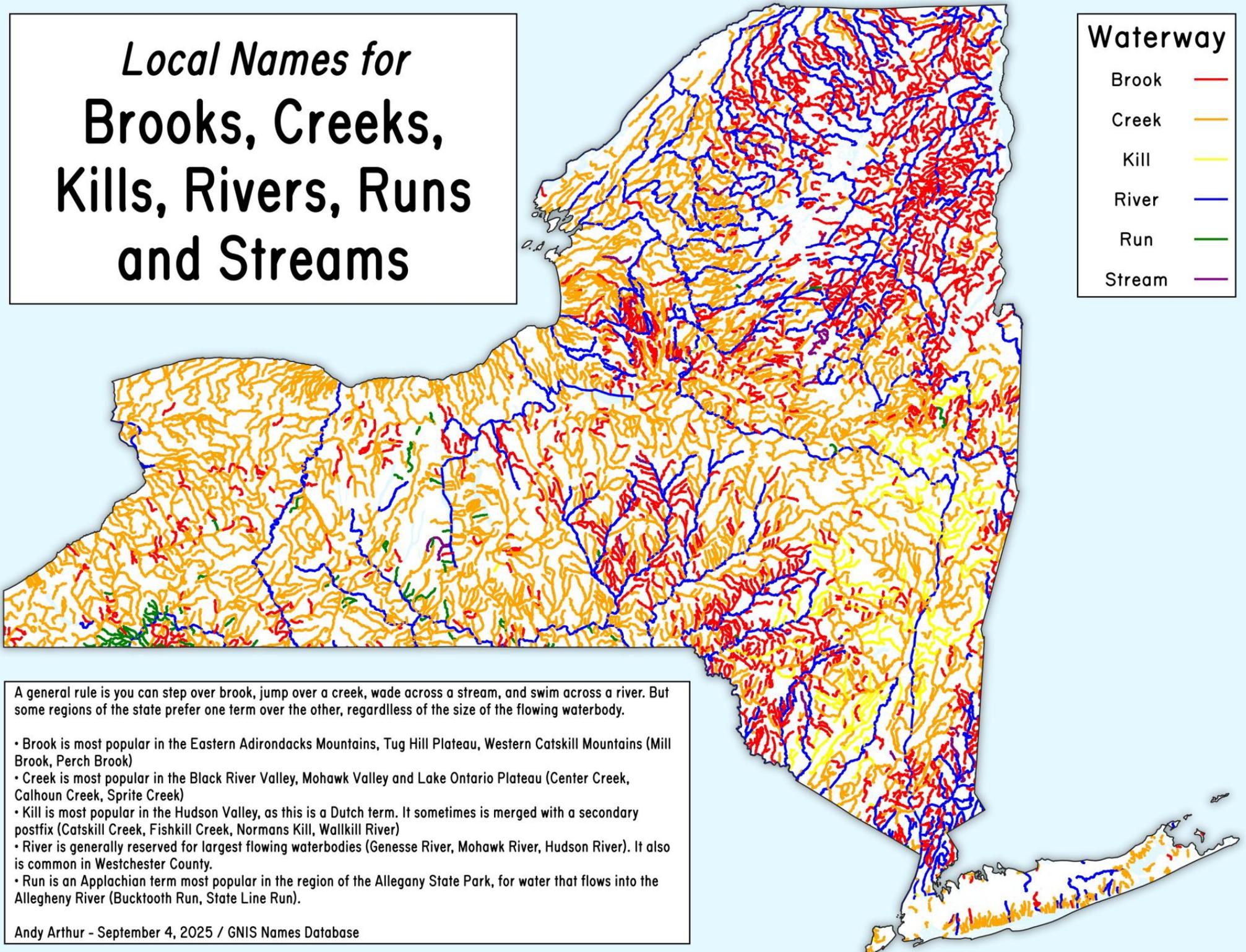


Local Names for Brooks, Creeks, Kills, Rivers, Runs and Streams

Waterway

Brook	—
Creek	—
Kill	—
River	—
Run	—
Stream	—



A general rule is you can step over brook, jump over a creek, wade across a stream, and swim across a river. But some regions of the state prefer one term over the other, regardless of the size of the flowing waterbody.

- Brook is most popular in the Eastern Adirondacks Mountains, Tug Hill Plateau, Western Catskill Mountains (Mill Brook, Perch Brook)
- Creek is most popular in the Black River Valley, Mohawk Valley and Lake Ontario Plateau (Center Creek, Calhoun Creek, Sprite Creek)
- Kill is most popular in the Hudson Valley, as this is a Dutch term. It sometimes is merged with a secondary postfix (Catskill Creek, Fishkill Creek, Normans Kill, Walkill River)
- River is generally reserved for largest flowing waterbodies (Genesee River, Mohawk River, Hudson River). It also is common in Westchester County.
- Run is an Appalachian term most popular in the region of the Allegheny State Park, for water that flows into the Allegheny River (Bucktooth Run, State Line Run).