

About the Karst Interactive Map

The ODNR Division of Geological Survey is systematically mapping areas of the state that are known to contain karst features. Geologists review historical datasets for known sinkholes, and a complete set of depressions are developed by using a Light Detection and Ranging (known as LiDAR) derived Digital Elevation Model (known as DEM). These depressions are reviewed electronically with computer mapping software to locate potential sinkholes, which are then confirmed by in-person field visits to the site location.

Map Terms

- **Sinkhole:** A depression that is generally dry, drains into bedrock fractures, and may have an active throat and exposed bedrock.
- **Sink throat:** An opening in the bottom of a sinkhole where water drains underground.
- **Karst Point:** The deepest point in a sinkhole, or the location of the sink throat. Clicking on these points will show information and photos, if available. There are four types of points shown on the map:
 - **Karst – Field Verified:** Generally a sinkhole, confirmed by field work.
 - **Karst – Suspect – Field Visited:** Likely a sinkhole, but could not be verified by a field visit. These features are often filled in, flooded, or not currently active.
 - **Karst – Suspect – Not Visited:** Possibly a sinkhole, but the point has not been field checked.
 - **Spring:** Where water re-emerges at the land surface from a karst system.
- **Karst Depression:** Generally, a shallow bowl or funnel-shaped area representing the extent of a sinkhole.
- **Karst Geology of Ohio:** Generalized bedrock geology that may contain sinkholes. Sinkholes are commonly found in carbonate rock where the glacial drift is less than 20ft.
- **Karst Detailed Mapping Completed Areas:** These boundaries indicate the extent of where detailed karst mapping projects have been completed.
- **Bedrock Geology:** The first rock encountered below glacial drift or at the land surface.
- **Drift Thickness:** The thickness of unconsolidated glacial gravel, sand, silt, or clay. Sinkholes are commonly found where the glacial drift is less than 20ft.
- **Land Base:** Includes reference lines such as county, township, and parcel boundaries.

Map Tools

- **Address/Coordinate Search:** Search for your property by typing in your address.
- **Print:** Print your map.
- **Download Karst Data:** Download data including the Karst Points, Karst Depressions, and Karst Geology of Ohio.
- **Other Tools:** Measure a distance or draw lines on the map.



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