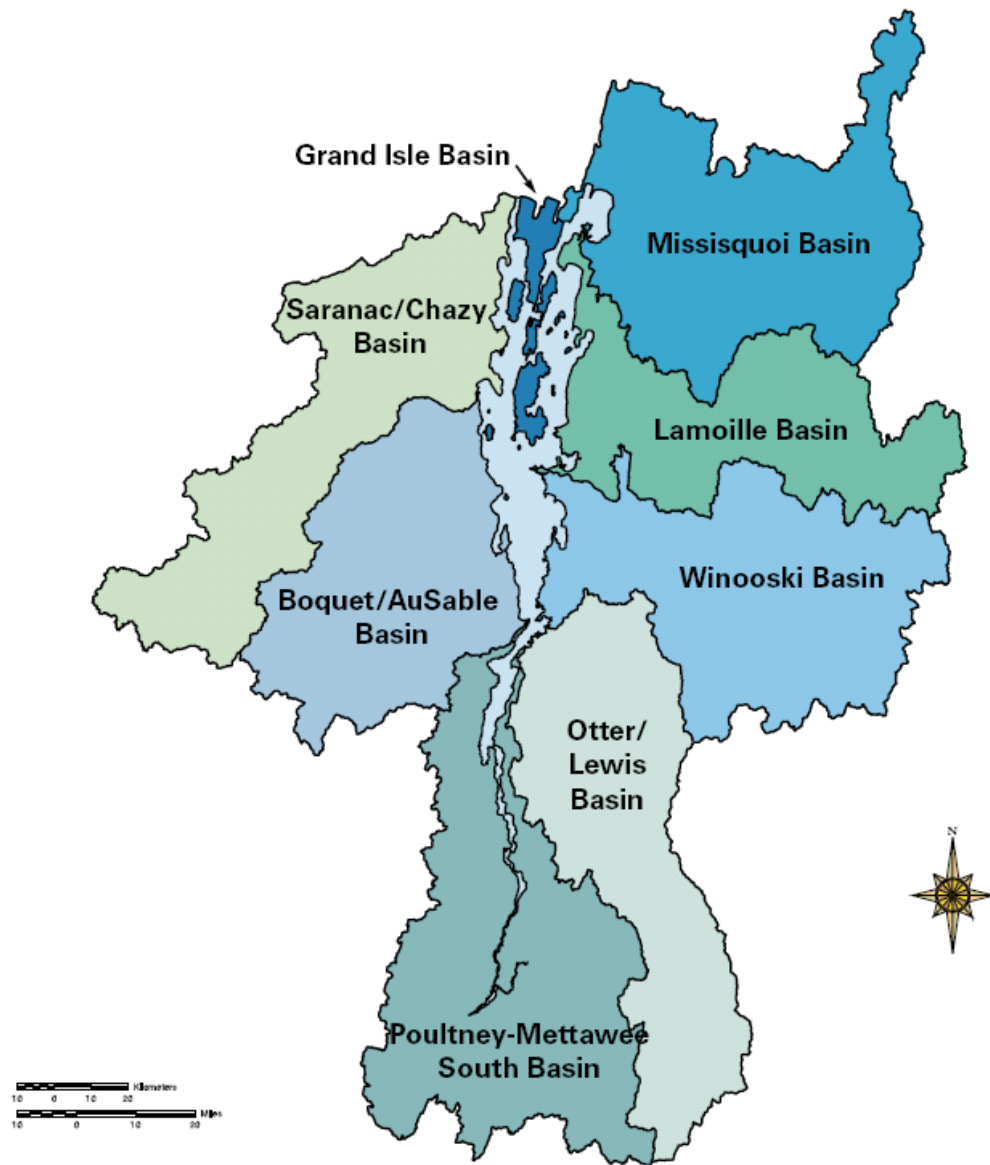
THE LAKE CHAMPLAIN BASIN ATLAS



Topography Map of Lake Champlain Drainage Basin

Watersheds by Lake Segments





Map by Northern Cartographic



Track the Flow

- Delineate a watershed or sub-basin using the maps provided.
- How would you calculate the size of this watershed?

Track the Change

- Google Earth
- Bing Maps
- http://m.vpr.net/news_detail/94195/new-google-maps-show-irene-devastation/
- UVM Landscape Change Program

Riparian Buffer Plantings



Physical changes in the river

Cobbles, Boulders and Wood



Built infrastructure



Lower Cabot, Upper Winooski River



Upper Winooski River a.k.a Headwater Sub-Basin

Plainfield



Upstream view of Winooski River



Great Brook, a tributary to the Winooski River



What a flood event and erosive soils do to a stream

Great Brook troubles



Spring 2011 Great Brook flood damage



Thank you!

