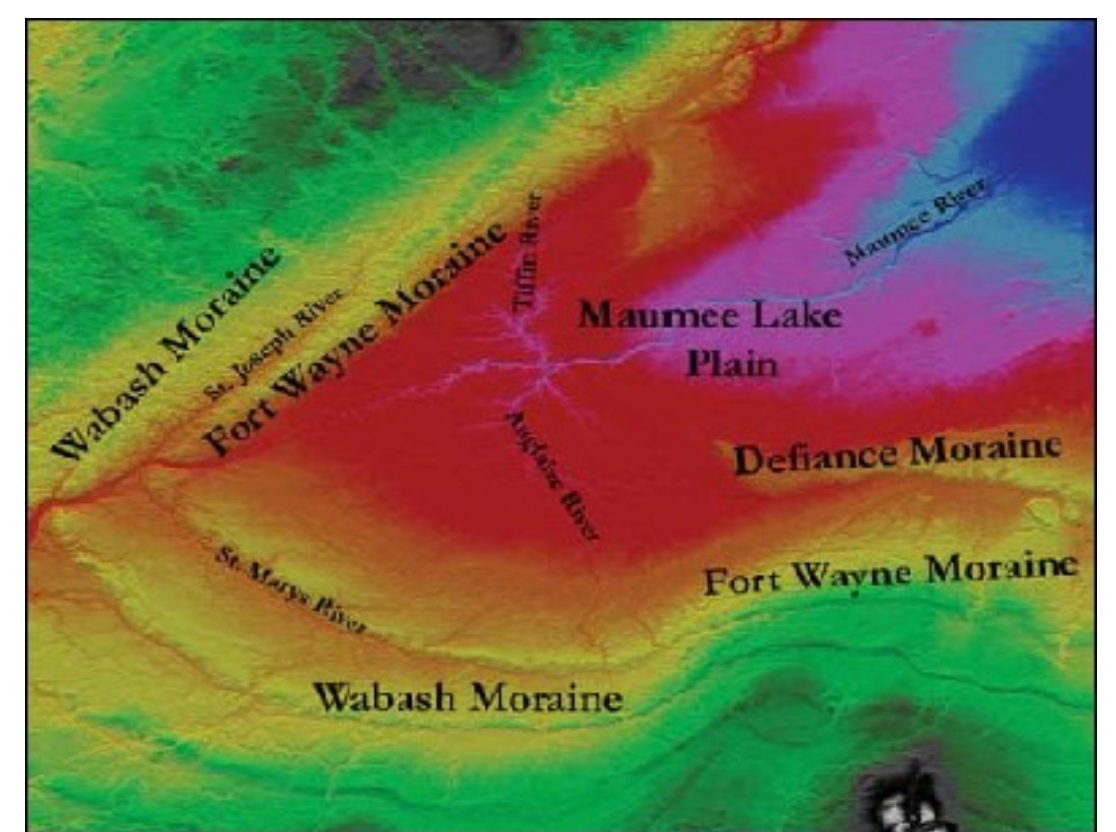
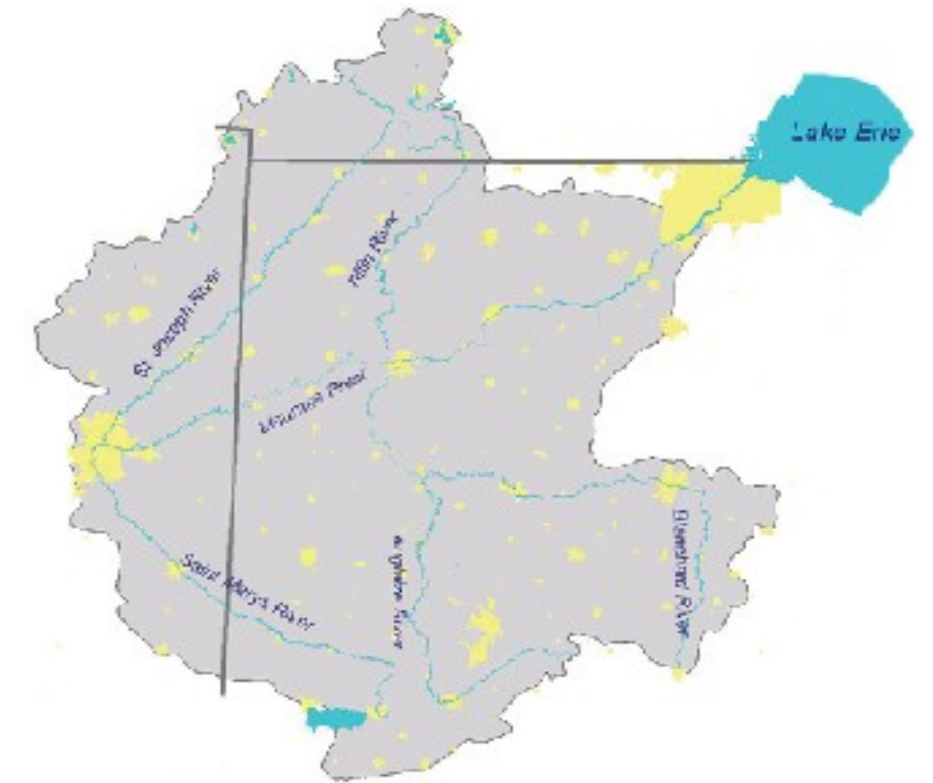
