

# Euclid Creek Watershed Update



## Euclid Creek Watershed Council

City of Beachwood  
City of Cleveland  
City of Euclid  
City of Highland Heights  
City of Lyndhurst  
City of Mayfield Heights  
City of Mayfield Village  
City of Richmond Heights  
City of South Euclid

## Upcoming Meetings & Events

Friends of Euclid Creek  
Monthly meeting, 1st Tuesday,  
South Euclid Community  
Center, 7pm.

Euclid Creek PIPE  
Committee March 3rd,  
9:00 am  
Richmond Heights City Hall

Euclid Creek Watershed  
Council Meeting  
May 18, 7:30 am  
City of South Euclid

**Save the Date:** This year's  
**Euclid Creek Day** will be  
Saturday, **September 16**.  
Stay tuned for details.

### **Euclid Creek Partners:**

*Euclid Creek Watershed Council, Friends of Euclid Creek &  
Cuyahoga Soil & Water Conservation District*

## Watershed Council Update

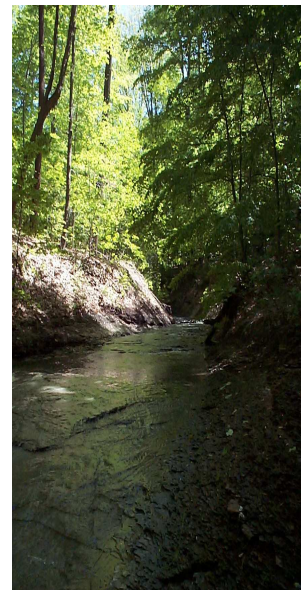
The Euclid Creek Watershed Council was established in 2001 to address storm water and water quality issues collaboratively. In 2004, bylaws were adopted by the Council members who represent nine of the eleven communities within the watershed.

The Council creates a cost-effective and collaborative approach to meet the watershed's water quality goals and ensures that the efforts being conducted are truly locally endorsed. We appreciate the Mayors and their communities' continuing commitment in working collaboratively for the watershed. The Council meets three times a year to approve actions that meet the Council's mission in partnership with the Watershed Coordinator. An annual work plan has been approved by the Council that is linked to recommendations of the Watershed Action Plan.

### New Chair of the Watershed Council

Mayor Georgine Welo of South Euclid was nominated and voted unanimously to serve as this year's Watershed Council Chair. We appreciate her leadership and service to the Council in this capacity for 2006.

We would like to thank outgoing Council Chair, Mayor Bill Cervenik of Euclid who served from 2004-2005. His dedication and commitment on the Council and assisting the Watershed Coordinator is greatly appreciated.



## Notes from the Watershed Coordinator: Vying for Clean, Green Cities

When asked what her mom does for a living, my daughter Megan usually says that I work for the Great Lakes. My job is somewhat hard to explain to a six year old. But looking back, it reflects the efforts going on in Euclid Creek and what I bring forth in my daily work for the communities. Euclid Creek is a special place and fortunate to have the leadership of the Euclid Creek Watershed Council and the citizenry of the Friends of Euclid Creek. With this support and leadership, we are working towards the cleanest, greenest cities in the watershed. Cities are a key element in this lofty goal. Euclid Creek, although having many natural areas to protect, is also a place to work, live and play. It is where development and redevelopment can play an important role in the restoration effort for the Watershed. How close can we get to these clean, green cities? Funding and planning for implementation are underway. Come help us make Euclid Creek a contributor to a sustainable Lake Erie ecosystem. I hope my daughters will come to Euclid Creek in 10 years and see the fruition of all of our hard work in making this a truly great place we are all proud to call home.

—Lynn Garrity

If you would like to be sent this e-newsletter automatically, please send an email to [lgarrity@cuyahogawcd.org](mailto:lgarrity@cuyahogawcd.org) or contact the SWCD office at 216-524-6580, Ext 16.



## From the Friends : Update

### *Join Friends of Euclid Creek*

#### Join FOEC Today!

Thanks to all who joined the Friends of Euclid Creek at their first fundraiser in December. Fifty people attended the event at the Henn Mansion in Euclid.

The Henn was beautifully decorated for the season and provided a great location for the event.

Thanks to the Friends of the Henn Mansion for the accommodations and to all who attended. Look forward to other events by the Friends in 2006.

The Friends of Euclid Creek help inform and educate the public on the many things happening in the watershed. Be part of its future by joining and supporting FOEC. New membership dues, \$15, Student or Senior, \$10 and Donor \$50.

