

---



---

## **CHAPTER 1. PROJECT AREA CHARACTERISTICS**

---



---

### ***Location***

The Sewickley Creek watershed is located in the southwestern region of Pennsylvania, in southwest Westmoreland County. The watershed drains into the Youghiogheny River, which in turn flows to the Monongahela River, then to the Ohio River. All or parts of one city, seven boroughs, and seven townships lie within the watershed boundaries (Figure 1-1).

The main stem of Sewickley Creek flows in a west-southwest direction from Pleasant Unity to Youngwood, New Stanton, Hunker, Yukon, Lowber, to the confluence with the Youghiogheny River at Gratztown just north of West Newton.

### ***Size***

The main stem of Sewickley Creek is 47 km (29.2 miles) long, and the entire Sewickley Creek watershed drains 168 square miles, including 13 named tributaries.

### ***Climate***

The temperate climate of the watershed has an average annual mean temperature of 50 degrees Fahrenheit and an average annual precipitation of 40 to 44 inches (Weather.com/Scarlift 1971).

### ***Topography***

The Sewickley Creek watershed consists of gently rolling hillsides in the majority of the watershed and increasingly mountainous terrain in the eastern portion of the watershed. The Sewickley Creek watershed dissects the rolling hills with a dendritic drainage pattern. Two physiographic sections divide the watershed (Figure 2-1). The majority of the watershed is located in the Pittsburgh Low Plateau Section, while the extreme eastern portion of the watershed lies within the Allegheny Mountain Section of the Appalachian Plateaus Physiographic Province. Further details on the physiographic sections are available in the Land Resources chapter of this report. Elevations range from approximately 2,180 feet above sea level in the eastern portion of the watershed to 764 feet at the confluence of Sewickley Creek and the Youghiogheny River.

---

**Table 1-1. Project area municipalities**

---

<i>Name</i>	<i>Area in watershed</i>	<i>Mi<sup>2</sup> in watershed</i>
City of Greensburg	Part	4
New Stanton Borough	All	4
Youngwood Borough	All	1.9
Hempfield Township	Part	59
East Huntingdon Township	Part	9.9
South Huntingdon Township	Part	16.8
North Huntingdon Township	Part	3.1
Mount Pleasant Township	Part	27
Sewickley Township	All	21.4
Unity Township	Part	17.2
Borough of Arona	All	0.5
Borough of Hunker	All	0.4
Borough of Southwest Greensburg	All	0.4
Borough of South Greensburg	All	0.7
Borough of Madison	All	0.5

## Major Tributaries

The watershed is composed of several subwatersheds, ranging in size from 1.64 square miles to 30.8 square miles. The largest tributaries to Sewickley Creek are Little Sewickley Creek (30.8 square miles) and Jacks Run (28.6 square miles), which enter the Sewickley Creek at Cowansburg and Youngwood, respectively. For further details regarding these tributaries please refer to the Water Resources section of this report.

## Socio-Economic Profile

### Land Use

#### Background

Land use is often cited as a major determinant of environmental quality, and remains an issue of much debate at the local, regional, state and national levels. In Pennsylvania, land use has recently been given significant attention. The Sound Land Use Advisory Committee was established in 1999 to identify sustainable land use practices and make recommendations about how they should be implemented. The passage of legislation supporting programs such as Growing Greener (1998) and Growing Smarter (1999) was also instrumental in promoting sound land use practices

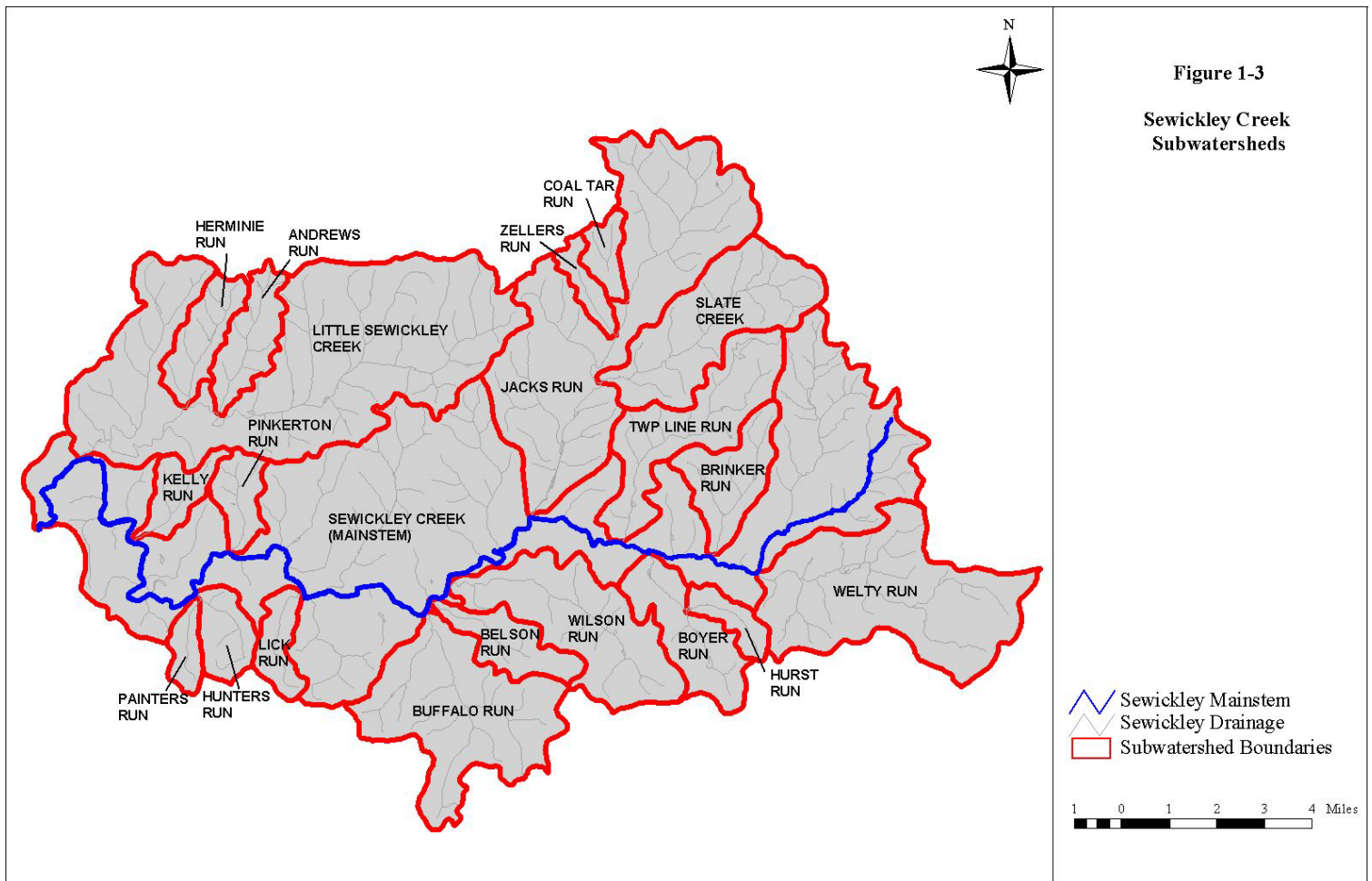
The most recent comprehensive land use data available for the Sewickley Creek watershed is from 1994, and comes from the Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission (SPC). The land use classification used in this data set is a result of processing and classifying a LandSat 5 satellite image to identify spectral signatures of particular types of land cover. Table 1-2 shows a percentage breakdown of land use within the Sewickley Creek watershed.

