

# City of Beachwood Watershed Fact Sheet



## Beachwood is in 6 watersheds

**Chagrin River** drains 267 square miles from 22 municipalities and ten townships within four Northeast Ohio Counties.

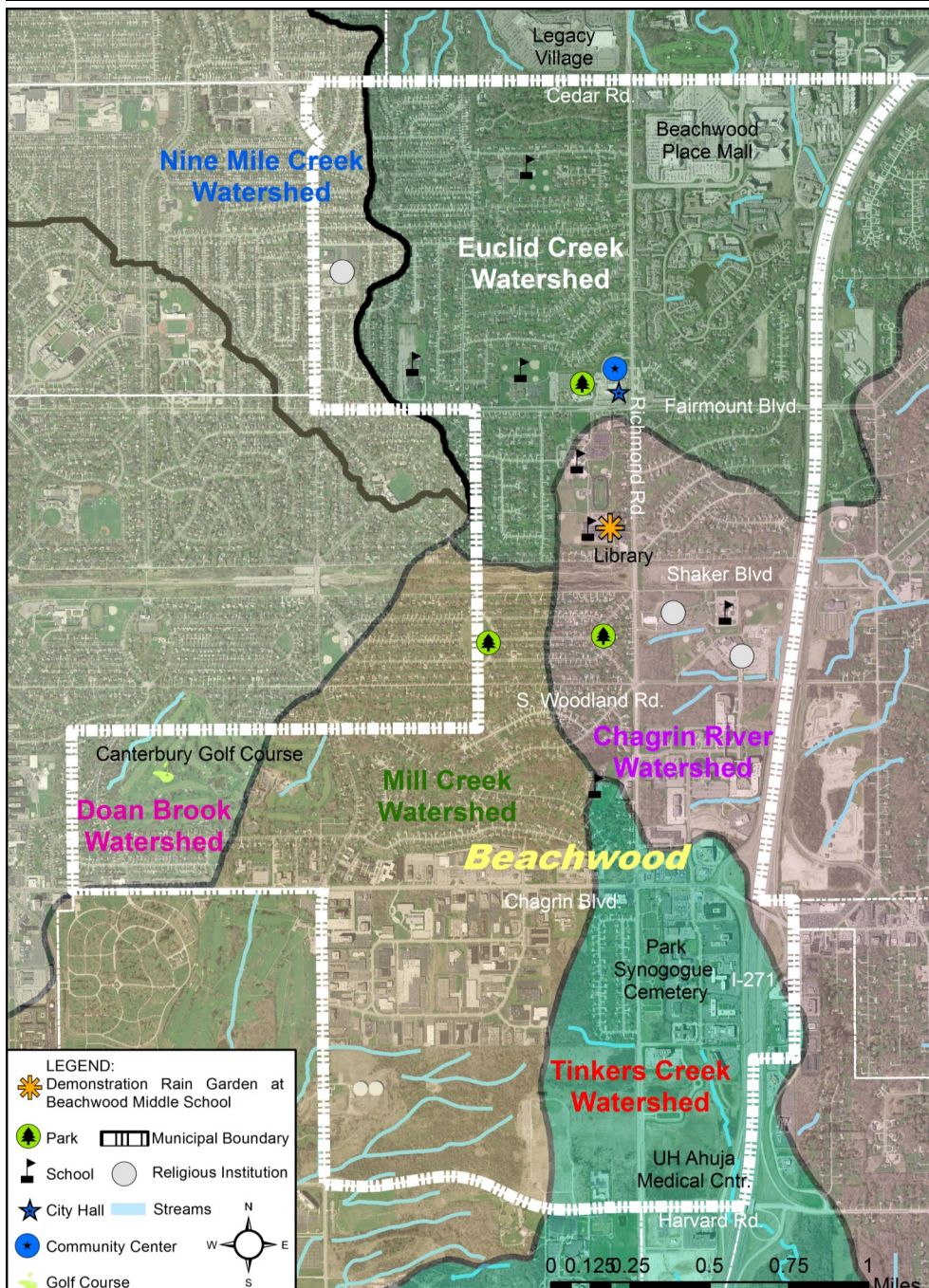
**Doan Brook** drains 12 square miles from 3 communities in Cuyahoga County.

**Euclid Creek** drains an area of approximately 24 square miles from 12 communities in Cuyahoga and Lake Counties.

**Mill Creek** drains approximately 19 square miles from 9 communities in Cuyahoga County.

**Nine Mile Creek** drains an area of approximately 18 square miles from 7 communities in Cuyahoga County.

**Tinkers Creek** drains approximately 96 square miles from 24 communities in four Counties.



All 6 of these waterways **drain directly into Lake Erie**, Beachwood's source of **drinking water**. Protecting your watersheds from runoff pollution also protects **Lake Erie and YOU**.

### Did you know?

- Beachwood has **4.8 miles** of streams above ground with an estimated **7.2 miles** of additional streams that have been channeled underground in pipes/culverts.
- As water moves across lawns and hard surfaces into storm drains, pollution is picked up and sent untreated to creeks and rivers which eventually empty into Lake Erie.
- Vegetated surfaces, like rain gardens, help water soak into the ground which allows for natural filtration of polluted runoff.
- The rate of extinction for freshwater animals is 5 times greater than that for land animals.

