

Euclid Creek Watershed Update



Upcoming Meetings & Events

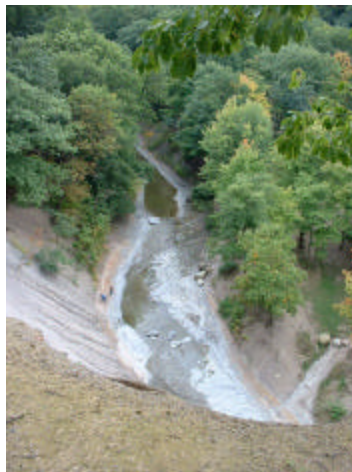
- Friends of Euclid Creek Monthly Meeting - May 3 and June 7 7:00pm— South Euclid Community Center
- Euclid Creek Watershed Council Meeting—April 21 7:30 am Euclid Lakeshore Community Center
- Friends of Euclid Creek 2004-05 Photo Contest Winner Reception & Viewing, April 23 2:00-4:00pm South Euclid-Lyndhurst Public Library
- Euclid Creek PIPE Committee May 6, 9:00 am Richmond Heights City Hall
- Euclid Creek Watershed Action Plan & TMDL Draft Plan Public Meeting May 11, 7:00pm Highland Heights Community Center.
- **Save the Date:**
Euclid Creek Watershed Day— September 17
Call today to participate in the planning!

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

Euclid Creek Partners:

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

Watershed Action Plan Nears Completion Public Review Opportunity Coming in May



After two years, two Watershed Coordinators, and many meetings, the Euclid Creek Watershed Action Plan is close to completion.

The Draft Plan will be presented to the Euclid Creek Watershed Council on April 21 and will be provided for public comment at locations in the watershed and on the Cuyahoga SWCD website in early May.

In addition, a public meeting will be held in conjunction with Ohio EPA's TMDL Plan on Wednesday, May 11 at 7:00 pm at the Highland Heights Community Center.

The Plan, formatted to meet the requirements of the Ohio Department of Natural Resources and Ohio EPA, provides a comprehensive assessment of the watershed's local water resources, its impairments to meet state water quality

standards and the community-based solutions to implement on the ground.

The Euclid Creek Watershed has been fortunate to have active participation and input in developing the plan from residents, community officials and agencies.

Your input and comments are essential in realizing the vision of the plan, integrating with local community goals and successfully restoring, protecting and managing Euclid Creek watershed resources.

Stay Tuned for more information on access to the Draft Plan.

Euclid Creek TMDL Draft Plan— Public Comment Begins

The Ohio EPA is nearing completion of the Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for Euclid Creek. As a federal requirement of all impaired waters of the United States, the TMDL lays out the conditions and sources that are limiting Euclid Creek from meeting water quality standards and targets.

The TMDL provides a basis from which to assist the Watershed Action Plan, and the community-based effort it has estab-

lished to determine the challenges the watershed has and to develop solutions and activities to restore Euclid Creek.

The TMDL Draft Plan will be open for Public Comment for 30 days to be announced and hold a public meeting on May 11 in conjunction with the Watershed Action Draft Plan.

Once approved by USEPA, the presence of the TMDL can yield benefits for financial assistance

and technical support for projects to meet the TMDL criteria and ultimately restore Euclid Creek.

For more information contact Bill Zawiski at Ohio EPA 330.963-1200.



From the Friends : Members Continue to Grow

In March, the FOEC held their Photo Contest Winners Awards Ceremony with over 60 people attending this great event.

These photos will be featured throughout the year in our newsletter and will be available for viewing at the South-Euclid Lyndhurst Library from April 23 through May, with an opening reception on April 23. A Great Event for FOEC and Euclid Creek! Stay tuned for details on this year's photo contest.

2004-2005 1st Place Winner



The FOEC membership continues to grow and is fast approaching 100 members!