#### Existing Conditions

The Sewickley Creek watershed is dominated by agricultural and forestland use. Over 85% of the land area within the watershed in 1994 fell into these two categories. A vast majority of non-rural land use such as urban residential, non-rural mixed use, and industry occur within and adjacent to the Greensburg urban area, and to some extent along the Route 30 and 119 corridors. In a few townships, such as Mt. Pleasant, South Huntingdon, and Unity rural residential and/or mining uses are significant.

**Table 1-2.** Land uses in the Sewickley Creek watershed, 1994 (Source: Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission, 2002)

<b>Land Use Type</b>	<b>% Of Land Area</b>
Agriculture	46.23
Forest	39.30
Urban Residential	5.00
Rural Residential	3.41
Non-Residential Mixed use	4.00
Transportation	0.93
Industry	0.40
Mining	0.28
Water/Wetlands	0.27



**Figure 1-3**  
Sewickley Creek  
Subwatersheds

Figures 1-3 and 1-4 and Table 1-3 allow an analysis of land use within subwatersheds of Sewickley Creek. The most urbanized subwatersheds within the Sewickley Creek drainage are found in the northeastern/northcentral sector: Coal Tar Run, Jacks Run, and Zellers Run. Zellers Run has the highest percentage of urban residential land use, while Coal Tar Run has the highest proportion of non-residential mixed use cover. Jacks Run has significant percentages in each, and has among the lowest percentages in the agriculture and forest categories. Each of these subwatersheds contains part of the City of Greensburg or its suburbs, and it is safe to assume that much of the natural drainage pattern has been altered substantially. Other categories of interest include industry and mining, two important regional economic activities in the past and present. Belson Run has the highest percentage of industrial land use among Sewickley subwatersheds, mainly because of the large Sony Electronics, Inc. production facility located there. Hunters Run, located in the southwestern part of the watershed, had the highest percentage of mining-related land cover among subwatersheds at 5.94%.

It may well be that future rural residential land use patterns will become the most important to monitor in the watershed, as suburban development pressure mounts in presently rural municipalities. In 1994, four subwatersheds had the highest percentages of rural residential land use in the watershed: Slate Creek (6.50%), Township Line Run (5.06%), Sewickley mainstem (4.67%), and Buffalo Run (4.49%). Slate Creek and Township Line Run lie partially within the municipality of Hempfield Township, which over the last 20-30 years has experienced significant suburbanization (although the township's total population decreased between 1990-2000; see population section).

The far eastern portion of the Sewickley Creek mainstem drainage is located within a growing area of Unity Township, census tract (8072) where population grew the fastest within the watershed between 1990 and 2000 (see population section). This area seems to be one that has become attractive to rural suburban development during the last ten years, and likely will continue to grow. Jacks Run, for example, is currently experiencing rapid residential growth with several major developments underway. Buffalo Run is located mostly within East Huntingdon Township, where population grew at a modest 0.9% between 1990 and 2000. In most of the subwatersheds within the Sewickley Creek drainage, agriculture and forest cover dominate, with the exception of Belson Run, Coal Tar Run, Jacks Run, Slate Creek, and Zellers Run subwatersheds, which exceed the watershed average of 85.5% in the combined agriculture and forest categories.

Development within a region is inevitable, but it can be done through the implementation of cooperative land use strategies. While people are looking to get away from the city of Pittsburgh, they have been attracted to Greensburg and the surrounding area including the Sewickley Creek watershed. The area provides numerous educational, recreational, and cultural opportunities within a close proximity to the city of Pittsburgh.

One of the concerns among residents of the Sewickley Creek watershed is urban sprawl. A group of businessmen, educators, local government officials and representatives from the private non-profit community came together to form the Smart Growth Partnership of Westmoreland County (SGPWC) to work with communities who face challenges associated with economic growth and revitalization. With the growth of business in the region, the need for sound land use planning and zoning is essential.

## **Land Use Regulation**

### Background

As discussed above, small farms and forests dominate the Sewickley Creek watershed. Many residents of the area may see no reason why land use regulation is needed, as development pressure has not been a major issue. A majority of municipalities in the watershed are not utilizing land use regulation control powers granted them by the Pennsylvania Legislature in the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code (PMPC), such as comprehensive planning, subdivision regulation, and zoning. These municipalities may be vulnerable to future locally unwanted land uses as a result of uncontrolled industrial, commercial, or residential development. Planning and development controls presently in effect for municipalities within the Sewickley Creek watershed are shown in Table 1-4.

### Existing Conditions

As evidenced in Figure 1-5, there is a marked geographic pattern to land use regulation within the watershed. The figure depicts which municipalities presently implement all three commonly utilized land use regulation measures: comprehensive planning, subdivision regulation, and zoning. Municipalities in the northern part of the watershed (Table 1-4) for the most part have implemented land use planning controls, while the southern townships and a few smaller boroughs throughout the watershed have not. There could be several reasons for this geographic pattern, however, the most likely is that the municipalities in the southern part of the watershed are rural and

sparsely populated, while northern political units have experienced a higher level of urban and suburban development over the last few decades.

