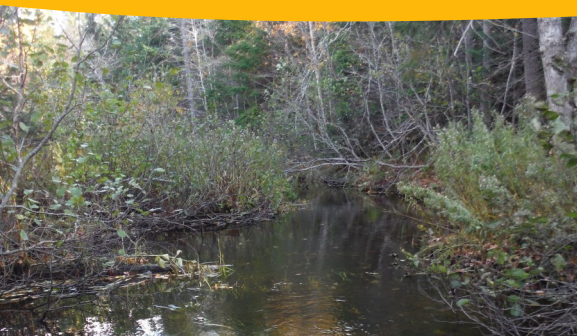
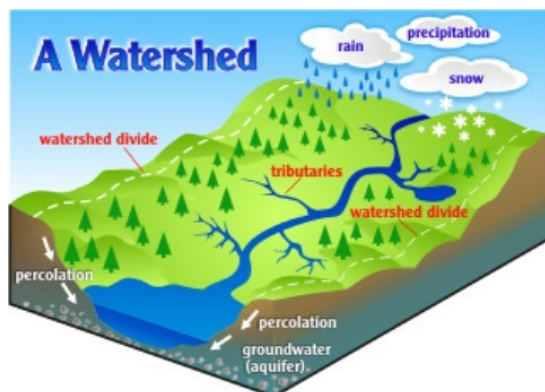


Boughton River and Area Watershed



A watershed is an area of land that drains into a particular river, lake or other body of water. In the Southeast Environmental Association (SEA) region there are 6 main watershed areas, made up of 26 sub-watersheds, covering 731.6km². One of SEA's main watershed areas is the Boughton River watershed. It is made up of six sub-watersheds.



Simple diagram explaining how a watershed works.

Boughton River and Area

Sub-watersheds:

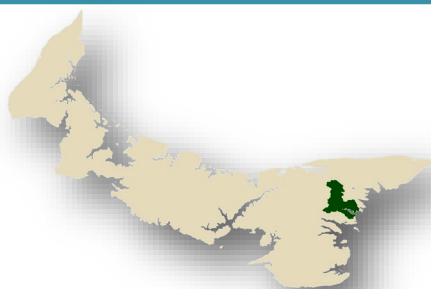
Blackett's Creek
Boughton River
Graystone Creek
Morrison's Pond
Narrows Creek
Poplar Point

Total length of streams: 115.3 km

Total area : 10,518.5ha (105.2km²)

Basin name: Boughton Bay

Largest land use: Forest (55.6%)

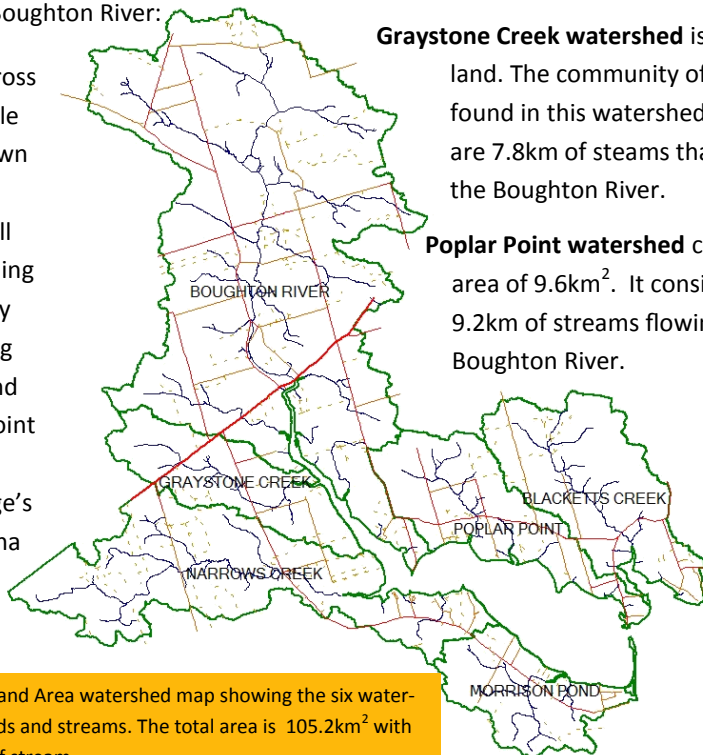


Map of Prince Edward Island with the Boughton River and Area watershed highlighted in green.

Location

The Boughton River and Area watershed is located in central Kings County. It includes the following areas that drain into the Boughton River:

Albion Cross
Annandale
Bridgetown
Dundas
Forest Hill
Glenfanning
Howe Bay
Launching
Little Pond
Poplar Point
Primrose
St. George's
Strathcona
Upton



Boughton and Area watershed map showing the six watersheds, roads and streams. The total area is 105.2km² with 115.3km of stream.

Physical Description

Boughton River watershed drains into Boughton Bay which flows into the Northumberland Strait then into the Gulf of St. Lawrence. The watershed covers an area of 51km². The headwaters are located in Forest Hill and Albion Cross. The total length of streams in this watershed is 55km.

