

**County:** LaPorte

**Acres:** 29, 630 in Indiana,  
82,370 in Michigan

**Waterway Miles:** 54.24

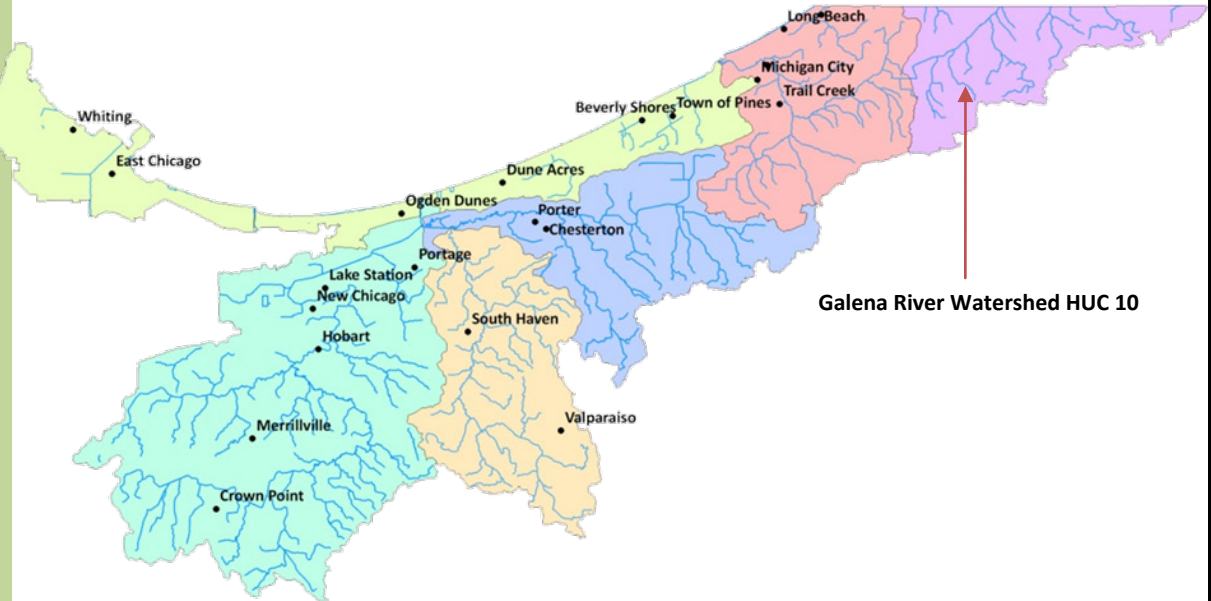
**Impaired Waterway Miles**  
3.27, 6%

**State Listed Impairments**  
*E. coli*  
Source: IDEM 2008 303(d)

**Major Streams:** South  
Branch, Galena River, Spring  
Creek, Dowling Creek

**Hydrologic Unit Codes**  
**HUC 10** (shown in map)  
0404000110 – Galena River  
Watershed

The Lake Michigan Coastal Program supports coordination and partnerships among local, state, and federal agencies and local organizations for the protection and sustainable use of natural and cultural resources in the Lake Michigan region. The Little Calumet-Galien Watershed, encompassing the entire area below, is the focus of the coastal program's Nonpoint Source Pollution control efforts.



Galena River Watershed HUC 10

## Management Efforts in the Watershed

### Galena River Watershed Management Plan

**Year:** 2009

**Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC):** Plan completed at the 10-digit level.  
0404000110

**Plan Coordinator:** LaPorte County Soil and Water Conservation District

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nocole.massacar.in.nacdnet.net

