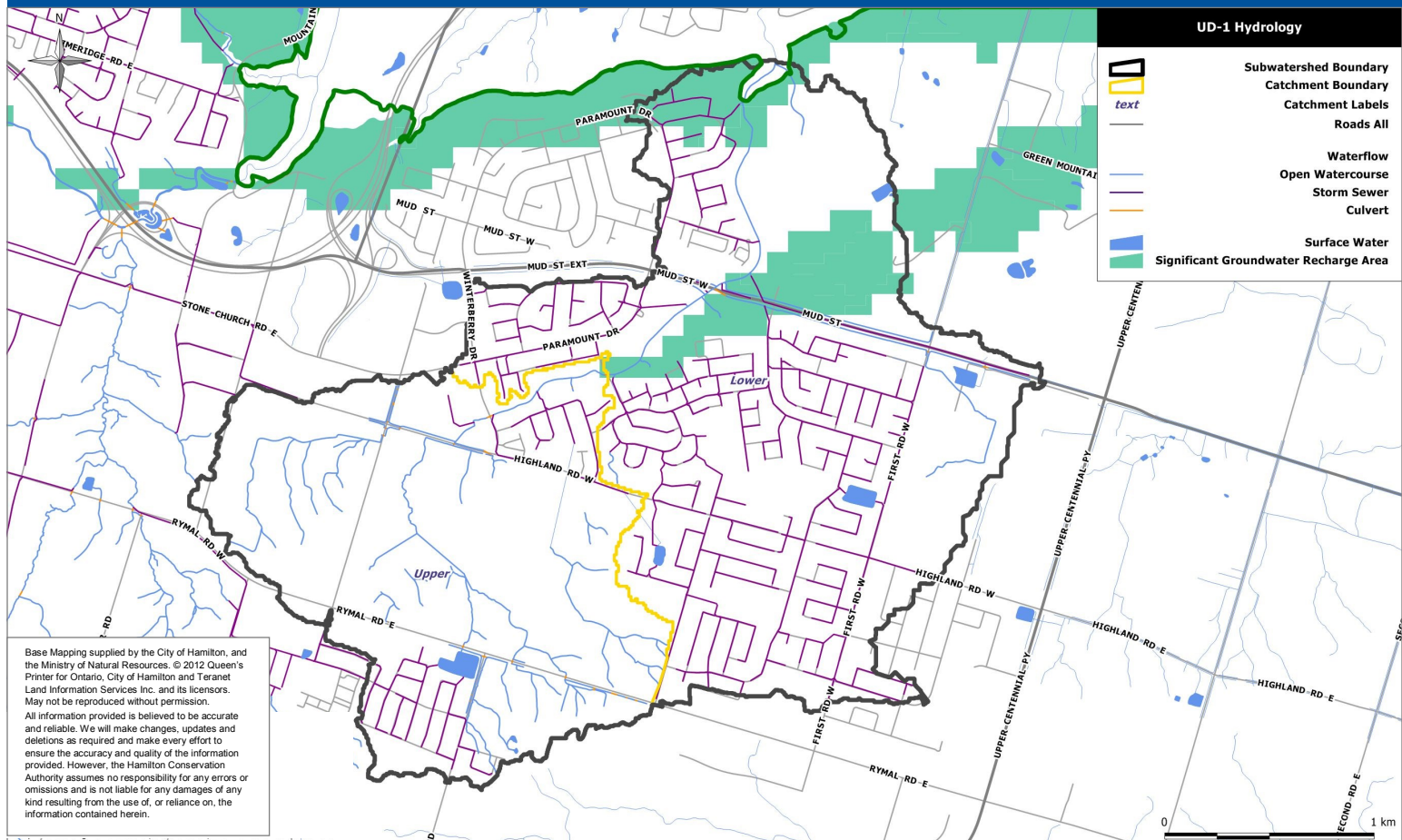
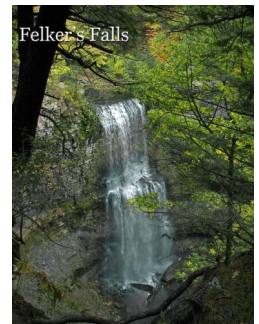


UPPER DAVIS CREEK SUBWATERSHED



The Upper Davis Creek subwatershed is part of the Red Hill Creek Watershed and is comprised of two catchment basins. From the headwaters to the outlet these are named Upper and Lower . The majority of the subwatershed is within City of Hamilton Ward 9, with small portions in Wards 11 and 6.

