



RED CREEK WATERSHED

FLORA and FAUNA FACT SHEET

Did You Know?

The entire drainage area of Red Creek is over 400 square miles.

Red Creek gets its name from the reddish stain of naturally-occurring tannins.

Threatened or endangered species found within the watershed include:

- *gopher tortoise*
- *Red-cockaded woodpecker*
- *Louisiana black bear*
- *Louisiana quillwort*

Red Creek is designated as a Mississippi State Scenic Stream.

Trees and Shrubs

- Longleaf Pine (*Pinus palustris*)
- River Birch (*Betula nigra*)
- Titi (*Cyrilla racemiflora*)
- Mountain Laurel (*Kalmia latifolia*)
- Bald Cypress (*Taxodium distichum*)
- Swamp Black Gum (*Nyssa aquatica*)
- Tulip Poplar (*Liriodendron tulipifera*)
- Sweet Bay Magnolia (*Magnolia virginiana*)
- Big Leaf Magnolia (*Magnolia macrophylla*)
- Wild (or Pink) azalea (*Rhododendron canescens*)
- Red maple (*Acer rubrum*)
- American Hornbeam (*Carpinus caroliniana*)
- Southern Magnolia (*Magnolia grandiflora*)
- Spruce or Turkey pine (*Pinus glabra*)



Tulip Poplar



Bald cypress



Wild azalea



River Oats



Bulrush

Ferns and Grasses

- Cinnamon fern (*Osmunda cinnamomea*)
- Royal fern (*Osmunda regalis*)
- Virginia chain fern (*Woodwardia virginica*)
- Sedge (*Carex*)
- Muhly grass (*Muhlenbergia schredberi*)
- Bulrush (*Scirpus*)
- Switchcane (*Arundinaria*)
- River Oats (*Chasmanthium latifolium*)



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What You Can Do To Protect Red Creek

Streamside buffers—maintaining a strip of vegetated land alongside and upslope of a waterbody or wetland will protect water quality, promote wildlife habitats, minimize flooding, and maximize groundwater recharge.

Septic tank maintenance—ensure a properly functioning septic system to avoid contamination of nearby waterbodies. Failing septic tanks are a source of impairment for the Tchoutacabouffa River.

Conservation—donation and/or bargain sale of property to accredited land conservation organizations. Tax benefits for landowners who conserve land are significant.

Water testing—Adopt-a-Stream water testing is available to any volunteer willing to take water samples on a regular basis in order to track important health indicators of the river.

Mammals

White-tailed deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*)
 Raccoon (*Procyon lotor*)
 American beaver (*Castor Canadensis*)
 Opossum (*Didelphis virginiana*)
 River otter (*Pteronura*)
 Bob cat (*Lynx rufus*)
 Gray fox (*Urocyon cinereoargut*)
 Eastern fox squirrel (*Sciurus niger*)
 Eastern gray squirrel (*Sciurus carolinensis*)
 Striped skunk (*Mephitis mephitis*)
 Coyote (*Canis latrans*)
 Marsh rat (*Oryzomys palustris*)



White-tailed



Common



Eastern Screech Owl



Anhinga



Great Egret

Birds

Great Blue Heron (*Ardea Herodias*)
 Red-shouldered hawk (*Buteo lineatus*)
 Great Egret (*Ardea alba*)
 Anhinga (*Anhinga anhinga*)
 Red-winged blackbird (*Agelaius phoeniceus*)
 Barred owl (*Strix varia*)
 Eastern Screech owl (*Otus asio*)
 Pileated woodpecker (*Dryocopus pileatus*)
 American wild turkey (*Meleagris gallopavo*)
 American crow and Common raven (*Corvus*, sp.)
 American robin (*Turdus migratorius*)
 Northern cardinal (*Cardinalis cardinalis*)
 Sparrow (*Ammodramus*, sp.)
 Pileated woodpecker (*Dryocopus pileatus*)
 Red cockaded woodpecker (*Picoides borealis*)
 Yellow-bellied sapsucker (*Sphyrapicus*)
 Swallow-tailed kite (*Elanoides forficatus*)