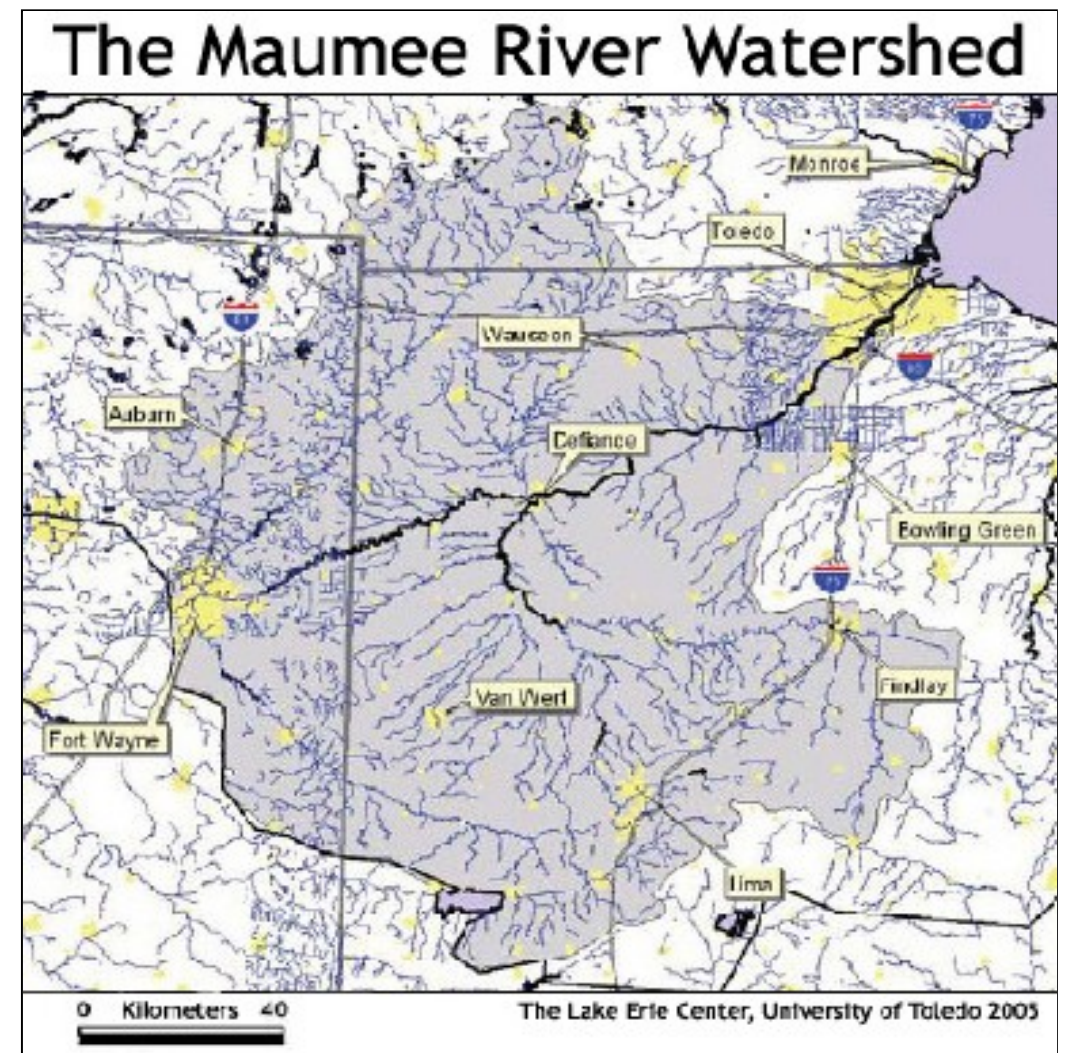