**Table 1-3. Land use in the Sewickley Creek watershed by subwatershed (Source: GIS Preprocessing of Southwestern Planning Commission land use data, 2002).**

<b>Sub-watershed</b>	<b>Agr.</b>	<b>Forest</b>	<b>Urban Res.</b>	<b>Rural Res.</b>	<b>Non-res. Mixed</b>	<b>Trans.</b>	<b>Industry</b>	<b>Mining</b>	<b>Water/Wetlands</b>
Andrews Run	53.51	36.08	7.34	2.45	0.49	0	0	0	0
Belson Run	49.40	32.12	0	2.60	0	2.79	10.73	0	0
Boyer Run	64.40	29.43	0	3.27	1.44	0	0	0	1.46
Brinker Run	67.64	30.27	0	1.75	0	0	0	0	0.35
Buffalo Run	54.11	38.74	0	4.49	1.70	0	0.21	0	0
Coal Tar Run	22.60	26.51	17.05	0	33.83	0	0	0	0
Herminie Run	49.56	38.58	3.83	3.22	0.14	0	0	0	0.12
Hunters Run	55.04	32.25	0	3.24	0	3.53	0	5.94	0
Jacks Run	35.73	22.03	20.99	1.93	16.99	0	1.87	0.43	0.02
Kelly Run	72.26	23.99	0	3.17	0.58	0	0	0	0
Lick Run	23.90	69.57	1.66	3.26	0.71	0.90	0	0	0
Little Sewickley	38.41	49.87	5.89	2.38	1.72	1.61	0.08	0.02	0.02
Painters Run	70.03	29.03	0	0	0.93	0	0	0	0
Sewickley (Main)	50.88	39.61	1.09	4.67	1.61	1.31	0	0.37	0.45
Slate Creek	17.56	50.37	12.68	6.50	12.83	0	0.07	0	0
Twp. Line Run	45.13	41.00	4.57	5.06	2.90	0	0	0	1.32
Welty Run	46.35	47.63	0	0.35	0.86	0	0	0.57	0.36
Wilson Run	53.41	40.64	1.00	0	1.11	3.84	0	0	0
Zeller's Run	13.79	17.54	49.90	0	18.57	0	0.19	0	0

### Future Conditions and Recommendations

Land use regulation techniques have the potential to positively impact future development patterns in the watershed. As of Fall 2002, Westmoreland County, in cooperation with the Smart Growth Partnership of Westmoreland County, began developing a County Comprehensive Plan to serve as a policy document for land use development. In the future, the County Comprehensive Plan (with contributing data from this report) could provide an excellent opportunity to maintain sound land development patterns for the next 20 to 30 years. With regard to the Sewickley Creek watershed, it would be advantageous for municipalities to have land use regulation regimes in place to protect sensitive areas (such as riparian zones, aquifer recharge areas, steep slopes, and upland zones). Perhaps the plan can serve as an impetus to disseminate information to citizens of the watershed about how land use regulation can help to protect the natural environment without unnecessarily impinging upon the rights of property owners.

#### **Land Use Regulation Recommendations**

- Work with County on the completion of the County Comprehensive Plan.
- Designate growth and conservation areas based upon data analysis from Westmoreland County Comprehensive Plan.
- Establish joint planning commission to facilitate regional planning initiatives.
- Establish joint environmental advisory councils (EAC) to assist in the review of land development proposals.
- Delineate and protect sensitive areas through land use regulation and the Westmoreland County Comprehensive Plan.
- Implement best management practices such as planned residential development zoning, mixed use zoning, cluster zoning, and open space zoning.
- Encourage and provide educational sessions for municipal officials on integrated land use planning, incorporating habitat conservation and enhancing biodiversity.

### **Demographics and Population Patterns**

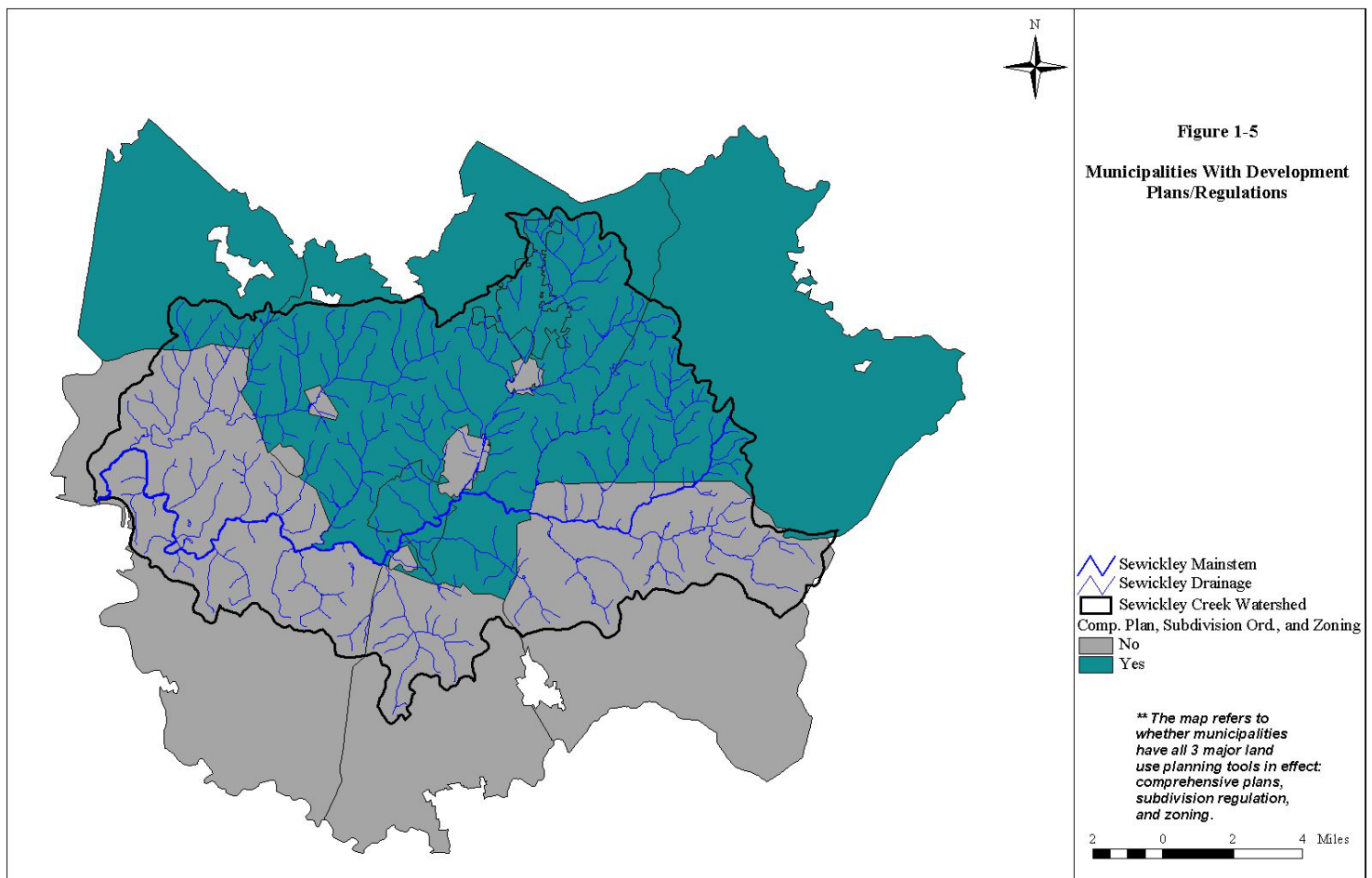
#### Existing Conditions

The largest population concentrations within the watershed are found in the northeastern sector within the City of Greensburg, and the municipalities of South Greensburg and Southwest Greensburg. These municipalities are adjacent to each other, and constitute the only truly urban landscapes of any size in the watershed. There are a few smaller urban concentrations farther to the south, including the boroughs of Arona, Hunker, Madison, New Stanton, and Youngwood. Youngwood is the largest of these with a population of 4,138. Much of the population found in townships within the watershed is rural, with the exception of denser suburban patterns along the Route 30 corridor in Hempfield Township.

