



Section 4

Withlacoochee Basin

The Withlacoochee River basin consists of about 1,450 square miles. The City's drainage area to it is about 15 square miles, which is about 1 percent of the total drainage basin of the Withlacoochee River. The City has experienced flooding due to staging up of the Withlacoochee River in the past, especially in the low lying areas near the confluences of Sugar Creek and Two Mile Branch with the Withlacoochee River. An example is the excessive flooding experienced due to the April 2009 event. The flooding caused by this event was the reason for the Withlacoochee River staging up to high levels. The high stage levels were a result of excess rain in the upstream tributary area in the Withlacoochee River basin. As mentioned previously, most of this area is outside City of Valdosta limits and the City has little or no control over this. The City's drainage area to the Withlacoochee River is tiny compared to the actual basin.

This current evaluation focuses on the area within the City. Sugar Creek, Two Mile Branch, Three Mile Branch, Stillhouse Branch and Cherry Creek streams all discharge to the Withlacoochee River. The Sugar Creek basin consists of Browns Canal, Hightower Creek and One Mile Branch, all of which discharge to Sugar Creek, which discharges to the Withlacoochee River.