

= Muncy Creek =

Muncy Creek ( also known as Big Muncy Creek ) is a tributary of the West Branch Susquehanna River in Sullivan County and Lycoming County , in Pennsylvania , in the United States . It is approximately 34 @. @ 5 miles ( 55 @. @ 5 km ) long . The watershed of the creek has an area of 216 square miles ( 560 km<sup>2</sup> ) . The creek 's discharge averages 49 cubic feet per second ( 1 @. @ 4 m<sup>3</sup> / s ) at Sonestown , but can be up to a thousand times higher at Muncy . The headwaters of the creek are on the Allegheny Plateau . Rock formations in the watershed include the Chemung Formation and the Catskill Formation .

There are a number of lakes in the watershed of Muncy Creek , including Eagles Mere Lake , Highland Lake , and Beaver Lake . The creek was known as Occohpocheny to Native Americans . The area in its vicinity was settled in 1783 . Various other industries and mills were constructed in the creek 's vicinity from the late 18th century to the early 20th century . Wild trout naturally reproduce in part of Muncy Creek . Part of the creek is navigable by canoe .

= = Course = =

Muncy Creek begins in southeastern Laporte Township , Sullivan County , near its border with Davidson Township , Sullivan County . The creek flows southwest and then west for a short distance before reaching the border between Laporte Township and Davidson Township . It then turns southwest as it begins to follow this border . Shortly afterwards it turns northwest and begins to flow into a valley , then turns west and begins receiving very short tributaries from both sides . Examples of these include Rock Run and Lopez Pond Branch . After picking up Peters Creek , one such tributary , Muncy Creek turns southwest and passes the community of Nordmont , where the tributary Ellick Run flows into it . The creek then turns southwest and later west . Deep Hollow Run then enters the creek , which heads south away from the Laporte Township / Davidson Township border . Upon leaving behind the Laporte Township / Davidson Township border , the creek enters Davidson Township and heads west @-@ southwest , passing a gauging station . After several miles , it reaches the community of Sonestown , where the tributary Big Run flows into it from the north . Muncy Creek then makes a sharp bend south and begins flowing parallel to U.S. Route 220 . After a few miles , it passes the community of Muncy Valley and makes a sharp turn south , exiting Davidson Township .

Upon exiting Davidson Township , Sullivan County , Muncy Creek enters Lycoming County and flows along the border between Shrewsbury Township and Penn Township for several miles . It continues following U.S. Route 220 during this time , picking up a few tributaries , including Lick Run . The creek also passes by Glen Mawr and Tivoli during this stretch . Beyond the stretch , in Picture Rocks , the creek crosses Pennsylvania Route 864 . Beyond the community , the creek continues south into Wolf Township , leaving its valley passing by the eastern edge of Hughesville . Some distance further on , the creek receives the tributary Sugar Run and some miles later leaves Wolf Township in a southwesterly direction . Upon exiting Wolf Township , the creek enters Muncy Creek Township , where Little Muncy Creek flows into it . Muncy Creek then turns northeast , crossing Pennsylvania Route 405 and turns southwest , crossing Interstate 180 . The creek then receives the tributary Wolf Run and immediately afterwards empties into the West Branch Susquehanna River . Muncy Creek joins the West Branch Susquehanna River is 27 @. @ 88 miles ( 44 @. @ 87 km ) upstream of its mouth .

= = = Tributaries = = =

Significant tributaries of Muncy Creek include Little Muncy Creek and Wolf Run . The watershed of Little Muncy Creek has an area of 82 @. @ 30 square miles ( 213 @. @ 2 km<sup>2</sup> ) . This creek reaches its confluence with Muncy Creek 3 @. @ 90 miles ( 6 @. @ 28 km ) upstream of its mouth . The watershed of Wolf Run has an area of 11 @. @ 10 square miles ( 28 @. @ 7 km<sup>2</sup> ) . This stream reaches its confluence with Muncy Creek 0 @. @ 06 miles ( 0 @. @ 097 km ) upstream of its mouth .

Other large tributaries of the creek include Lewis Creek , Rock Run , and Sugar Run . The watersheds of these tributaries have areas of 14 @. @ 5 square miles ( 38 km<sup>2</sup> ) , 10 @. @ 3 square miles ( 27 km<sup>2</sup> ) , and 10 @. @ 3 square miles ( 27 km<sup>2</sup> ) , respectively . Muncy Creek also has numerous minor tributaries .