**Table 1-4. Land use regulation tools in effect in municipalities within the Sewickley Creek watershed (Source: Westmoreland County Planning Department, 2001).**

<b>Municipality</b>	<b>Comprehensive Plan</b>	<b>Subdivision Regulation</b>	<b>Zoning Ordinance</b>	<b>Use of Best Management Practices</b>
Arona Borough	No	No	No	No
E. Huntingdon Township	No	Yes	No	No
Greensburg City	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Hempfield Township	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Hunker Borough	No	No	Yes	No
Madison Borough	No	No	Yes	No
Mt. Pleasant Township	No	Yes	No	No
New Stanton Borough	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
N. Huntingdon Township	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Sewickley Township	No	Yes	No	No
S. Greensburg Borough	No	Yes	No	No
S. Huntingdon Township	No	No	No	No
S.W. Greensburg Borough	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Unity Township	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Youngwood Borough	No	No	No	No

\* Use of Best Management Practices refers to whether the municipality is utilizing *any* of the land use planning techniques recommended by the Governor’s Land Use Advisory Board, 2000. Examples would be planned residential development zoning, mixed use zoning, transferable development rights, etc.



Westmoreland County's population growth has been stagnant over the last decade. The county's population decreased slightly from 1990 to 2000, with a loss of 0.1% (328 residents). A closer look shows that there has been significant variation between municipalities within the watershed, in terms of population loss and gain. Table 1-5 shows the 1990 and 2000 population numbers for each municipality that has any of its area within the Sewickley Creek Watershed, and the rate of change over that period. A majority of the municipalities within the watershed (9 out of 15) lost population from 1990-2000. The largest percentage loss occurred in New Stanton Borough, while the largest absolute loss occurred in Hempfield Township.\* Significant absolute and percentage population gains occurred in North Huntingdon Township, Unity Township, and Youngwood Borough. Only a small segment of North Huntingdon Township is within the watershed, however, census tract data indicates that some population growth occurred in the part of the township that falls within the watershed (tract 8035, Figure 1-7). Census data also indicates that much of the growth within Unity Township between 1990 and 2000 has taken place within the watershed (tract 8072). In both of these instances, much of the population growth in these municipalities can probably be attributed to sub-urbanization spreading out from the Greensburg urban area and along the Route 30 corridor. The population growth that occurred in Youngwood Borough between 1990 and 2000 seems more difficult to explain, however, it could be related to jobs lost with the closure of the Volkswagen plant prior to 1990, and jobs that were created with the opening of the Sony plant after 1990 in nearby East Huntingdon Township.\*

**Table 1-5. Population of municipalities within the Sewickley Creek watershed in 1990 and 2000 (Source: US Bureau of the Census, 2002; SPC 2001)**

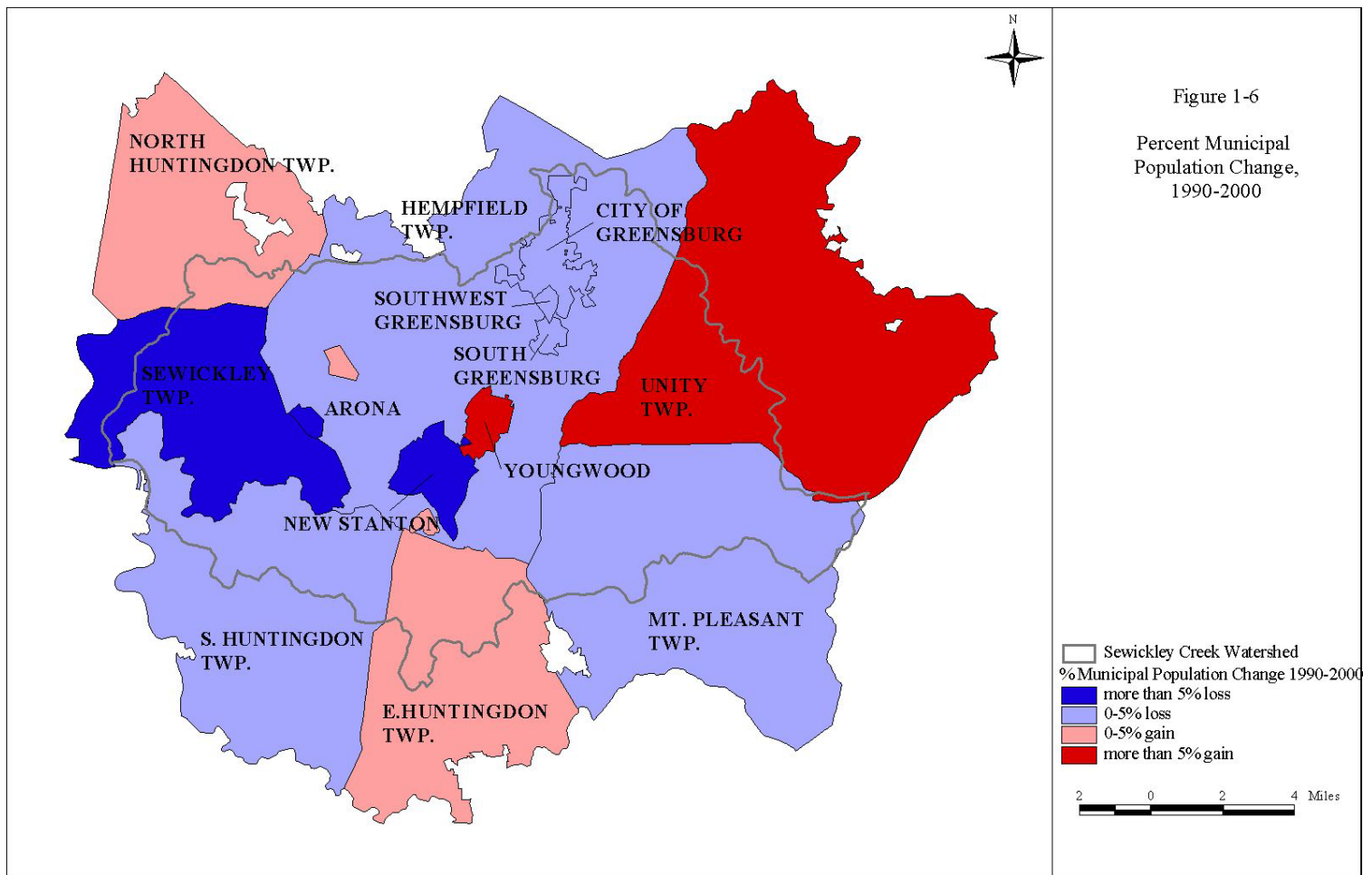
<b>Municipality</b>	<b>1990 Pop.</b>	<b>2000 Pop.</b>	<b>Absolute Change</b>	<b>% Change</b>
Arona Borough	397	407	10	2.5
East Huntingdon Township	7,708	7,781	73	0.9
Greensburg City	16,318	15,889	-429	-2.6
Hempfield Township*	42,609	40,721	-1,888	-4.4
Hunker Borough	328	329	1	0.3
Madison Borough	539	510	-29	-5.4
Mount Pleasant Township	11,341	11,153	-188	-1.7
New Stanton Borough	2,081	1,906	-175	-8.4
North Huntingdon Township	28,158	29,123	965	3.4
Sewickley Township	6,642	6,230	-412	-6.2
South Greensburg Borough	2,293	2,280	-13	-0.6
South Huntingdon Township	6,352	6,175	-177	-2.8
Southwest Greensburg Borough	2,456	2,398	-58	-2.4
Unity Township	20,109	21,137	1,028	5.1
Youngwood Borough*	3,372	4,138	766	22.7