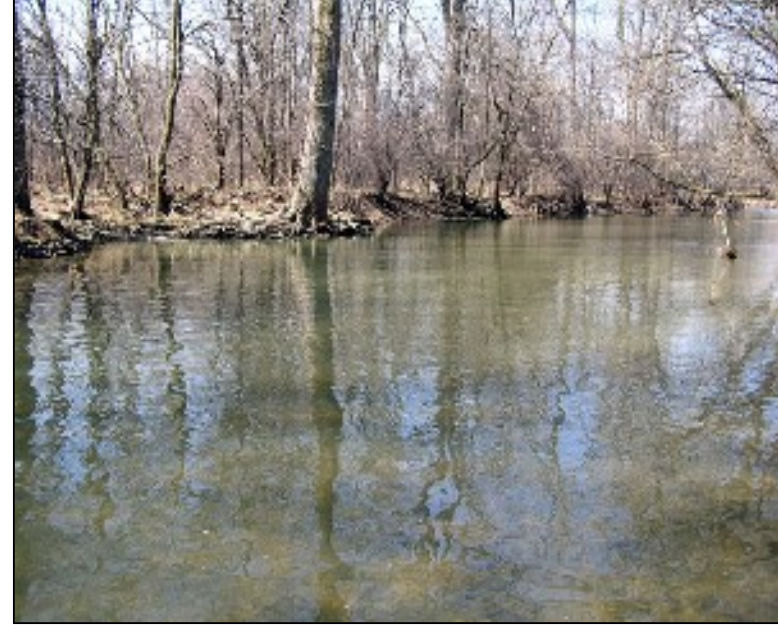

Geology – The Foundation For Fishes

Water flows to its lowest point - Land features, or Geology, factor heavily in the formation of fish habitat.

| | |
|----------------------------|--|
| <p><i>Watershed</i></p> | <p>A watershed is the area of land that drains into a specific body of water.</p> <p>The Maumee River is part of the Lake Erie watershed, while Lake Erie is part of the St. Lawrence River watershed, which is part of the Atlantic Ocean watershed.</p> |
| <p><i>Tributary</i></p> | <p>A tributary is a smaller stream that joins a larger body of water.</p> <p>The Auglaize or Tiffin Rivers are tributaries of the Maumee River. The Maumee River is a tributary of Lake Erie.</p> |
| <p><i>Stream Order</i></p> | <p>A designation based on the number and size of tributary waterways.</p> <p>A spring, small creek or ditch has a Stream Order of 1. The union of two 1st order streams would have a rank of 2 and so on. The Maumee River is a 4th order stream.</p> |
| <p><i>Slope</i></p> | <p>The rate at which a stream drops in elevation as it flows downstream.</p> <p>For example, a mountain stream will have a very steep slope, while the streams in the Maumee Lake Plain will have a very shallow slope.</p> |
| <p><i>Moraine</i></p> | <p>A deposit of rock, sand and clay left as a glacier (a very large piece of ice) melts away.</p> <p>Moraines look like rolling hills and form the the source streams of the Maumee River Watershed.</p> |



Basic Stream Habitats

| <i>Riffle</i> | <i>Run</i> | <i>Pool</i> | <i>Wetland</i> |
|---|---|--|--|
|  <p>Riffles are stream segments where water is greatly accelerated and flows in shallow sheets over the substrate. Riffles can occur where bedrock is at the surface and the channel is wide, or where rocks and gravel have piled up, forcing the stream to rush over top. Many darter species have specialized traits that allow them to effortlessly live in this dynamic habitat.</p> |  <p>Runs are stream segments where water movement is prevalent, yet not as accelerated and shallow as riffles. The bottom in these segments can be bedrock, but typically, coarse gravel and sand will form the substrate. In healthy streams, runs have the highest amount of micro-habitats within the segment and host the most species rich assemblages of fishes.</p> |  <p>Pools are segments of stream that are like a very long pond. The stream channel in these segments will be deeper and wider than in a riffle or run, which can give the appearance that the stream isn't flowing. However, the stream is still flowing, just slowly. Pools can be very productive angling locations as many sport species enjoy these quieter, deeper waters.</p> |  <p>Wetlands are segments with little water movement due to very little slope. They are characterized by thick accumulations of organic sediments and abundant plant and animal life, both above and below the water's surface. Wetlands act as filters for streams because the water interacts with such a great variety of life and physical factors.</p> |

Dinner Time!

Fishes eat all sorts of things, including each other! What else do fish eat?