= = Hydrology = =

The highest recorded discharge of Muncy Creek near Muncy is 46 @. @ 600 cubic feet ( 1 @. @ 320 m<sup>3</sup> ) per second . In 2012 and 2013 , the creek 's discharge at this location ranged from 29 to 379 cubic feet ( 0 @. @ 82 to 10 @. @ 73 m<sup>3</sup> ) per second . The discharge of the creek at Sonestown averages 44 @. @ 9 cubic feet per second . The osmotic pressure of the stream 's waters at this location ranged from less than 1 up to 4 millios @-@ moles per 2 @. @ 2 pounds ( 1 @. @ 00 kg ) . The annual rate of precipitation near the creek ranges from 35 to 50 inches ( 89 to 127 cm ) .

The pH of Muncy Creek 's waters near Muncy ranged from 7 @. @ 0 to 7 @. @ 5 in 2012 and 2013 . The stream 's specific conductance ranged from 89 to 134 micro @-@ siemens per centimeter at 25 ° C ( 77 ° F ) .

Between November 2012 and September 2013 , the lowest recorded water temperatures of Muncy Creek at Muncy were 1 @. @ 4 ° C ( 34 @. @ 5 ° F ) on January 9 , 2013 and 2 @. @ 6 ° C ( 36 @. @ 7 ° F ) on March 19 , 2013 . The highest recorded water temperatures were 20 @. @ 6 ° C ( 69 @. @ 1 ° F ) and 20 @. @ 4 ° C ( 68 @. @ 7 ° F ) , on September 4 , 2013 and July 9 , 2013 , respectively .

The concentration of dissolved solids in Muncy Creek ranges from 50 to 80 milligrams per liter ( 2 @. @ 9 × 10<sup>-5</sup> to 4 @. @ 6 × 10<sup>-5</sup> oz / cu in ) . The concentration of suspended solids , however , is always less than 5 milligrams per liter ( 2 @. @ 9 × 10<sup>-6</sup> oz / cu in ) . The water hardness of the creek ( in terms of the concentration of calcium carbonate ) ranges from 28 to 49 milligrams per liter ( 1 @. @ 6 × 10<sup>-5</sup> to 2 @. @ 8 × 10<sup>-5</sup> oz / cu in ) . The concentration of calcium in the creek ranges from 8 @. @ 7 to 10 @. @ 5 milligrams per liter ( 5 @. @ 0 × 10<sup>-6</sup> to 6 @. @ 1 × 10<sup>-6</sup> oz / cu in ) . Its magnesium concentration can be as low as 1 @. @ 6 milligrams per liter ( 9 @. @ 2 × 10<sup>-7</sup> oz / cu in ) or as high as 2 @. @ 0 milligrams per liter ( 1 @. @ 2 × 10<sup>-6</sup> oz / cu in ) , while its sodium concentration ranges from 3 @. @ 2 to 4 @. @ 1 milligrams per liter ( 1 @. @ 8 × 10<sup>-6</sup> to 2 @. @ 4 × 10<sup>-6</sup> oz / cu in ) .

There are trace amounts of bromides , phosphorus , orthophosphates , and ammonia in Muncy Creek . All of these occur in concentrations of 0 @. @ 3 milligrams per liter or less . Nitrites occur in concentrations of less than 0 @. @ 4 milligrams per liter ( 2 @. @ 3 × 10<sup>-7</sup> oz / cu in ) . The chloride concentration in the creek ranges from 4 @. @ 5 to 7 @. @ 0 milligrams per liter ( 2 @. @ 6 × 10<sup>-6</sup> to 4 @. @ 0 × 10<sup>-6</sup> oz / cu in ) . The minimum sulfate concentration is 6 @. @ 7 milligrams per liter ( 3 @. @ 9 × 10<sup>-6</sup> oz / cu in ) and the maximum is 8 @. @ 9 milligrams per liter ( 5 @. @ 1 × 10<sup>-6</sup> oz / cu in ) milligrams per liter . The minimum nitrate concentration is 0 @. @ 65 milligrams per liter ( 3 @. @ 8 × 10<sup>-7</sup> oz / cu in ) milligrams per liter and the maximum is 1 @. @ 2 milligrams per liter ( 6 @. @ 9 × 10<sup>-7</sup> oz / cu in ) milligrams per liter . The total concentration of nitrogen in the creek ranges from 0 @. @ 8 to 1 @. @ 2 milligrams per liter ( 4 @. @ 6 × 10<sup>-7</sup> to 6 @. @ 9 × 10<sup>-7</sup> oz / cu in ) .