To become a member contact:  
Larry McFadden  
18310 Marcella Road, Cleveland OH 44119

—or Log on to FOEC's website at:  
[www.friendsofeuclidcreek.org](http://www.friendsofeuclidcreek.org)  
for a membership form.

## Coming, June 2006

### Bluestone Brooks Shoreline Cruise

### Cleveland's First Eco-Tourism Itinerary

Ever wonder what a Lake Erie steelhead trout would experience when approaching its local home stream? Find out this summer and take in the ecology and history of four East Side watersheds. Local historian and European eco-tourism veteran, Roy Larick, is teaming with Discovery Dive Charters & Tours to operate the Bluestone Brooks Shoreline Cruise.

On an evening schedule, the *Linda Mae* will depart Euclid Creek Harbor to visit the Bluestone Brooks (Doan, Dugway, Nine Mile and Euclid) from a unique lakeside perspective. See spectacular Bratenahl houses and experience the basic geology, natural communities, and habitat transformations of this striking shoreline segment. The Bluestone Brooks Shoreline cruise is Cleveland's first dedicated eco/heritage tourism service. Stay tuned for registration and dates.

## Tell your Euclid Creek Story...

Often at Euclid Creek meetings, folks recall memories of Euclid Creek growing up. If you would like to share these memories in upcoming newsletters, please send them to the Watershed Coordinator.

## Euclid Creek Map: Finding your place in the Watershed

Ever wondered where your home or favorite coffee shop fits in the Euclid Creek watershed? A newly published Watershed Map is hitting the streets this month to navigate the watershed. A local artist, Mr. Alfred Schrier worked with the Euclid Creek PIPE Committee to develop a user friendly map of places in the watershed. This is a fun way to see the watershed and all the great places in it. These maps will be made available through your local community later in February. If you would like to receive a map or order additional maps for a group, please contact your local community. Enjoy the journey as you explore the watershed and its great places!

Thanks to our sponsors:

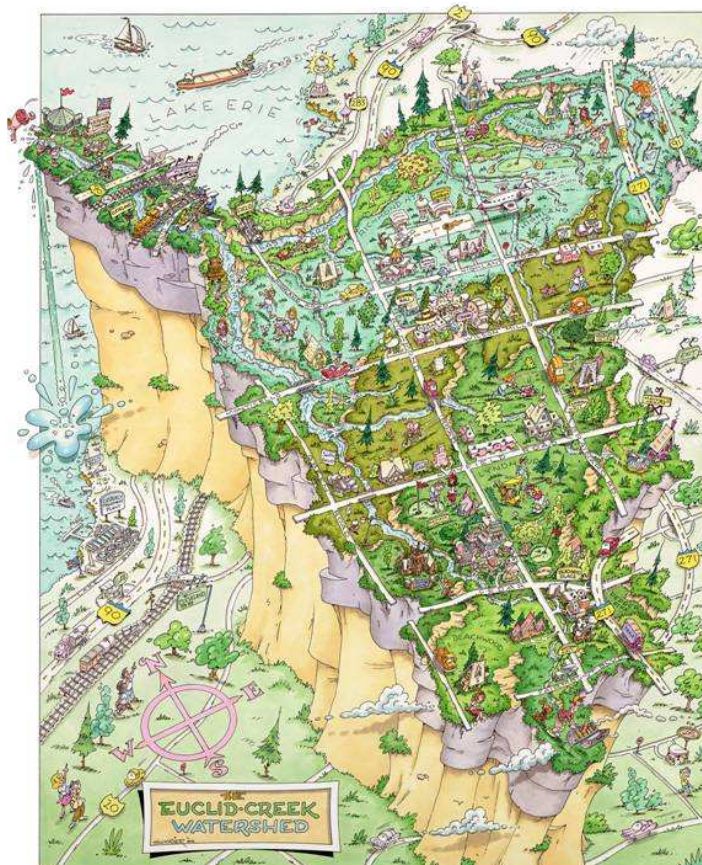
**Legacy Change for Charity Program**

**Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District**

**Cuyahoga Soil & Water  
Conservation District**

Thanks to our supporters:

**Euclid Creek Watershed Council,  
Euclid Creek PIPE Committee,  
Friends of Euclid Creek.**



Drawn by Alfred Schrier

## Dams of Euclid Creek

There are many biologists with a list of jokes about fish and dams that can make the rest of us roll our eyes. But our biologists also have an understanding of the impacts of these structures to the Creek.

