

THE LAKE HUNTER WATERSHED AND HOW IT CONNECTS TO THE HILLSBOROUGH RIVER

A watershed is the area of land that catches rainwater, which then drains into a stream, river or lake. Watersheds come in all shapes and sizes. Some are millions of square miles, others are just a few acres. Individual watersheds are almost always part of a larger watershed. When it rains, stormwater runoff flows through the watershed and eventually enters lakes, streams, and rivers, flowing into and through our estuaries, and ultimately into the ocean.



Lake Hunter is a 91-acre natural lake with an approximate watershed area of 731 acres.

The Hillsborough River watershed covers approximately 950 square miles of west-central Florida (144 square miles in Polk County). Traveling 54 miles to Tampa Bay, the Hillsborough River is the key piece in the vast mosaic of water bodies that comprise the Hillsborough River watershed. The river originates in the Green Swamp to the north and flows southward through agricultural, industrial, residential and commercial areas to Tampa Bay.

Lake Hunter flows into the Itchepackesassa Creek, a tributary to Blackwater Creek. Water then flows into the Hillsborough River, making its way into Tampa Bay and eventually into the Gulf of Mexico.

Southwest Florida
Water Management District
WATERMATTERS.ORG | 1-800-423-1476



Lakes Education
Action Drive

City of
Lakeland

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