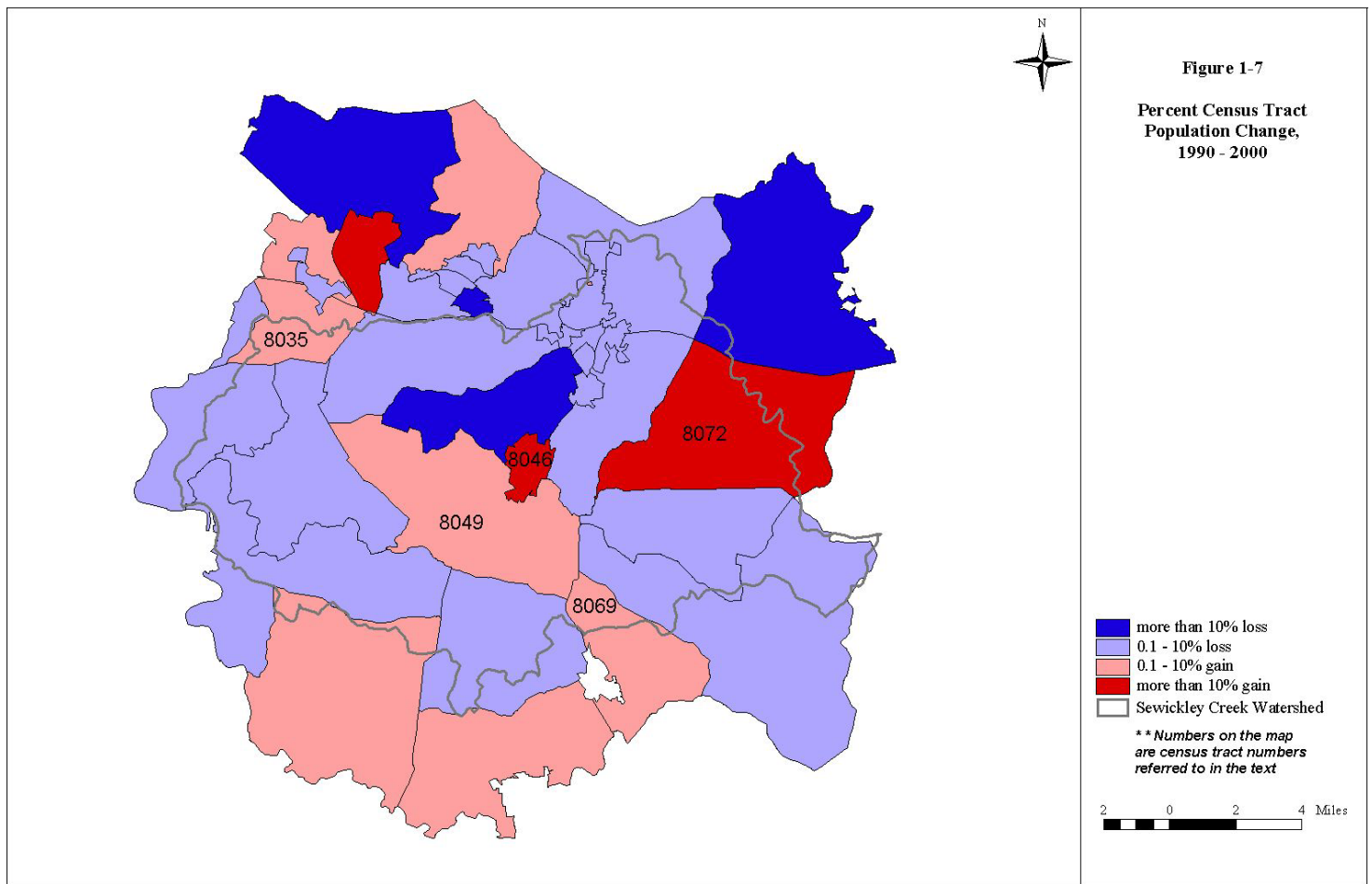
\*Note: A portion of the increase in population in Youngwood Borough and decrease in population in Hempfield Township is most likely due to the incorrect listing of the State Prison in Youngwood Borough instead of Hempfield Township, where it is actually located.

Future Conditions and Recommendations

Keeping in mind the above patterns of population change, it would appear that population pressure may be an issue in sub-watersheds with significant population growth between 1990 and 2000. Using population growth within census tracts as an indicator, it appears that the following sub-watersheds could be impacted in the present and future by population growth: 1) the eastern part of the Sewickley main stem drainage, Township Line Run, Brinker Run and Slate Creek could be affected by Unity Township population growth (tract 8072); 2) Jacks Run watershed could be impacted by development growth in the northern portion and in Youngwood (tract 8046), although this is less likely since the borough is already urbanized to some degree; 3) parts of Boyer Run and Wilson Run could be impacted by growth in rural East Huntingdon Township and Western Mount Pleasant Township (tract 8049); and 4) the northwest part of Little Sewickley Creek could be impacted by growth in southeastern North Huntingdon township (tract 8035, Figures 1-3 and 1-7).