The concentration of aluminum in Muncy Creek ranges from less than 20 micrograms per liter ( 1 @. @ 2 × 10<sup>-8</sup> oz / cu in ) up to 30 micrograms per liter ( 1 @. @ 7 × 10<sup>-8</sup> oz / cu in ) and the copper concentration is always less than 4 micrograms per liter ( 2 @. @ 3 × 10<sup>-9</sup> oz / cu in ) micrograms per liter . The lead concentration is always less than 1 microgram per liter ( 5 @. @ 8 × 10<sup>-10</sup> oz / cu in ) . In 2013 , the creek 's concentration of manganese was observed to be 20 micrograms per liter ( 1 @. @ 2 × 10<sup>-8</sup> oz / cu in ) . The zinc concentration ranges from less than 5 micrograms per liter ( 2 @. @ 9 × 10<sup>-9</sup> oz / cu in ) up to 30 micrograms per liter ( 1 @. @ 7 × 10<sup>-8</sup> oz / cu in ) . The nickel and selenium concentrations are less than 4 and 7 micrograms per liter ( 2 @. @ 3 × 10<sup>-9</sup> and 4 @. @ 0 × 10<sup>-9</sup> oz / cu in ) , respectively , while the boron concentration is less than 200 micrograms per liter ( 1 @. @ 2 × 10<sup>-7</sup> oz / cu in ) . The creek 's strontium

concentration is 40 or 50 micrograms per liter ( 2 @. @ 3 × 10 ? 8 or 2 @. @ 9 × 10 ? 8 oz / cu in ) .

## == Geography and geology ==

The mouth of Muncy Creek has an elevation of slightly less than 480 feet ( 150 m ) , while the source of the creek has an elevation of between 2 @, @ 260 feet ( 690 m ) and 2 @, @ 280 feet ( 690 m ) . The headwaters of the creek are more than 1 @, @ 500 feet ( 460 m ) higher than its mouth . The headwaters of Muncy Creek are mountainous and are situated on the Allegheny Plateau . The southern edge of the Allegheny Mountain runs from the creek west as far as Lock Haven or Pine Creek . The valley of Muncy Creek is surrounded by scalloped hills . Muncy Creek 's course winds significantly , but flows generally southwest .

A narrow belt of the Chemung Formation occurs along Muncy Creek in Shrewsbury Township , Lycoming County . An outcropping of the Catskill Formation also occurs along parts of the creek in Jordan Township , Lycoming County . The Chemung Formation has an outcropping on the creek near Moreland . This outcropping is 30 feet ( 9 @. @ 1 m ) high and gray in color . It consists of shale and sandstone . Red shale is also found on the creek . In general , rock formations consisting of sandstone and shale are found along much of the creek , while rock formations of limestone occur close to its mouth .

The Tombs Run and Muncy Creek Anticline runs parallel to the creek through northern Penn Township , Lycoming County and also enters Sullivan County near the creek . The creek also has a cliff known as Picture Rock on it . An area of boulders on the creek forms a Class 2 rapid . There is a levee on Muncy Creek in Hughesville .

The soils in the valley of Muncy Creek are deep but relatively poor . However , farming was done in the valley in the late 1800s and still is as of the late 1900s . The valley has forested hills on either side . The Morris @- @ Oquaga @- @ Wellsboro soil series is found along the creek in Sullivan County .

The channel of Muncy Creek is sinuous with high streambanks and the creek has cobble and gravel bars . There are a few strainers on the creek .

## == Watershed ==

The watershed of Muncy Creek has an area of 216 square miles ( 560 km<sup>2</sup> ) . The area of the watershed upstream of Hugesville comprises approximately half of the total watershed . The area of the creek 's watershed upstream of Sonestown is 25 @. @ 8 square miles ( 67 km<sup>2</sup> ) . The watershed of the creek occupies parts of Lycoming County , Sullivan County , Columbia County , and Montour County .

There are a number of lakes in the watershed of Muncy Creek . The largest is Eagles Mere Lake , which has an area of 116 @. @ 2 acres ( 47 @. @ 0 ha ) . Hunters Lake has an area of 90 @. @ 2 acres ( 36 @. @ 5 ha ) and Highland Lake has an area of 10 acres ( 4 @. @ 0 ha ) . Additionally , Beaver Lake ( which has an area of 6 acres ( 2 @. @ 4 ha ) ) is located in the watershed of the tributary Little Muncy creek .

