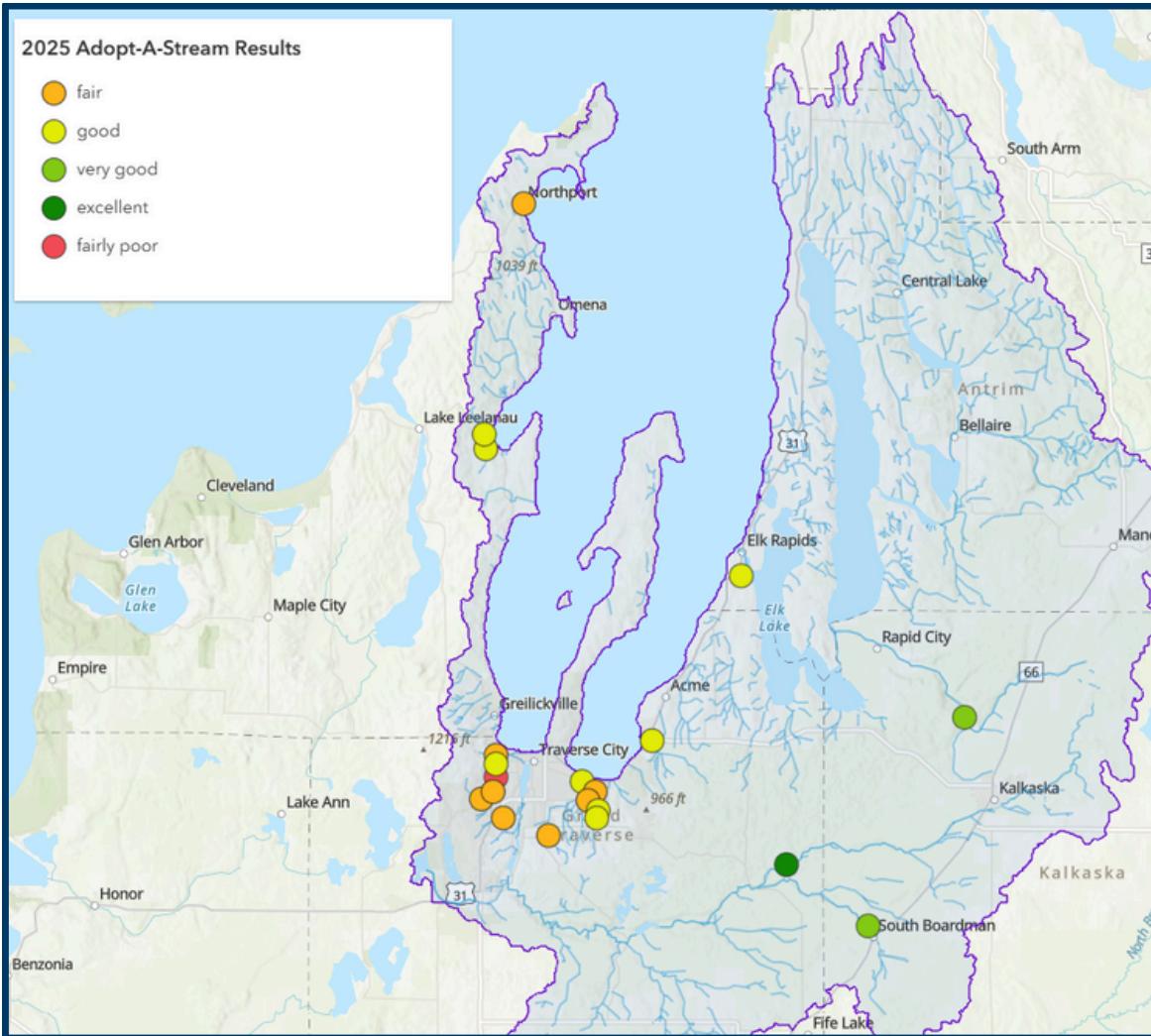


2025 ADOPT-A-STREAM ANNUAL REPORT



The Watershed Center's Adopt-A-Stream program trains community members to monitor streams within the Grand Traverse Bay watershed. Volunteers survey macroinvertebrate communities to determine stream health. In 2025, 113 volunteers monitored 23 stream sites. The majority of urbanized sites scored "fair" or "good," while the forested headwater sites of the Boardman-Ottaway and Rapid rivers scored "very good" or "excellent." This illustrates the stress urbanization has on area streams, including reduced riparian and instream habitat complexity, sedimentation, and stormwater impacts. Adopt-A-Stream data also allows us to track how the invasive New Zealand Mud Snail may be impacting macroinvertebrate communities in stream sites with known invasions. Understanding how our stream systems are responding to land use change, invasive species, and known pollution sources help us advocate for protection and prioritize management and restoration efforts.

To learn more, visit www.gtbay.org/adopt-a-stream.