*Only Rain Down the Drain!*

**What is a watershed?**  
**Flip to find out!**

# WATER—THE ULTIMATE RESOURCE

**What is a watershed?** A watershed is an area of land that drains rain and snow to a common body of water such as a stream, river, or lake. Our landscape is made up of interconnected watersheds.

**We all live in a watershed**

## A Watershed

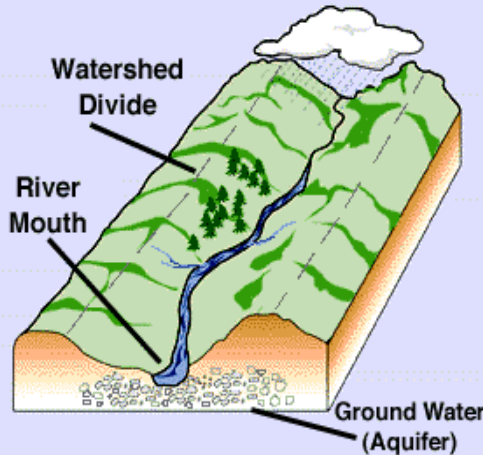


Photo by John Cozzarin, Euclid Creek

### Beachwood within Euclid Creek Watershed

- Beachwood makes up 7.6% or 1.8 square miles of the entire Euclid Creek Watershed.
- There is one 3-4ft. dam in Beachwood, south of Cedar Rd.
- 0.65 miles of Euclid Creek flows through Beachwood, 40.3% of which has been channeled underground.

### Beachwood within Mill Creek Watershed

- 25% of Beachwood's land area is within the Mill Creek Watershed.
- 3,082 of Beachwood residents live within this watershed.
- 0.31 miles of Mill Creek is within Beachwood, 46% of which has been channeled underground.

### Beachwood within Chagrin River Watershed

- 17.4% of land area of Beachwood is within the Chagrin Watershed or 0.92 square miles.
- 16% of land cover is within this area.
- 1.4% of lands in this watershed are protected as of 2009.

### Beachwood within Tinkers Creek Watershed

- 0.78% of Tinkers Creek Watershed is found in Beachwood.
- 6.2% of this watershed consists of sensitive wetlands.

### Beachwood within Doan Brook Watershed

- Doan Brook Watershed is about 7,500 acres in size.
- The entire Doan Brook watershed is 38% impervious (paved) surfaces.

### Beachwood within Nine Mile Creek Watershed

- Beachwood is the headwater (beginning) of Nine Mile Watershed.
- All of the streams have been channeled or piped underground.

### Major water quality issues

- **Excess nutrients**, such as phosphorous and nitrogen, caused by urban pollution and fertilizers from gardens, lawn and turf maintenance.
- After major storms, high intensity stream flow (called **flashy flows**) increases **stream bank erosion**.
- **Loss of greenspace and habitat** surrounding streams that provide a buffer zone to filter pollutants and provide shelter/food for bugs and fish.

### How the CITY protects your water

- Leaf pickups to prevent clogging of storm drains.
- Active member of the Chagrin River Watershed, the Euclid Creek Watershed Council, and the Tinkers Creek Watershed Partnership.
- Beachwood has a stream and wetland protection ordinance.
- Offers household hazardous waste (and other) recycling for residents.
- Allows rain barrels in community and hosts rain barrel workshops.
- Works with Cuyahoga County Board of Health on all public health concerns.
- The City supports the Green Dream Eco-Friendly Showcase, created in 2007 by the Beachwood High School Marketing Education/Junior Achievement class. It is a public venue where businesses and organizations can show how easy it was to "Go Green". This event is recognized as Ohio's largest eco-friendly showcase.

### How YOU can protect your water

- Don't litter, and pick up litter when you see it.
- Keep grass clippings, paper and other waste out of storm drains.
- Report illegal dumping! Call the City Service Department (216-292-1922) or the County Board of Health (216-201-2000).
- Install a rain barrel and/or plant a rain garden.
- Pick up outside pet waste and put it in the trash.
- Wash your car on the lawn or at a carwash.
- Replace your driveway and walkways with permeable paving.
- Reduce toxic substance usage around your home and on the lawn and garden.
- Never put motor oil, antifreeze, pet waste or anything else in storm drains.
- Reduce your use of fertilizers and other chemicals on your lawn and garden.
- Clean paint from brushes, rollers and pans in the sink.

**Get involved with your local conservation / watershed group and take part in keeping your watershed clean and healthy.**

### Euclid Creek Partners

Euclid Creek Watershed Council

(Beachwood is a Watershed Council member)

Friends of Euclid Creek

Cuyahoga Soil & Conservation District

### Euclid Creek Watershed Coordinator

Claire Posius

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Valley View, Ohio 44125

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Euclid Creek Website: [www.cuyahogawcd.org](http://www.cuyahogawcd.org)

Click on *Services - Watershed Programs - Euclid Creek!*



### City of Beachwood

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216-464-1070

[www.beachwoodohio.com](http://www.beachwoodohio.com)

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