



Nature Activity

A walk on the wet side

It's raining! Woohoo - grab your umbrella, map, pencil, notebook, raincoat and rubber boots and go outside to your backyard, park or neighbourhood greenspace and learn how raindrops in your neighbourhood travel to Lake Simcoe. Look carefully at all the natural surfaces around you and watch the raindrops. Watch them as they hit the ground, the leaves of a tree or a plant and how they collect on spider webs and other things. Make notes about what you observe in your notebook.



- How does the water travel over these different surfaces?
- Do you notice any differences?
- Does the rain go in different places depending on the type of surface it lands on?
- Does the rain sink into the ground on a grassy surface? Or run downhill on a paved surface?
- On your map, locate the pond, creek, stream or river closest to you (visit www.LSRCA.on.ca/watershed-health/maps to download a map). How does the water from your neighbourhood travel there?
- Does it travel through the storm drains? Through ditches? Some other way?
- How does that water then travel to Lake Simcoe?
- Other than water, what other things did you observe moving with the flowing rainwater (examples: leaves, dirt, garbage)?
- What things might come from your own yard (do you use pesticides or fertilizer on your grass)? Think about the animals that use this space as their habitat and how those things might affect them.
- What are some ways that people can keep the water clean?

Go with the flow

It's rainy and it's wet, making it less appealing to go outside. But hey, it's water. We depend on it for our lives. So why not embrace the rain and take a walk on the WET side!

You can jump and splash around in puddles and also watch the raindrops hit the ground - paying close attention to where they go.

Investigating the ways that raindrops move along natural surfaces is one way to learn about the watershed you live in. That's because water travels from high places to low places. And this fact about water makes a watershed easier to understand, because a watershed is an area of land where all the water travels from its highest point to its lowest point.

Everyone lives in a watershed. For us - that's Lake Simcoe. All the rain that falls in our watershed ends up in Lake Simcoe.

Questions about the Lake Simcoe watershed? Ask our Lake Doctor at communications@LSRCA.on.ca or tag us on Twitter @LSRCA or Instagram @lakesimcoeconservation.



Lake Simcoe Region
conservation authority

www.LSRCA.on.ca