Dams can be a serious impediment to fish and aquatic life to travel in the watershed's stream network.

Euclid Creek has at least five small dams or impediments all of varying sizes and shapes. Some were built from the old mill days of the watershed, while others were part of roadway improvement projects in the 1960's.

Two of these structures are

located in the lower portion of the watershed. One is the East Branch dam, under Highland Road near Cleveland Metroparks and the second is the East 185th Street Spillway, just south of I-90.

Removing or retrofitting these structures can improve fish migration and number of fish species that can travel from near-shore Lake Erie up Euclid Creek. An added benefit is the potential of increased recreational use for fishing in places such as the Metroparks.

Funding is being pursued with various partners to find design solutions for these sites.



East Branch Dam

## Phase II—Phase Who? Matching up Community Development and Water Quality

Creating opportunities within regulations can often be difficult. However, one program can reap a variety of benefits to a community if the program is developed properly. The National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Phase II Storm Water program, developed pursuant to regulations promulgated by both USEPA and Ohio EPA in accordance with the federal Clean Water Act, requires communities of a certain population, established by USEPA and the US Census Bureau, to develop and implement water quality practices

that address non-point source pollution, particularly from storm water runoff.

Although this program is federal in scope and administered at the state level, it encourages local communities to provide local control of its implementation. This local input and control can provide an opportunity to match up community development goals with improving water quality through both structural and non-structural conservation Best Management Practices such as bio-retention basins, storm water wetlands, riparian

and wetland protection and perpetual conservation easements on development sites, and local ordinances to ensure these practices occur in a consistent and timely manner in the policy, planning and practice processes within a community. Using NPDES Phase II requirements as part of new or redevelopment goals will help to create green and clean cities that address water quality at the same time. How's that for multi-tasking!

*For more information, contact Ohio EPA or Cuyahoga SWCD.*

### Lake Erie Watershed Fun Facts

Typically, watersheds are measured by number of fish or aquatic bugs, but what about people. Here is a quick comparison of population density among some of our partner watersheds in the Ohio Lake Erie Basin.

Watershed	Persons per square mile
Euclid Creek	2,833
Chagrin River	621
Sandusky River	116

\* These are general densities watershed-wide based upon US Census data. Density concentrations may vary in subwatersheds.

## Lower Euclid Creek Project Update

The Lower Euclid Creek Project is well underway. A Community Advisory Team has been formed and is meeting monthly as a local stakeholder group. URS Consultants has been hired to develop a Greenway Plan for the Creek from Lake Erie at Wildwood State Park to Euclid Creek Metroparks Reservation. The plan will provide an opportunity to look at recreational, community development and ecological restoration opportunities along this corridor. This creates a greenway meeting many objectives at once.

The Project Team has been exploring the corridor to understand the challenges and opportunities for a greenway. The Project Team will be working with the Community Advisory Team on public input work sessions early this Spring, so stay tuned on those dates. Meanwhile, if you have thoughts, ideas or would like to be involved on the Community Advisory Team, please contact the Watershed Coordinator, your local community, or the Northeast Shores Development Corporation.



Euclid Creek near Euclid Central

## ***Euclid Creek Partners:***

*Euclid Creek Watershed Council, Friends of Euclid Creek & Cuyahoga Soil & Water Conservation District*

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Euclid Creek Watershed Coordinator  
Cuyahoga Soil & Water Conservation District  
6100 West Canal Road  
Valley View, Ohio 44125

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Fax: 216-524-6584  
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We're on the web: [www.cuyahogawcd.org](http://www.cuyahogawcd.org)  
Then click Euclid Creek!

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***Only Rain  
down the  
Drain***

## **Euclid Creek Places: Euclid Creek Reservation**



The Euclid Creek Watershed is fortunate to have one of the 16 Cleveland Metroparks reservations throughout northeast Ohio. Euclid Creek Reservation is the 3rd smallest reservation in the 21,000 acre system and the 3rd most visited by park users.

Clearly, the reservation provides urban open space in the heart of one of the most densely populated areas of Cuyahoga County.

The Cleveland Metroparks is a partner on a number of activities in the watershed, including the Lower Euclid Creek Study, Euclid Creek

Headwater Habitat Survey Project, the East Branch Dam Removal and our Annual Euclid Creek Day.

We appreciate Cleveland Metroparks dedication and commitment to Euclid Creek within and outside of its park boundaries as a community resource.