



Stream Scores

Friends of the St. Clair River's Stream Team volunteers monitor water quality in local streams. We use benthic macroinvertebrates (ie. aquatic insects) to assess the stream's health. Monitoring is performed every spring and fall.

Site	Fall 2021	Spring 2022	Fall 2022	Spring 2023	Fall 2023	Spring 2024	Fall 2024
Pine River @ Pine River Nature Center	Good 4.73		Very Good 3.79	Good 4.72	Good 5.21	Poor 7	Very Good 4.5
Cuttle Creek @ Marysville Golf Course	Fairly Poor 7.31	Poor 7	Poor 7	Poor 7			
Belle River @ Columbus Twp Roadside Park					Very Good 4.39		
Belle River @ Columbus County Park							Good 4.83
Plum Creek @ PH State Game Area						Good 4.83	
Meldrum Creek @ Ira Twp Park							Poor 7

Streams are assigned a score from "very poor" to "excellent" based on the amount and types of bugs found. Some macroinvertebrates are more sensitive to pollution than others, like water pennies and caddisflies, which give the stream an "excellent" score. The lower the number, the healthier the stream.

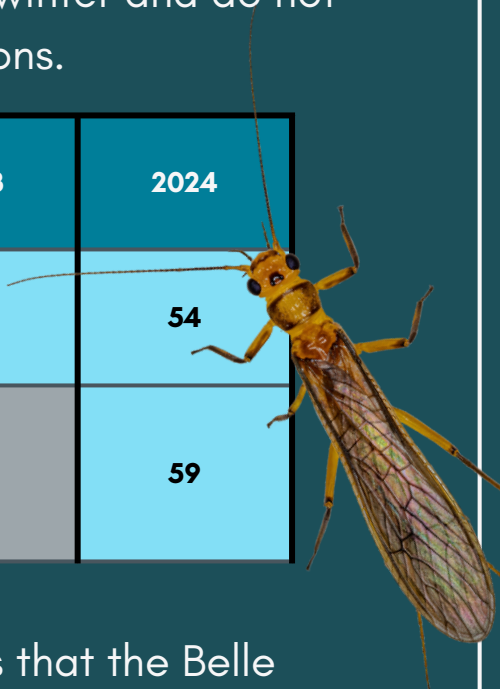
8.51 - 10 Very Poor Severe pollution is likely. Very few bugs found.	7.51 - 8.50 Poor Very substantial pollution likely. Not many bugs found.	6.51 - 7.50 Fairly Poor Substantial pollution likely. Some highly tolerant bugs found.	5.51 - 6.50 Fair Fairly substantial pollution likely. Many tolerant bugs found.	4.51 - 5.50 Good Some pollution possible. Some moderately sensitive bugs found.	3.51 - 4.50 Very good Slight pollution possible. Some highly sensitive bugs found.	0.0 - 3.50 Excellent Pollution unlikely. Many highly sensitive bugs found.
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The MiCorp Stream Health rating scale is used to score our streams.

Winter Stoneflies

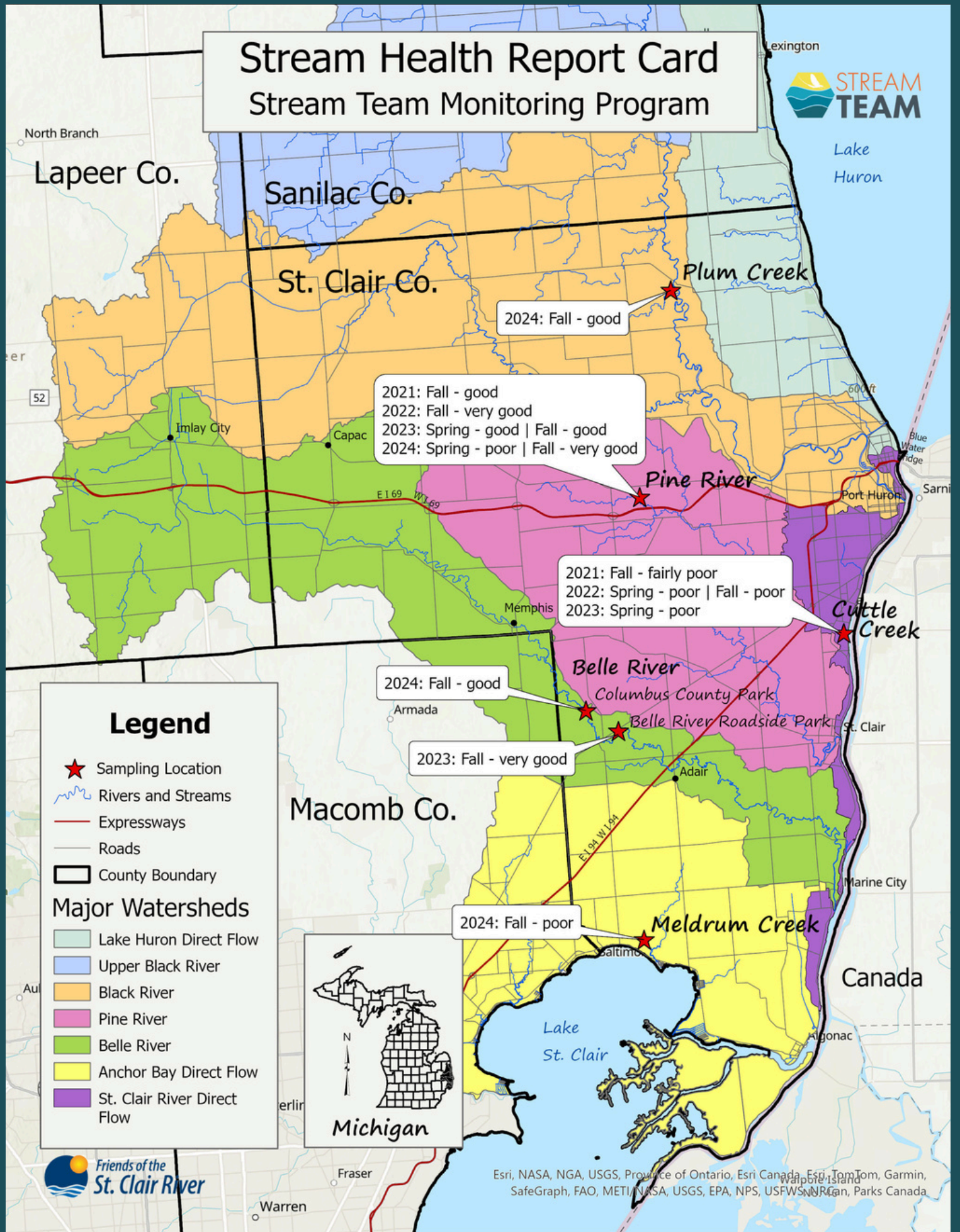
Every January, we hold a Winter Stonefly Search that is similar to our spring and fall monitoring events, except we only look for one type of macroinvertebrate. Winter stoneflies are a group of very sensitive aquatic insects that emerge from streams in the winter and do not tolerate poor water quality conditions.

Site	2021	2022	2023	2024
Belle River @ Columbus County Park	151	24	254	54
Belle River @ Columbus Twp Roadside Park				59



Finding winter stoneflies at these sites indicates that the Belle River is healthy.

Stream Locations Map



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ME!** >>>



Interested in joining Friends of the St. Clair River's Stream Team? Visit our website at scriver.org or contact melissa@scriver.org to learn more.