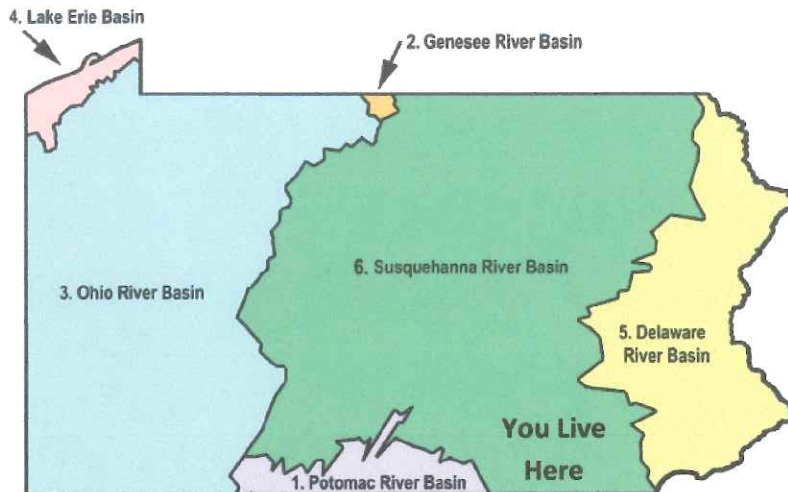


There are SIX major watersheds located in Pennsylvania. Peter Golds (his friends call him "P") is a good friend of Dr. Waters. A watershed is an area of land where all the surface water and groundwater drains to the same location. It is important to note that all these watersheds extend beyond the boundaries of PA into other nearby states. A good way to remember all six Pennsylvania watersheds is to use "P" Golds name like an acronym P-G-O-L-D-S. Look at the map below and get familiar with all six watersheds.



The major watersheds located in Pennsylvania are as follows;

1. Potomac River Basin
2. Genesee River Basin
3. Ohio River Basin
4. Lake Erie Basin
5. Delaware River Basin
6. Susquehanna River Basin

Pennsylvania Watershed Facts

1. **Potomac River Basin** - In addition to its location in south central Pennsylvania, it can also be found in Virginia, West Virginia, and Maryland. Washington, D.C. also gets its water from this watershed. The total size of this watershed is over 14,000 square miles although only about 1,500 square miles are located in PA.

2. **Genesee River Basin** - Genesee River Basin is mostly located in western New York. As you can see only a small part is located in PA -- about 100 square miles. The headwaters start in Pennsylvania and the water flows north to Lake Ontario. The river banks in certain areas can be as high as 800 feet!

3. **Ohio River Basin** - Located in western Pennsylvania, the Ohio River Basin is considered a national watershed because of its immense size. It is quite large encompassing over 200,000 square miles and fourteen states! The Ohio River is the largest tributary to the Mississippi River.

4. **Lake Erie Basin** - Found in the northwest corner of Pennsylvania, Lake Erie basin is part of the Great Lakes Basin. In terms of surface water the Great Lakes contain about 1/5 of the worlds fresh water. Wow!

5. **Delaware River Basin** - The Delaware River is the longest undammed river east of the Mississippi. The Delaware River is the boundary between PA and New Jersey. This watershed encompasses the entire eastern part of Pennsylvania

6. **Susquehanna River Basin** - Encompassing almost HALF of Pennsylvania, it is one of the most flood prone basins in the nation. Recently you may remember mandatory evacuations of Harrisburg and Wilkes-Barre in June 2006. These waters continue flowing south and drain into the Chesapeake Bay.