



Baxter Creek Sub-Watershed Reference Map

Map created by: Samuel Pethick. With contributions from Jordan Tishler and Kris Lebert. In a collaboration between the BCWA and Fleming College GIS GeoCommunity 2023.

Released: June 23, 2023.

Data Sources: Road and Rail data from GeoGratis CanVec Database 2023, municipal and watershed boundaries from Ontario's GeoHub 2023, Contours derived from Esri Terrain 2023 and converted to metres. Place names from OpenStreetMap (OSM) 2023; Buildings from Bing 2023; Built-Up Areas from GeoHub 2023; Waterbody and Watercourse data from GeoHub 2023; Wetlands and Wooded Areas from GeoHub 2023; Old Jail Parcel created by the BCWA with reference to data from the former correctional facility.

Baxter Creek is one of 12 subwatersheds that is a part of the Otonabee river basin, which flows through Peterborough, Ontario. Baxter Creek spans four municipalities, most prominently the Township of Cavan-Monaghan. It also intersects the City of Kawartha Lakes, the Municipality of Clarington, and the Township of Otonabee-South Monaghan.

In addition to these municipalities the Baxter Creek subwatershed is within in the traditional territories of the Hiawatha, Curve Lake, Alderville, and Mississaugas of Scugog Island First Nations. This is the area of Treaty 20 Michi Saagig Anishnaabeg territory which is the traditional homelands and territory of the Michi Saagig and Chippewa Nations, collectively known as the Williams Treaties First Nations. Through treaties the First Nations have aboriginal rights in the Otonabee basin and so their engagement and collaboration is a critical in watershed conservation in this region.

These communities and their history are important to understand for the purposes of watershed conservation which is absolutely essential. Baxter Creek and the groundwater in the watershed supplies water for agriculture, ecosystems and environmental conservation, and for the residents and businesses of Cavan-Monaghan and has influence beyond in the Otonabee River basin.

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Being a headwater subwatershed in a large river basin system, preserving Baxter Creek is of paramount importance because what happens upstream affects what happens downstream. For instance, pollution from activities in the headwaters may affect the wetlands downstream which are a vulnerable ecosystem. Likewise, maintaining a healthy watershed is vital for agriculture, water use, and various other human interests. Critics will often cite the costs of watershed conservation, however that leaves out the costs of having an unhealthy watershed which are far steeper.

With this map the BCWA hopes to engage the public in local conservation efforts in Baxter Creek. Ultimately a local approach, we believe is the best way to avoid red-tape and maintain our waters, avoiding the cost of not doing so, be it financially or otherwise.

Legend

- | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| Baxter Creek | Buildings |
| Watershed | Built Up Area |
| Neighbouring Watersheds | Old Jail Parcel |
| Municipal Boundaries | Water Features |
| Rail | Watercourse |
| Rail | Habitat Areas |
| Expressway-Highway | Wetlands |
| Freeway | Unevaluated |
| Ramp | Evaluated - Other |
| Collector | Evaluated - Provincial |
| Arterial | Woodlands |
| Local - Strata | Plantation |
| Local - Streets | Tree |
| Contours (20m Interval) | Hedgerow |

Scale: 1:25,000
Projected in NAD1983, UTM 17