The Upper Davis Creek subwatershed originates at Fletcher Road, south of Rymal Road. The subwatershed flows in a northwestward direction and then just south of Highland Road flows in a northeastward direction toward Mud Street West. At Mud Street West the subwatershed boundary tapers northwest, while at Highland Road, the subwatershed boundary tapers northeast. The subwatershed boundary reaches its northern most point at Felker's Falls,



where it flows over the Niagara Escarpment and conflues with Lower Davis Creek, followed by Montgomery Creek, before ultimately flowing into the main branch of Red Hill Creek.

Upper Davis Creek subwatershed in comparison to Environment Canada's 'How much Habitat is Enough' Guidelines

Landscape Feature	Guideline	Subwatershed Status
Wetland	6%	0%
Streambanks Naturally Vegetated	75%	17.9%
Forest	30%	6.2%
Impervious Surface	<10%	44.1%

A portion of the Felker's Falls Escarpment Valley Environmentally Significant Area (ESA) is within the Upper Davis Creek subwatershed and the Red Hill Creek Escarpment Valley ESA is immediately adjacent to the western boundary of the subwatershed. Felker's Falls has been classified as an Earth Science Area of Natural and Scientific Interest (ANSI) by the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources (OMNR).

The Upper Davis Creek subwatershed is an actively urbanizing subwatershed. Stresses associated with urbanization, such as detachment from nature, habitat fragmentation/loss, increased impervious surfaces, invasive species, land maintenance practices, stormwater, runoff contamination from transportation corridors and water use are generally present within the urbanized areas of the subwatershed. Sustainable development should be the primary focus for this subwatershed. Low Impact Development (LID) practices should be employed to minimize the impacts of development on the natural environment and infrastructure.

What are we doing to protect the habitat and health of the Upper Davis Creek subwatershed?

The Hamilton Conservation Authority's (HCA) Aquatic Resource Monitoring Program has two stations in Upper Davis Creek that are monitored in year three of a three year cycle. The program collects information on fish, fish habitat and benthic invertebrates to assess and track changes in the health of the aquatic ecosystem.

The Hamilton Watershed Stewardship Program works with the public and private property owners to develop and implement initiatives and restoration projects that create and enhance natural areas and habitats in the HCA watershed. The program offers free on-site consultation to private property owners who have natural features on their properties. Property owners that undertake restoration projects that create or enhance natural habitats or water quality may be eligible to apply for financial assistance.

What can landowners do to restore and protect the Upper Davis Creek subwatershed?

1. Plant native trees, shrubs and herbaceous plants in front, rear and side yards.
2. Disconnect downspouts that direct water from roofs and eavestroughs to the storm sewer system and direct them to yards or gardens.
3. Collect rain water in rain barrels to use the water on gardens.
4. Consider an alternative driveway design that reduces the amount of impermeable driveway surface.
5. Consult a Stewardship Technician for ways to implement LIDs on your property.



Permeable Pavement
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Sources: Hamilton Conservation Authority (HCA) 2013. Upper Davis Creek Subwatershed Stewardship Action Plan.



Hamilton Watershed Stewardship Program
c/o Hamilton Conservation Authority
P.O. Box 81067, 838 Mineral Springs Road
Ancaster, Ontario L9G 4X1
www.hamiltonhaltonstewardship.ca
Office: (905) 525-2181, ext. 181, 196

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about how you can protect water
quality and habitat on your
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Call to arrange a free on-site
consultation!