

Grading Scale:

For the purpose of this watershed report card, the *grade* assigned to each 12-digit watershed was determined using data collected by the Ohio EPA and Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR). All of this data was reported in the *2010 Ohio Integrated Assessment Report for the Blanchard River* and ODNR's *Earth Resources Information Network (ERIN)*. The web site for the *2010 Ohio Integrated Assessment Report for the Blanchard River* is http://wwwapp.epa.ohio.gov/dsw/ir2010/lrau_list.php. The web site for *Earth Resources Information Network (ERIN)* is <http://ohiodnr.com/tabid/23134/Default.aspx>. Both of the reports can be found at the Blanchard River Watershed Partnership's web site: <http://www.blanchardriver.org>. Click on the Education Tab.

The *2010 Ohio Integrated Assessment Report for the Blanchard River* list the impairments found in the Blanchard River watershed during the *2009 Biological and Water Quality Study Report*. Each impairment was assigned a point value of either 1, 2, or 3 based on their importance as determined by the BRWP. The impairments are listed below with their assigned point values.

3-points (highest priority)	2-points	1-point (least priority)
-sedimentation/siltation	-nitrate/nitrite	-direct habitat alterations
-total phosphorus	-nutrient eutrophication	-low flow alterations
-organic enrichment (sewage) biological	biological indicators	-dissolved oxygen -water temperature

The impairments under 3-points include those that are causing direct harm in the form of the algal blooms in the waterways and Lake Erie, pathogens in the waterways, and filling in of the waterways that lead to increase flooding and blockage of the streams and rivers, especially the Maumee River's entrance into Lake Erie. All of these 3-point impairments can be reduced or eliminated by using Best Management Practices (BMPs). The 2-point impairments are not as high of a priority as the 3-point impairments. Each of them can be reduced or eliminated by using Best Management Practices (BMPs). Finally, the 1-point impairments are caused mostly by the channelization of the waterways and the high percentage of agriculture land use in the watershed. Because agriculture is the largest land use industry in the watershed, the Ohio EPA has lowered the Use Designation for most of the waterways in the Blanchard River Watershed from warmwater habitat to modified warmwater habitat. This lower designation makes it easier to achieve full attainment designation of the waterway. There are some BMPs that will help to reduce each of these 1-point impairments.

The Aquatic Use Attainment designation was the second measurement used to determine the watershed grade. If the watershed was in full attainment, 0-points was assigned. One point was assigned for a watershed that was in partial attainment and 2-points for a watershed that was in non attainment. Aquatic Use Attainment measure whether the waterbody provides suitable habitat for survival and reproduction of desirable fish, shellfish, and other aquatic organisms.

The final grade for each 12-digit watershed was determined by the total points and the following scale:

0-2 points = A	7 points = B-	12 points = D+
3 points = A-	8 points = C+	13-14 points = D
4 points = B+	9-10 points = C	15 points = D-
5-6 points = B	11 points = C-	more than 15 points = F