**Available at:** <http://www.laporteswcd.com/galena-watershed.htm>

**Goal 1:** To characterize watershed and stream quality, condition, and trends

**Goal 2:** To identify potential sources of water quality problems

**Goal 3:** To identify and prioritize watershed land treatment projects

**Goal 4:** To propose near-term and distant non-point source (NPS) control work directives

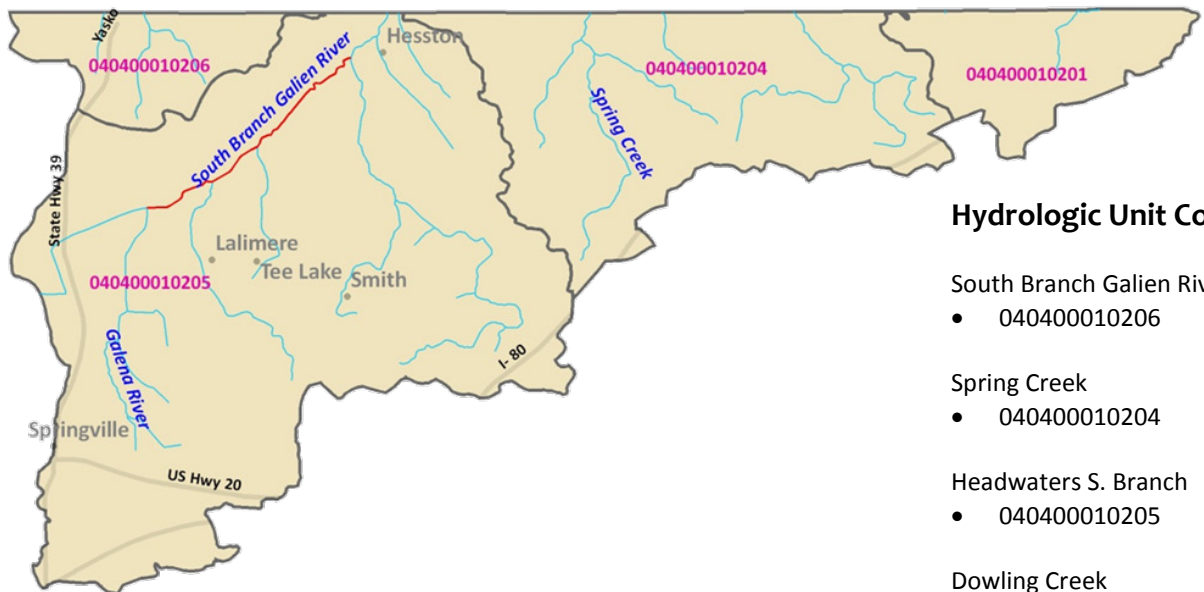
**Goal 5:** To develop success factors and benchmarks for water quality improvements, and

**Goal 6:** To improve coordination between local residents and local and state agencies in an effort to protect and improve the watershed.

The Indiana portion of the Galena River Watershed remains relatively undeveloped. Forest and agriculture are the primary land uses and no large urbanized areas exist in the watershed. In comparison to other watersheds along the Lake Michigan coastal area, the Galena River has not been significantly impacted by human influence.

**E.coli:** However, much like the rest of the Lake Michigan region, sections of the Galena River watershed have been included on the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) 303(d) list of impaired waters since 2000 with *E. coli* being identified as the cause of impairment. *E. coli* is a bacteria associated with the intestinal tract of warm-blooded animals. The presence of *E. coli* in water is a strong indication of the presence of sewage or animal waste contamination. Sources of *E. coli* can be, but are not limited to, runoff from animal pastures and livestock pens, poorly functioning septic systems, runoff from areas with high concentrations of pet waste, combined sewer systems (a sewer receiving both intercepted surface runoff and municipal sewage), illicit discharges, and natural wildlife. *E. coli* is widely used as an indicator of the potential presence of waterborne disease causing (pathogenic) bacteria and viruses because they are easier to detect than these pathogenic organisms.

