

Provided by
The Agroecosystems Management Program
of the Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center
in support of Wooster City Schools

Welcome to the geography of Ohio lesson. Explore the different layers that are available on each map. While answering the questions below think of the different Layers you will need to answer each question.

Lesson 1 (Grades 3-9+) – Why do people live where they live?

- 1) If you lived in Ohio 500 years ago and you depended on growing maize where would you live?
- 2) How do the native settlements and land use patterns compare with modern population density maps?
- 3) How has transportation affected particular land use? Hint: consider the history of transportation and how rivers, canals, and highways have combined over the years to arrive at today's map.

Lesson 2 (Grades 3-9+) – Understanding watersystems and watersheds.

- 1) How does water flow from Wooster to the Gulf of Mexico?
- 2) A watershed is the area that drains into a single stream. Zoom into Wayne County (outlined in red). How do you find the boundary for a watershed? Are there watersheds inside watersheds inside watersheds? Why do some rivers flow north and some rivers flow south?
- 3) Use the find address button to find your school. Example: if your school was located at 100 Main Street type (100 Main). Zoom into your school and find what stream would water hitting your schoolyard flow into if it went over the surface of the soil?
- 4) Use the find address button this time to find your house. Which stream would water hitting your own yard flow into if it went over the surface of the soil?

Lesson 3 (Grades 3-9+) – Find the patch and conservation.

- 1) Where does local produce (fruits, vegetables, milk, etc) come from? Use the find address tool to find your house. Example: if your house was located at 100 Main Street type (100 Main). Can you find the nearest farm to your house?
- 2) Use the buffer tool to create a 1 mile buffer around your house and school. How many farms are within a mile of your house? Try this at a greater distance for example 2 miles.
- 3) Find corridors that connect forest patches. If the forest were allowed to regrow so that your individual patches all became one big patch, how would it affect:
 - Erosion?
 - Plant and animal diversity?
 - Land use by people?
- 4) 500 years ago, Wayne County was almost all hardwood forest. Is the Wayne County forest fragmented today?
- 5) How many patches of woods are there in the City of Wooster? Your neighborhood?
- 6) Where can you find large fragments of the forest in Wayne county? Where are forests almost nonexistent?
- 7) What parts of the Killbuck and other waterways have been artificially changed?
- 8) Choose a City in Wayne County. Where would you locate a new residential area? Why would you put it there and how would it change the use of the land around it?
- 9) If you could ensure that some of the farmland in Wayne County (crops, pastures, orchards, and adjacent forests) would be preserved, which farmland would you choose and why?