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Reptiles

- Alligator (*Alligator mississippiensis*)
- Chicken turtle (*Deirochelys reticularia*)
- Cottonmouth (*Agkistrodon piscivorus*)
- Gulf Coast Eastern Box Turtle (*Terrapene Carolina*)
- Gopher tortoise (*Gopherus polyphemus*)
- Snapping turtle (*Chelydra septentia*)
- Mud turtle (*Kinosternon subabram*)
- Stinkpot (*Sternotherus odoratrix*)
- Slider (*Pseudemys scripta*)
- Painted turtle (*Chrysemys picta*)
- Razorback musk turtle (*Sternotherus carinatus*)
- Softshell (*Trionyx spiniferus*)
- Diamondback terrapin (*Mulurlemys terrapin*)
- Diamondback water snake (*Nerocia rhombifera*)
- Eastern ribbon snake (*Thamnophis sauritus*)
- Common garter snake (*Thamnophis sirtalia*)
- Pigmy rattlesnake (*Sistrurus miliarius*)
- Black racer (*Coluber constrictor*)
- Ringneck snake (*Diadophis punctatus*)
- Rat snake or chicken snake (*Elaphe obsoleta*)
- Mississippi Mud snake (*Farancia abacura*)
- Crayfish snake (*Regina rigida*)
- Brown snake (*Storeria, sp.*)
- Eastern ribbon snake (*Thamnophis sauritus*)
- Southern water snake (*Nerodia fasciata*)
- Eastern diamondback rattlesnake, (*Crotalus adamanteus*)
- Timber rattlesnake (*Crotalus borridus*)
- Copperhead (*Agkistrodon contortrix*)
- Common kingsnake (*Lampropeltis getulus*)
- Southern hognose snake (*Heterodon simus*)
- Eastern hognose snake (*Heterodon platyrhinus*)
- Five-lined skink (*Eumeces inexpectatus*)
- Eastern fence lizard (*Sceloperus undulates*)
- Green anole (*Anolis carolinensis*)
- Broad headed skink (*Sceloperus occidentalis*)
- Six-lined racerunner (*Cnemidophorus sexlinereus*)



Chicken turtle



Cottonmouth



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What You Can Do To Protect Red Creek

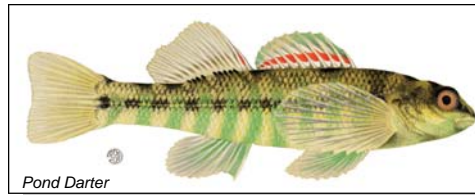
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Fish



Pond Darter

- Golden Shiner minnow
(Notemigonus crysoleucas)
- Sunfish (Lepomis)
- Crappie (Pomoxis)
- Darters
- Alligator gar; *Lepisosteus spatula*
- Spotted gar; *Lepisosteus oculatus*
- Bowfin; *Amia calva*
- American eel; *Anguilla rostrata*
- Chain pickerel; *Esox niger*
- Redfin Pickerel; *Esox americanus americanus*
- Common carp; *Cyprinus carpio*
- Bigmouth buffalo; *Ictiobus cyprinellus*
- Small mouth buffalo; *Ictiobus bibolus*
- Blue catfish; *Ictalurus fercatus*
- Channel catfish; *Ictalurus punctatus*
- Brown bullhead; *Ameriurus nebulosus*
- Hybrid striped bass; *Morone saxatilis chrysops*
- Yellow bass; *Morone mississippiensis*
- Redbreast sunfish; *Lepomis auritus*
- Bluegill; *Lepomis macrochirus*
- Redear sunfish; *Lepomis microlophus*
- Spotted sunfish; *Lepomis punctatus*
- Spotted bass; *Micropterus punctulatus*
- Largemouth bass; *Micropterus salmoides*
- White crappie; *Promoxis ansularis*
- Freshwater drum; *Sploidinotus grunniens*