Supporting Friends of Euclid Creek will assist the many stewardship activities needed in Euclid Creek and continue to build the already strong community-based effort throughout the watershed.

If you are already an FOEC member, your active participation is essential to making stewardship happen on the ground. Examine your interests and skills and then decide how best you would like to help out.

Please contact FOEC and the Watershed Coordinator if you have an idea, interest or concern as we develop programs with the local communities.

Annual Membership is \$10.00

To become a member contact: Larry McFadden
18310 Marcella Road
Cleveland OH 44119 or Log on to FOEC's website at

www.friendsofeuclidcreek.org for a membership form.

Watershed Stewardship Day : Back to the Future in Euclid Creek *Explore the Past, Understand the Present and Realize the Future*

The Euclid Creek PIPE Committee in partnership with the Friends of Euclid Creek is finalizing event activities for the 2005 Euclid Creek Watershed Day set for **Saturday, September 17**. Save the date. We guarantee this will be a fun event and help Euclid Creek at the same time.

The theme this year is **Back to the Future in Euclid Creek**. The Committee is finalizing events for each time period: past, present and future, that people can participate in stewardship on the ground.

The next newsletter will announce the activities and how you can get involved. Stay Tuned!



Euclid Creek Goes to Film School

Watch out Sundance Film Festival, Euclid Creek is hopefully hitting the big screen or at least the T.V. screen. Euclid Creek PIPE member, Elaine Kolp is producing a documentary starring Euclid Creek as part of her film studies at Cleveland State University. Elaine has been filming and producing the footage this past month for a 10-15 minute video piece in the coming months. The documentary will focus on public education

Get Involved: Tri-C Eastern Campus Partnering with Volunteer Monitoring

As activities begin to take shape in Euclid Creek with the Watershed Action Plan, it will be important to monitor improvements within the watershed over time and determine their successes in restoring Euclid Creek. To accomplish this, an established local monitoring system is needed to provide this consistent data. The Watershed Coordinator, with assistance from Ohio EPA, is working with Cuyahoga Community College, Eastern Campus, to develop a program that crosses

many different courses within the college and involve students in monitoring and assessment of water resources while providing information to Euclid Creek.

To further support this partnership, volunteers from the community will also be needed to sustain this effort throughout the year. Please contact the Watershed Coordinator of you or your group's interest with participating in the monitoring program for Euclid Creek. The monitoring

program will be developed over the next six months with the goal of launching in the Fall, 2005. See you at the Creek!

to residents on where Euclid Creek is, what communities are doing to sustain the Creek in the future and what residents can do in their own yard to help out. Our hope is to work with the Euclid Creek communities and the cable access stations in providing this as part of the community television network in Euclid Creek. A great effort by a local community citizen using their expertise.

Euclid Creek Receives Funding for Implementation

One of the most important products of the Watershed Action Plan is implementing it on the ground to see results of this watershed-wide effort by the communities.

The Cuyahoga Soil & Water Conservation District was awarded \$ 9,450 from the Ohio Lake Erie Commission in March through the Lake Erie Protection Fund Grant program to create rain gardens in the watershed.

Rain Gardens (see EC Newsletter Jan/Feb Issue) will provide a low cost best management practice to remove pollutants

and slow runoff from the land.

Euclid Creek is challenged with few acres remaining for development. Hence the need to retrofit existing uses will be essential in meeting water quality goals.

The project will plan, design and construct two rain gardens in the watershed and conduct two roundtable meetings with landscape professionals to explore the policy and implementation opportunities and challenges within Euclid Creek and its adjacent watersheds.

The goal of the project is to examine the implementation strengths and challenges both from a programmatic and on the ground water quality benefits to determine a watershed-wide rain garden strategy.

If your Euclid Creek community or organization is interested in having the rain garden on your site, please contact the Watershed Coordinator.

We look forward to a great community project for Euclid Creek!

