

# The Watershed Detective's Reference Sheet for Sketching a Site Map

Observing streams is an important part of learning how they work. Sketching out your observations is a great way to really SEE and understand what you are looking at.

Maps are a key tool to have with you when you are studying in the field, but creating your own hand drawn map is the best way to record what is really happening on the ground.

See the example on the back of this page and use the following list of important things to include when creating your map!\*

- **Date**
- **Time**
- **Weather:**  
Has there been a lot, or very little, rain recently?
- **Location**
- **North Arrow**
- **Study Area Length (for scale)**
- **Details!**  
Record as much detail as possible. This will help you track any changes that may happen in your stream over time.

**\*Remember!! Always have an adult with you before going near streams!  
Be safe and have fun!**



Cornell Cooperative Extension



Ashokan Watershed  
Stream Management Program

MAY 2, 2020  
12:35PM

STUDY AREA = 110 FEET LONG

41° 59' 26" N  
74° 29' 6" W

NOTES: Heavy rains recently - flows are higher than usual.

