

Guiding Principles of Following a Watershed Management Approach:

Excerpts from EPA's Watershed Academy:

The four core principles:

1. Watersheds are natural systems that we can work with.
2. Watershed management is continuous and needs a multi disciplinary approach.
3. A watershed management framework supports partnering, using sound science, taking well-planned actions and achieving results.
4. A flexible approach is always needed.

Benefits of a Watershed Approach

Here are some benefits others have found who have used the watershed approach:

-It provides a **context for integration**

- using practical, tangible management units that people understand
- focusing and coordinating efforts
- finding common ground and meeting multiple needs

-It provides a **better understanding and appreciation of nature**

- understanding nature's interrelated processes
- helping answer the question, "What are we trying to protect?"
- linking human activities to nature's response
- appreciating how nature's processes can benefit people
- identifying ways we can work with watershed processes

-It yields **better management**

- generating ecologically-based, innovative, cost-effective solutions
- forging stronger working relationships
- supporting consistent, continuous management