Keeping the young adults in the area was identified as an issue within the watershed. As students graduate from high school and college they are looking to experience new and different things. The Sewickley Creek watershed region is no different than the remainder of the commonwealth. Keeping young adults in the region is difficult because of the decreasing number of professional opportunities in the area. Incentives for keeping young adults in the area are needed for the future of the watershed.





## Utilities and Infrastructure

### Sewage and Wastewater

In 1996 the Pennsylvania Sewage Facilities Act, Act 537, was revised to correct existing sewage disposal problems and prevent future problems. With the passing of this act all municipalities were required to develop and implement a plan addressing current and future sewage disposal needs. In addition to the plan each municipality is required to employ a primary and secondary Sewage Enforcement Officer (SEO). The SEO, who is responsible for implementing the daily operation of their municipalities plan, approves or denies permits for construction of sewage disposal systems prior to their installation. Although each municipality has developed a sewage facilities plan, only 4 of the 15 were developed after the 1996 revision to the Act.

### Water

The Municipal Authority of Westmoreland County (MAWC) provides drinking water for Westmoreland County, and portions of Allegheny, Armstrong, Indiana and Fayette counties. Currently 9,000 feet of water line infrastructure is being replaced throughout the MAWC service area, including some areas in the Sewickley Creek Watershed, in an ongoing process with funding through PENNVEST. New water lines are added through one of two methods. The first is for new development, which is paid for by the developer. The other is for local citizens to work with their municipal officials to get connected to the MAWC. Currently there are no targeted areas for expansion of service.

## Transportation

### Existing Conditions

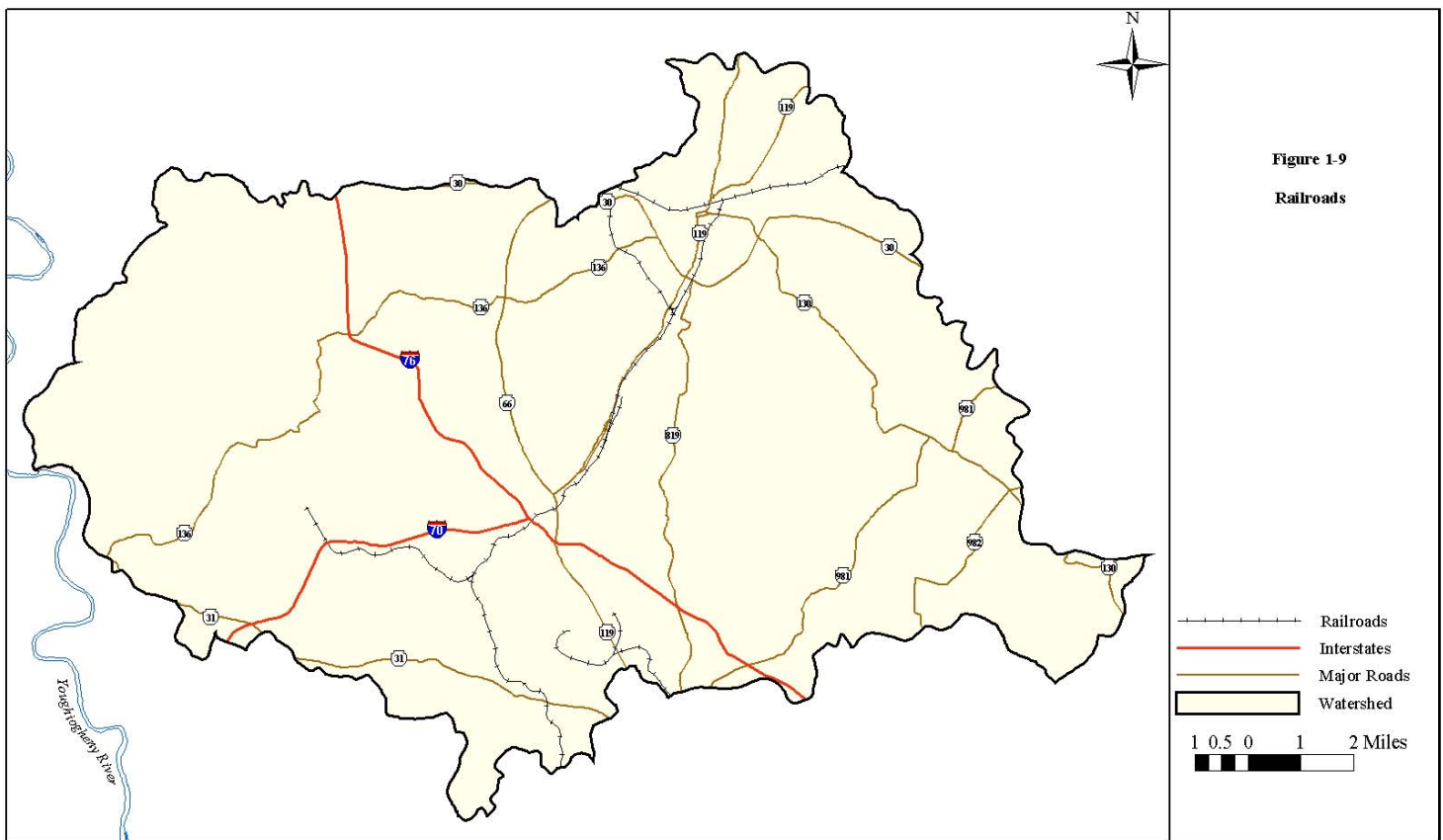
#### *Roads*

Regionally important interstates, state highways, and secondary roads provide automobile access to the Sewickley Creek watershed. In particular, the watershed is exceptionally well connected with respect to interstates and turnpike roads (Figure 1-8). Route 66 is a relatively new addition to the Pennsylvania Turnpike system (it was constructed between 1990-93), and connects Route 22, a major east-west corridor to the north of the watershed with Route 70, just east of New Stanton, PA. Route 76 is the original Pennsylvania Turnpike, and is the major east-west automobile corridor connecting the major cities of Philadelphia and Pittsburgh in southern Pennsylvania. Interstate 70 is a major interstate corridor that stretches east-west from the outskirts of Baltimore, Maryland to central Utah south of Salt Lake City. The intersection of these major roads has made the central part of the watershed (the New Stanton area) very accessible to intra and interstate traffic. Other regionally important state routes that occur within the watershed include Routes 119, 819, and 981 running north-south, and Route 30 running east-west through the northeastern segment of the watershed near Greensburg.