Communities in the watershed of Muncy Creek include Hugesville , Picture Rocks , Lairdsville , and Sonestown . Smaller communities in the creek 's watershed include Muncy Valley , Eagles Mere , and Nordmont .

In the late 1800s , the only road in Davidson Township , Sullivan County besides the Susquehanna and Tioga Turnpike passed near Muncy Creek and the settlements along it . The valley of Muncy Creek is largely undeveloped , largely lacking even summer camps .

## == History ==

Muncy Creek was entered into the Geographic Names Information System on March 1 , 1990 . Its identifier in the Geographic Names Information System is 1202628 . The creek has also been known as Muncey Creek .

Muncy Creek was known to the Native Americans as Occhopocheny . Historically , Native Americans painted on Picture Rock , a cliff on the creek . Additionally , six Native American lance heads made of stone were found near the creek by Joseph Fahrenbach in the autumn of 1872 .

Muncy Creek was settled in 1783 by John Beeber . In 1797 , the Willow Grove Mill was built on Muncy Creek in 1797 by Isaac Walton and by the late 1800s , there was a sawmill on the creek in Shrewsbury Township , Lycoming County . A woolen mill was also built on the creek in Wolf Township , Lycoming County in 1842 . An aqueduct carrying the West Branch Canal once crossed Muncy Creek .

Historically , railroads ran parallel to Muncy Creek 26 miles ( 42 km ) upstream from its mouth , as far as the community of Nordmont . There were also numerous railroad stations on the creek upstream of the community of Picture Rocks The Reading Railroad also had a bridge over the creek in the past . The creek experienced severe flooding in 1889 .

In the early 1900s , many of the sewers in the community of Eagles Mere discharged into tributaries of Muncy Creek , such as Outlet Run . Sewage was also discharged into Muncy Creek in Hugessville . Additionally , in the early 1900s , the waters of Muncy Creek were contaminated with tannery waste products from Muncy Valley and also chemicals . For this reason , the creek was only used for power during this time . Additionally , a methyl alcohol plant , the Nordmont Chemical Works , discharged chemicals into the creek at Nordstown . Other major industries in the watershed in the early part of the 1900s included clay mines and furniture factories .

= = Biology = =

From its headwaters to a point 26 @. @ 4 miles ( 42 @. @ 5 km ) upstream of its mouth , the drainage basin of Muncy Creek is designated as Exceptional Value and a Migratory Fishery . From this point downstream to the US Route 220 bridge at Muncy Valley , the creek 's main stem is designated as a Coldwater Fishery and a Migratory Fishery . From this point downstream to its mouth , the main stem is designated as a Trout Stocked Fishery and a Migratory Fishery . Wild trout naturally reproduce in the creek from Trout Run downstream to its mouth .

A total of 92 percent of assessed streams in the watershed of Muncy Creek are inhabited by trout . Of the inhabited streams , 82 percent are inhabited only by brook trout , nine percent are inhabited by only brown trout , and nine percent are inhabited by both brook trout and brown trout . A number of tributaries of the creek are designated as high @-@ quality coldwater fisheries . These include Lick Run , Roaring Run , Rock Run , and Spring Run in Lycoming County and Big Run , Trout Run , and a number of others in Sullivan County .

There are some forested areas in the floodplains of Muncy Creek in the United States Geological Survey quadrangle of Hugessville . The Natural Areas Inventory of Lycoming County recommended retaining the natural vegetation in this area to improve water quality .

= = Recreation = =

It is possible to canoe on Muncy Creek during snowmelts or shortly after heavier rainstorms . Although the creek is used for canoeing by locals , it is less popular for this use than the nearby Loyalsock Creek . Edward Gertler considers the creek to be especially good for novice canoers . He describes Muncy Creek as a " pleasing but generally mediocre mountain stream " in his book Keystone Canoeing . However , it is only possible to canoe on the creek downstream of the plateau of North Mountain . A total of 24 @. @ 3 miles ( 39 @. @ 1 km ) of the creek is canoeable . The difficulty rating of Muncy Creek for canoeing ranges from 1 + to 2 .

There is a boat ramp belonging to the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission in the lower reaches of Muncy Creek . It can also serve as a take @-@ out for canoers on the creek .