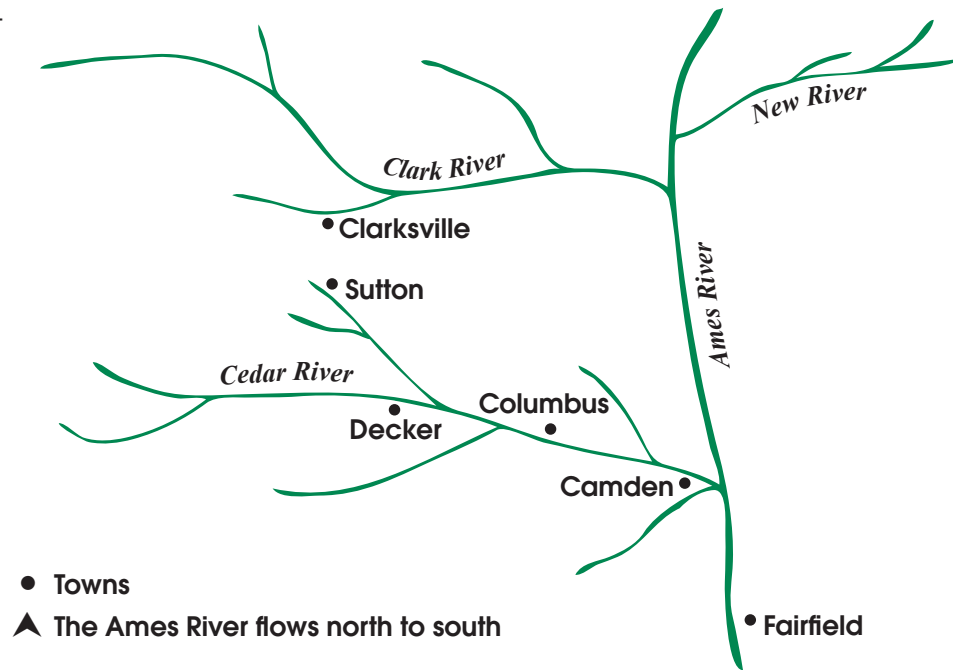


Go With the Flow

Student Worksheet



- Find the Cedar River and all the Cedar's tributaries—the smaller streams and rivers that flow into it. Then outline the Cedar River watershed.
- What larger watershed is the Cedar River watershed a part of? What other rivers are part of this watershed?
- There's a chemical manufacturing plant in Decker that dumps its waste into the Cedar River. What communities might be affected by this waste?
- Which river or rivers would animal waste and other pollutants from farms near Sutton wash into? What about from farms near Clarksville? Why would you think that Sutton and Clarksville are into two different watersheds? Is it possible for Sutton and Clarksville to be in the same watershed? Explain your answer.
- Eventually the Ames River empties into Lake Churchill. Two other large rivers also empty into Lake Churchill. What effect might these three rivers have on conditions in the lake?

Answers to “Go with the Flow” Worksheet

1. See map.
2. Ames River watershed, Clark, and New.
3. Columbus, Camden, and Fairfield, because they are downstream from Decker.
4. Cedar River, then into Ames River; Clark River, then into Ames River. Because Sutton is closest to the Cedar River and Clarksville is closest to the Clark River. However, they could be in the same watershed, depending on the slope of the land. For example, if a mountain or hill separated Clarksville from the nearby stream, wastewater from Clarksville could flow into the Cedar River watershed. It's more likely, though, that Sutton is part of the Cedar River watershed and Clarksville is part of the Clark River watershed. (Note: They are both in the same, larger Ames River watershed.)
5. Many of the pollutants carried by the Ames and the two other rivers—pollutants that were collected from large areas of land—would end up in Lake Churchill; as pollutants accumulate in Lake Churchill, water quality could decrease significantly and aquatic plants and animals could be affected.

Explain that as rivers empty into bays, lakes, and other bodies of water, some of the waste they're carrying can accumulate in these areas. This accumulation can create big pollution problems. For example, Long Island Sound, the Chesapeake Bay, and the Great Lakes are suffering from the accumulation of pollutants flowing into them.

Source

Adapted from “Go with the Flow, Environmental Education in the Schools—Creating a Program that Works!” which was adapted from *Conserving America: Rivers Resource Guide*, published by the National Wildlife Federation and WQED/Pittsburgh.