#### *Rail*

Two major rail lines, the Southwestern Pennsylvania Railroad (SWP) and the Norfolk Southern Mainline (NS), run through the Sewickley Creek Watershed. The Southwestern Pennsylvania Railroad runs through the core of the watershed, stretching from the town of Radabaugh, west of Greensburg, south through Scottdale, Westmoreland County (the operations center of the railroad), to connections with the Wheeling & Lake Erie Railway at Owensdale, PA, and CSX at Broadford, PA (both in Fayette County) (Figure 1-9). Branches of the SWP connect to Southwest Greensburg, Yukon, and, of particular significance, the Sony plant southwest of New Stanton (Figure 1-9). The Norfolk Southern line, which runs through the far northern extent of the watershed at Greensburg, has connections as far west as Kansas City, MO, and stretches through various routes to eastern urban areas such as Baltimore, New York City, and Philadelphia. The SWP connects to the NS at Radabaugh, just west of Greensburg.

Significant new investments in rail and multi-modal infrastructure within the watershed have been made recently with federal funding (through Transportation Equity Act -21 funds) for the Westmoreland Intermodal Freight Terminal adjacent to the Sony Technology Center in East Huntingdon Township. The terminal will facilitate efficient transfer between rail and road transportation modes, and likely will serve to attract new industry to an area already well served by highway infrastructure. The other major component of the Westmoreland Intermodal project is a new interchange to be constructed on Route 119, allowing improved road access to the new rail terminal.



### *Airports*

No major airports lie within the Sewickley Creek watershed. The only major international airport within close proximity is Pittsburgh International Airport, approximately one hour drive from the watershed. There are a few local airports within 10-15 miles of the watershed: Arnold Palmer Airport in Unity Township; Pittsburgh-Bouquet Airport in Penn Township; Rostraver Airport in Rostraver Township; and Intercounty Airport in North Huntingdon Township.

## **Economy and Major Sources of Employment**

### Existing Conditions

Table 1-6 shows the sectoral breakdown of employment within Westmoreland County in 2000. The largest employment sectors, which combine to make up over 70 percent of employment in the county, are unspecified services, retail trade, and manufacturing. It is likely that many of the service and retail trade jobs are located along the Route 30 corridor just to the north of the watershed boundary, as many retail and service establishments are found there. Miles of strip commercial development, anchored by the Westmoreland Mall, are found along this corridor. Other large service employers in the county include Westmoreland Regional Hospital located in Greensburg, and Latrobe Area Hospital in Latrobe, PA (although Latrobe Hospital is outside of the watershed,

Table 1-6. Sectoral breakdown of employment in Westmoreland County, PA (Source: Westmoreland County Industrial Development Corporation, 2002)

Sector	Absolute Employment	Percent
Manufacturing	26,855	20
Finance, Insurance Real Estate Services	4,281	3
Other Services	41,716	30
Retail Trade	29,615	22
Wholesale Trade	8,540	6
Transportation & Other Utilities	9,511	7
Construction	8,243	6
Public Administration	5,090	4
Agriculture, Forestry & Fishing	1,225	<1
Mining	445	<1
Other Industry	2,000	1

it almost certainly employs significant numbers of people that live within the Sewickley Creek watershed). Industrial employment, however, seems to be concentrated within the watershed proximate to interstate road and rail infrastructure (see Transportation section) (Table 1-7; Figure 1-10). Five of Westmoreland County's largest employers are located in the Sewickley Creek watershed (Table 1-7; Figure 1-10). The largest of these is Sony Electronics, which employs 3,200 people, and is located in East Huntingdon Township south of New Stanton near the intersection of Route 119 and the Pennsylvania Turnpike (Route 70/76). The investment Sony has made in the region is particularly significant in that the company has demonstrated that the area is amenable to outside investment, and that the local workforce is reliable and productive. Further economic development activity is sure to take place near the Sony site in the future as federal TEA-21 funds have been awarded to build an intermodal freight facility at this location (see the Transportation section for more details).

Other employers that are among the largest in the county and located within the watershed are United Parcel Service, SuperValu, and Westinghouse Electric. Each of these facilities is located in the central or southern section of the watershed adjacent to major road transportation routes (Routes 70 and 76). Several other significant employers located within the watershed are Menasha Corp., Powerex, Inc., Westmoreland Manor, ABB Power, Inc., and Allegheny/West Penn Power. Most of these companies are located on the I-70, I-76, or SR 119 corridors (Figure 1-10).

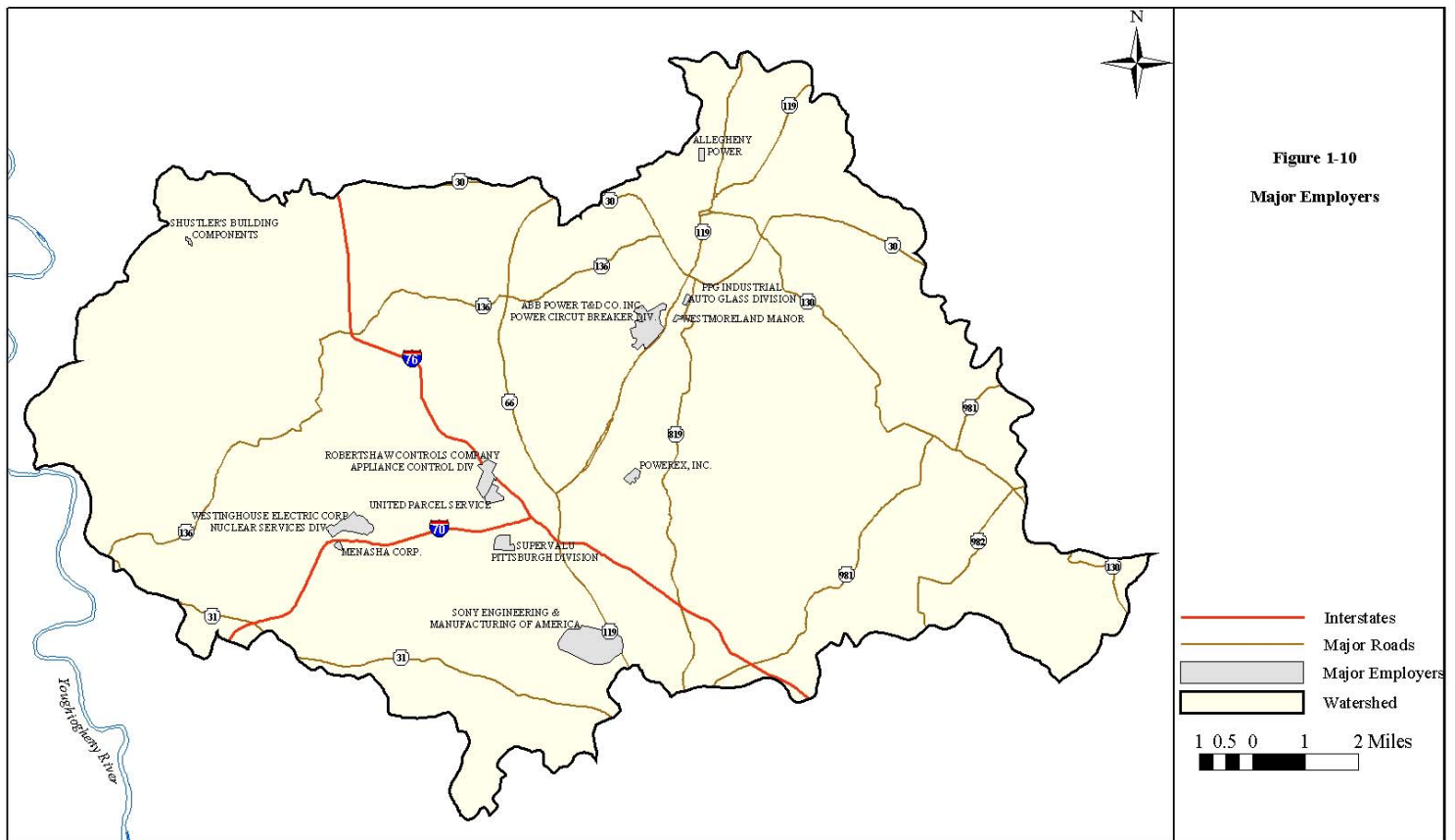
### Future Conditions and Recommendations