Narrows Creek watershed covers an area of 18km². Headwaters are located in Glenfanning. There are 21.9km of streams flowing into the Boughton River from Narrows Creek.

Graystone Creek watershed is 7.9km² of land. The community of Primrose is found in this watershed and there are 7.8km of streams that drain into the Boughton River.

Poplar Point watershed covers an area of 9.6km². It consists of 9.2km of streams flowing into the Boughton River.



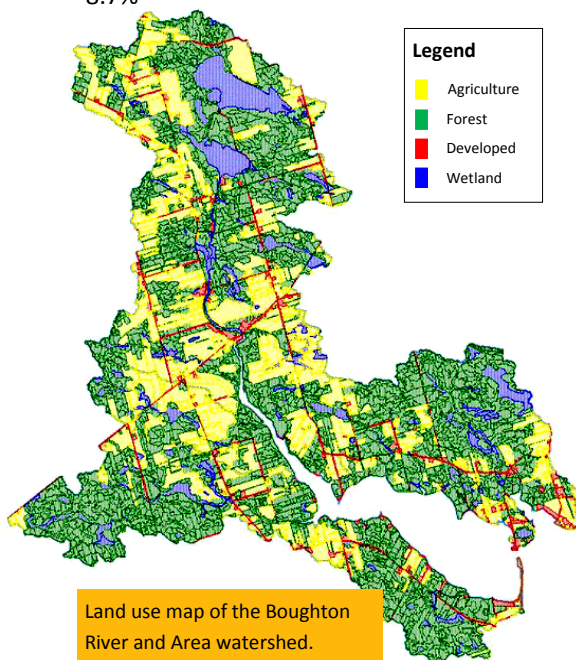
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Blackett's Creek watershed covers 12.1km² in area. It has 12.1km of streams draining into Boughton Bay.

Morrison Pond watershed is the smallest in the Boughton Area. It is 6.6km², which includes the communities of Launching and St. Georges. It has 8.8km of stream draining into the Boughton River.

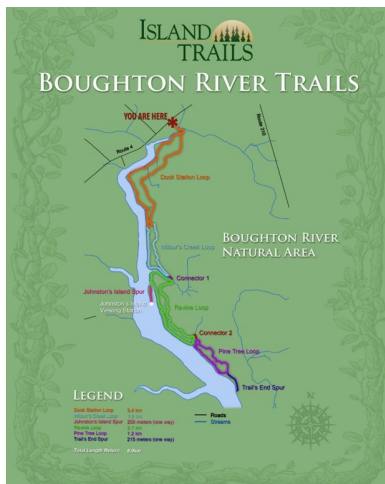
Watershed and Area Land Use

Based on land use data from 2010, forested areas dominate the land in the Boughton River and Area watershed, followed by agricultural land. Developed land, which includes commercial, industrial, institutional, recreational, residential, transportation and urban, accounts for 4.1%. Wetlands account for 8.7%



Boughton River Nature Trail

The Boughton River and Area watershed is home to an 8.9km woodland trail located in Bridgetown, and follows along the river. The trail is made up of four interconnected loops that wind through various habitats, including spruce thickets, hardwood stands and grassy meadows. Bridges allow hikers to cross over small tributaries of the Boughton River.



Boughton River Trail map located on site highlighting the four interconnected loops.

Many native trees, shrubs and wildflowers can be found along the trail. This is a great location for birding, with reports of various songbirds and waterfowl, owls, woodpeckers, American Bittern, Great Blue Herons, Ospreys and Bald Eagles. Small mammals can be found here along with evidence of Snowshoe Hare, Red Fox and Eastern Coyote activity.



Dragonfly nymph found in Narrows Creek during macroinvertebrate sampling. Dragonflies are a good bioindicator because of their sensitivity to environmental change.

Conservation Issues

Riparian assessments of the Boughton River and Area watershed are planned for the near future. However, based on assessments of the other rivers in the SEA area, Boughton River is likely facing the following issues:

- Natural blockages
- Beaver activity
- Poor or damaged crossings

These issues result in:

- Fish passage impediment
- Loss of habitat

Get Involved!

A management plan for the Boughton River and Area watershed needs to be developed. SEA requires public support and input for this to be successful. We urge you to get involved. Please contact us if you are interested in improving the watershed you live in.



Land Use	Boughton River (Hectares)	Narrows Creek (Hectares)	Graystone Creek (Hectares)	Poplar Point (Hectares)	Blackett's Creek (Hectares)	Morrison Pond (Hectares)	Total Area (Hectares)	%
Agriculture	1719.8	402.4	304.9	181.9	176.9	68.2	2854	27.1%
Developed	203.5	53.7	21.5	67.0	48.6	33.6	427.9	4.1%
Forest	2404.9	1202.3	363.1	554.8	816.8	500.9	5842.7	55.6%
Wetland	513.2	123.5	46.6	61.5	126.6	44.7	916.1	8.7%
Non-evident	249.5	31.8	57.2	91.9	38.2	9.4	477.9	4.5%

Breakdown of the land use for the six sub-watersheds in the Boughton River Area.