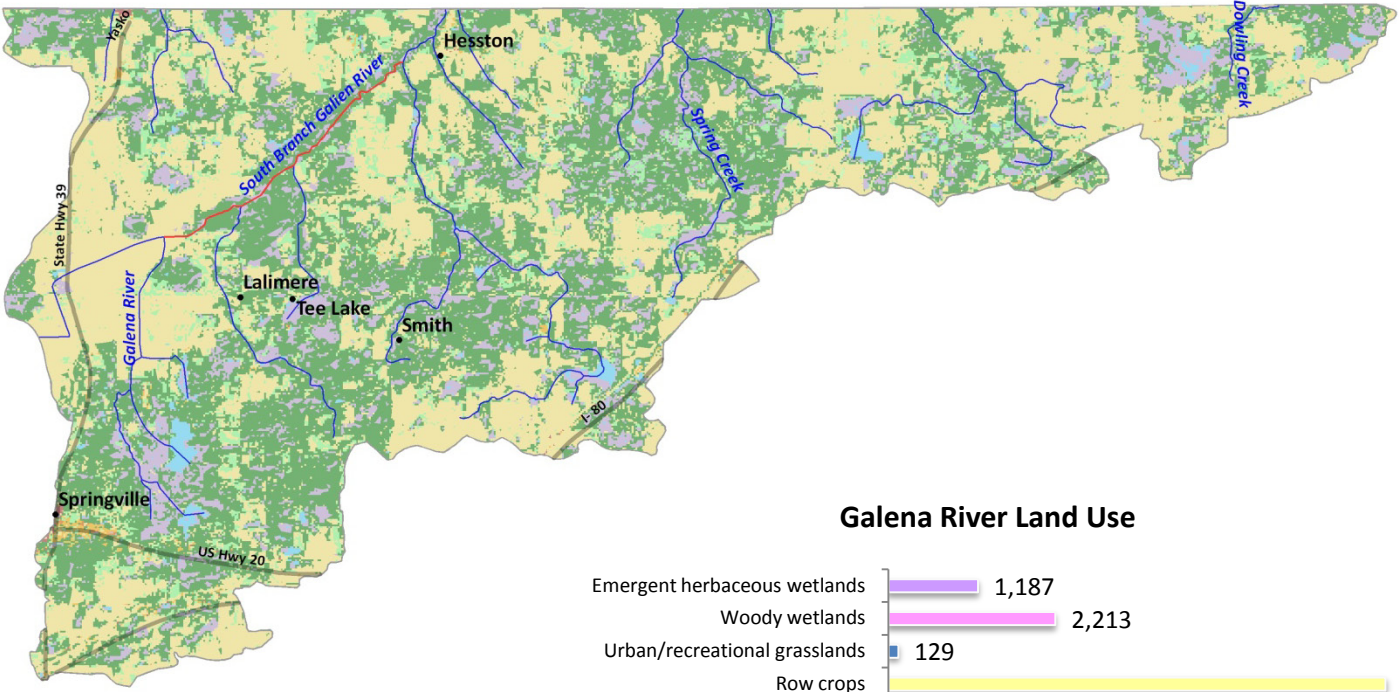
Waters that do not meet water quality standards require development of TMDLs (Total Maximum Daily Load). In 2008, IDEM completed an extensive water quality study of the Galena River and its tributaries to measure *E. coli*, general chemistry, and nutrients to determine if a TMDL was needed. The results showed that *E. coli* exceeded the water quality standards at eight of nine sampling sites. According to the TMDL report, in order to achieve the state standard for *E. coli* nonpoint sources of *E. coli* need to be controlled with best management practices in addition to continuing efforts to protect the watershed.



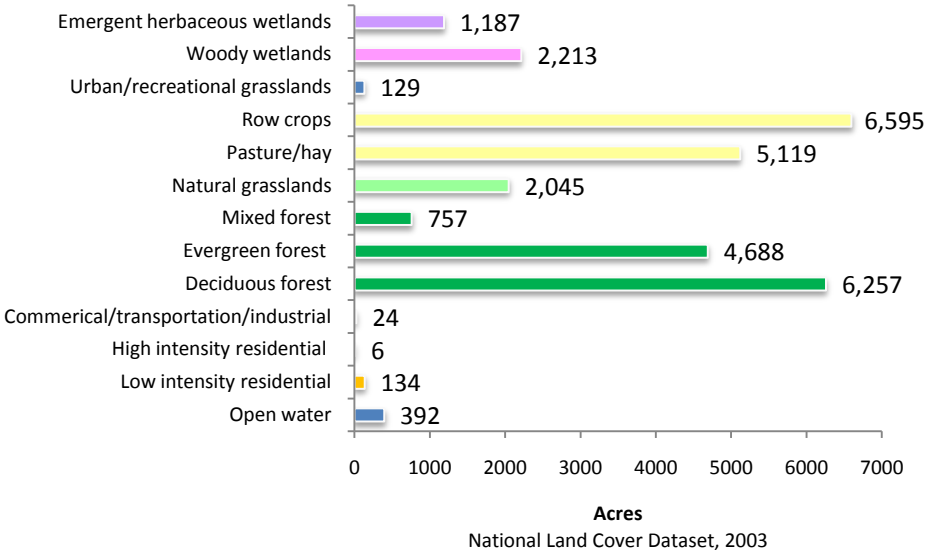
**Hydrologic Unit Code: 12**

- South Branch Galien River
  - 040400010206
- Spring Creek
  - 040400010204
- Headwaters S. Branch
  - 040400010205
- Dowling Creek
  - 040400010201

— State listed impaired waterways  
— Waterways



**Galena River Land Use**



For more information contact:  
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<http://www.in.gov/dnr/lakemich/>