It is very likely that industrial employment will increase within the watershed in the foreseeable future, mainly because of the unique transportation infrastructure that exists in the area. The combination of interstate accessibility, and the development of the Westmoreland Intermodal Freight Terminal should make the south central part of the watershed an attractive area for external industrial investment. This may cause employment and population growth, which although not problematic in themselves will create important issues in the watershed with respect to future industrial and residential land development. This prospect underscores

Table 1-7. Largest Westmoreland County employers (Source: Westmoreland County Industrial Development Corporation, 2002)

Company Name	Number of Employees	Location
<b>Sony Electronics/ American Video Glass</b>	3,200	<b>New Stanton</b>
<b>Westmoreland Regional Hospital</b>	1,600	<b>Greensburg</b>
Latrobe Area Hospital	1,500	Latrobe
<b>United Parcel Service</b>	1,300	<b>New Stanton</b>
Elliott Company	1,300	Jeannette
<b>Super Valu (Pittsburgh)</b>	1,000	<b>New Stanton</b>
Williamhouse, Inc.	1,000	Scottdale
<b>Westinghouse Electric</b>	840	<b>Madison</b>
<b>Allegheny Energy</b>	763	<b>Greensburg</b>
Kennametal, Inc.	750	Latrobe
Alcoa Technical Center	725	New Kensington

*Bold print indicates that the facility is physically located within the watershed.*



the importance of undertaking a comprehensive planning initiative in Westmoreland County prior to development taking place.

### ***Education***

The Sewickley Creek watershed includes all or part of seven school districts and three colleges (Table 1-8, Figure 1-11). The Greater Latrobe School District (GLSD) is located in the eastern portion of the watershed in Unity Township. Composed of five schools, the GLSD has an enrollment of 4,280 students [Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) 2001]. The Greensburg-Salem School District is located in northeastern portion of the watershed and includes the City of Greensburg, Borough of Southwest Greensburg and Borough of South Greensburg. It is composed of five schools with an enrollment of 3,670 students (PDE 2001). The largest school district located in the central portion of the watershed including Hempfield Township, Youngwood Borough, Hunker Borough and New Stanton Borough is Hempfield Area School District. Enrollment at their eleven schools is 6,695 students (PDE 2001). Mount Pleasant Area School District has five schools hosting 2,593 students. It is located in the southeastern portion of the watershed in Mount Pleasant Township (PDE 2001). Norwin School District is composed of nine schools and has an enrollment of 5,025 students (PDE 2001). The Norwin School District is located in North Huntington Township in the northwest corner of the Sewickley Creek watershed. Southmoreland School District, the smallest in the watershed, is located at the southern tip of the watershed in East Huntington Township. In their five schools they have an enrollment of 2,397 students (PDE 2001). The Yough School District is the western boundary of the watershed in

Madison Borough, Borough of Arona, Sewickley Township and South Huntingdon Township. It is composed of five schools with an enrollment of 2,685 students (PDE 2001).

Within the Sewickley Creek watershed, students can attend one of four colleges. The Westmoreland County Community College (WCCC) is a public two-year institution located in Youngwood. WCCC had an enrollment of 2,187 full-time students and 3,085 part-time students for the Fall 2000 semester (PDE 2002). Seton Hill University is a private four-year liberal arts university located in Greensburg. Enrollment for the Fall 2000 semester included 646 full-time undergraduates, 485 part-time undergraduates, 42 full-time graduates and 183 part-time graduate students (PDE 2002). The University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg, a branch campus to the University of Pittsburgh, is a four-year public institution. During the Fall 2000 semester 1,339 full-time undergraduates and 248 part-time undergraduates attended the university (PDE 2002). Carlow College, a private four-year institution, opened an Adult Degree Center in Greensburg in 2002 allowing working adults to complete their degrees on weekends and evenings.

**Table 1-8.** School districts and colleges located within the Sewickley Creek watershed.

<i>School</i>	<i>Municipalities</i>	<i>Enrollment</i>
Greater Latrobe School District	Unity Township	4,280
Greensburg-Salem School District	City of Greensburg, Borough of South Greensburg, Borough of Southwest Greensburg	3,670
Hempfield Area School District	Hempfield Township, Hunker Borough, New Stanton Borough, Youngwood Borough	6,695
Mount Pleasant Area School District	Mt. Pleasant Township	2,593
Norwin School District	North Huntingdon Township	5,025
Yough School District	Sewickley Township	2,685
Southmoreland School District	East Huntingdon Township	2,397
Seton Hill University	Hempfield Township	688 FT* 668 PT**
University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg	Unity Township	1,339 FT 248 PT
Westmoreland County Community College	Hempfield Township	2,187 FT 3,085 PT
Carlow College Adult Degree Center	Greensburg	100

\* FT – Full Time

\*\*PT – Part Time