

The Rocky Branch Creek Watershed is located within the northern portion of Lakeland, north of the Loosahatchie River. Part of the watershed is located within unincorporated Shelby County. Lakeland’s portion is bounded roughly by Brunswick Road on the west, Pleasant Ridge Road on the north, and Palomino Road on the east. Rocky Branch Creek starts near Salem Road and Pleasant Ridge Road and flows south under Tennessee State Route 385 (Interstate 269). It then flows parallel to Brunswick Road under Salem Rd and Stewart road. It empties into the Loosahatchie River and is a part of the Loosahatchie River Watershed.

The watershed encompasses nearly 2700 acres (1900 of which are in Lakeland city limits). Of the 1900 acres located within Lakeland, 11% is composed of residential subdivisions, while the rest is composed of farmland and wooded areas. The subdivisions that are a part of this watershed include: Salem Lake Estates, Windsor Grove, Jaybird, Brunswick Road Subdivision and Brunswick Hills. The watershed experiences nearly 55 inches of rainfall each year. The surface and subsurface geologic formations consists of clay, silt, sand, chalk, gravel and lignite.

The City of Lakeland has been actively working on addressing the impairment issues that are reported by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation has issued one impairment for the Rocky Branch Creek Watershed. This impairment rating can be found in the EPA 303(d) listing. A copy of the impairments is provided in the table below.

Issues of Impairment with Rocky Branch Creek Watershed

Impairment	Consequence of Impairment	Source of Impairment
E-Coli (fecal coliform) Level	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Affects quality of drinking water</li> <li>Contains harmful bacteria for humans that has the potential to lead to death</li> </ul>	Feces of warm blooded animals