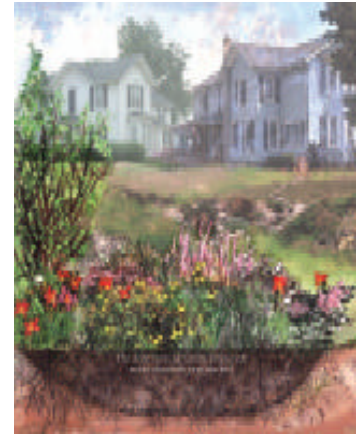


Image Source:
www.raingardens.org
Great Lakes Brochure.

Local Historians are awarded funds for Euclid Creek History Book

For several months, Friends of Euclid Creek members Roy Larick and Bob Gibbons have been preparing the heritage component for the Euclid Creek Watershed Action Plan. The work will identify roughly 400 cultural resource sites across the 11 watershed municipalities. The research is uncovering scores of historical landscape photographs in public archives, local historical societies, and private collections.

Realizing the significance of this material, Larick approached Arcadia Publishing of Chicago about doing a pictorial history book on the watershed. Arcadia's "Images of America" titles are numerous in local bookstores and libraries.

Larick, Gibbons, and colleague Ed Siplock, are pleased to announce that Arcadia will produce *Euclid Creek, Ohio* for the Images series. In five chapters, *Euclid Creek* will be unique in telling the story of a Great Lake tributary watershed around motive power themes:

- **Water mills turning virgin forest into villages and schoolers;**
- **Steam and rails taking blue-stone and wine to distant markets;**

- **Electrified rails filling summer resorts and country estates;**
- **Early automobiles ferrying suburbanites to Tudor side streets;**
- **Interstate highways funneling exurbanites into lifestyle centers.**

Drawing from numerous archives, the Larick, Gibbons and Siplock have surmounted municipal boundaries to show the whole history of the Euclid Creek watershed—our important natural and cultural landmark. *Euclid Creek, Ohio* should be available in local bookstores for fall holiday sales. Congratulations!

Euclid Creek, 1949
Image Source: Euclid Creek Historical Collection Project



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Image Source: Euclid Creek Historical Collection Project

Innovative Solutions: Sustainable Site Design

The Euclid Creek Watershed communities continue to thrive as great communities to live and work in. This reputation continues to attract development opportunities to these communities. Creating sustainable site designs within these developments that consider the long-term benefits and unique

value ecological planning can provide, can reap additional accolades to these cities as great places to live and work.

Working with developers in the early stages of design development to examine the layout alternatives, and integration of water quality resources needs

as part of the development, through the NPDES Phase II program and with assistance of the Watershed Coordinator can continue economic development while maintaining or restoring Euclid Creek resources. Results are a win-win for the economics and ecology within the watershed.

Euclid Creek Partners:

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

Phone: 216-524-6580, Ext 16
Fax: 216-524-6584
Email: lgarrity@cuyahogawcd.org

We're on the web: www.cuyahogawcd.org

Then click Euclid Creek!

Euclid Creek Places— Cuyahoga County Airport

The Cuyahoga County Airport is the largest single tract land owner within the Euclid Creek Watershed with over 640 acres and located within portions of the communities of Richmond Heights, Willoughby Hills and Highland Heights. The County Airport serves as a reliever to the Cleveland Hopkins Airport and provides business service for a variety of clients throughout the region.

In addition to their air service, the Airport owns the Airport Greens public golf course and a number of parcels that have been developed for office space.

The Airport is currently conducting a Master Plan of its facilities to evaluate its services, FAA safety needs, and facilities management of its various properties.

In addition, the Airport is the endpoint for eight headwater tributaries entering the East Branch of Euclid Creek.

As an active member of the Watershed Action Plan Planning Committee, the County Airport and the Watershed Plan effort will continue to collaborate on land planning initiatives to further sustain Airport operations and water resource quality needs for this area of the watershed.

