

Euclid Creek Watershed Council
2020 Work Plan – Approved 04/09/2020
October Update

10/08/2020 Work Plan Summary

- Grant work continues on the Euclid Creek Mayfield Sand Ridge GLRI project. 30% Design submitted and reviewed by partners in September. Project completion anticipated for end of year.
- Working with FOEC and WCC to implement WRLC/Dominion grant at Dusty Goldenrod Preserve. April planting was postponed due to COVID. A small volunteer group will help with planting in November.
- Feedback provided to City engineer team on swale retrofit project at Richmond Heights Community Park
- 2020 PIPE events held virtually or in small groups of less than 10 outdoors. For communities wishing to postpone in person programming, SWCD can provide materials for pledges to hand out to city staff, residents and/or contractors for involvement activity in 2020. Great low contact involvement activities would be a virtual Green Yards Healthy Homes workshop promoted to residents, Salt Pledge, Litter Pledge, Watershed Champion Campaign, Individual Acts of Conservation.
- CLEB partners received USFS award of funding for riparian tree planting efforts (award announced October 5th). SWCD will assist Lyndhurst and Richmond Heights with implementing projects awarded.
- William Bingham Foundation has awarded CRWP funding for 2021 Master Rain Gardener program coordination with Cuyahoga and Lake SWCD.
- SWCD applied for funding for several small public rain garden or native plant installations in 2021. Award to be announced in October.
- SWCD assisted FOEC with an application for grant funding to support 2021 marketing efforts. Award to be announced in October.

Specific updates on tasks/activities for the work plan are highlighted in [blue](#) below.

Tasks needing feedback or action are in [red below](#).

Euclid Creek Watershed Action Plan Implementation

1. Restoration, Conservation, and Green Infrastructure Projects: Continue implementing, monitoring and stewarding stream and floodplain restoration projects, greenspace conservation and stormwater management projects in the watershed and within the Council's community boundaries.

Annual projects list:

Active Projects:

Mayfield Sand Ridge -Lyndhurst– Design

- Cuyahoga SWCD will manage project, money will pass from USEPA through OLEC to Cuyahoga SWCD.
- EnviroScience team hired to create design plan and bid package
- QAPP submitted for GLNPO Approval, requested revisions submitted early march
- [Project design contracted for phase 1-3 \(of 6\)](#)
- [Project delays occurred due to COVID and QAPP review process. Project extension awarded through 3/31/2021.](#)

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- **Activities Completed:** Stakeholder Kickoff, QAPP Development and Approval, Pre-Design Site Assessment, Preliminary Findings Meeting & Field Tour, 30% design, 30% review meeting and field tour. QHEI and HHEI monitoring for all 6 phases. AOC video & project webpage.

Dusty Goldenrod Preserve, Highland Heights – Ecological Management Plan

- Manage grant deliverables in coordination with FOEC conservation committee.
- 2019 grant from WRLC/Dominion to FOEC for \$3,000 to install deer exclosures and perform restoration activities.
- Deer exclosures installed in fall 2019.
- **Interpretive Signage Created and purchased.**
- **FOEC Conservation Committee managing invasive plants & trash.**
- **Volunteer planting in April postponed to November.** Supplies purchased for live stake and wetland plantings.
- **WCC felled 3 dead trees threatening resident fence.**
- **Coordinating with WCC and FOEC on boundary signage.**

Richmond Heights Community Park Swale Retrofit

- Cuyahoga SWCD working with Cuyahoga County, City, and Ohio EPA on potential swale retrofit project to address runoff from community park to airport.
 - Project not to exceed \$40,000. Result of Ohio EPA finding against Cuyahoga County. Project proposed as a Supplemental Environmental Project.
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- Ohio EPA agreed to allow Cuyahoga County to support a community park retrofit as a supplemental environmental project in lieu of paying additional fines. SWCD assisted with project summary/application and review of project specifications. City engineers leading project.

Existing Project Stewardship:

- ***Willoughby Eastlake School of Innovation Stream Restoration Project, Willoughby Hills – Restoration Project***
 - Work with school to maintain invasives and monitor project.
 - **Annual monitoring continues. Project is holding up well. Coordination with the school has been put on hold during COVID.**
- ***Community Christian Church, Euclid – Tree Planting***
 - Monitor restoration project and coordinate volunteer maintenance.
 - **Annual monitoring and maintenance continue in coordination with volunteers.**
- ***Hawken Lyndhurst – Tree Planting***
 - Monitor restoration project and coordinate volunteer maintenance.
 - **Annual monitoring has continued. Volunteer maintenance has been on hold due to COVID.**
- ***South Euclid – Ninemile Rain Garden and Native Landscape Beds***
 - Monitor Bioswale and native beds installed 2019 and coordinate volunteer maintenance.
 - **Annual monitoring continues. Volunteer maintenance has been occurring on an individual basis due to COVID.**
- ***Richmond Heights City Hall Riparian Planting - Monitoring & Invasives Management***
 - Manage invasive Canada thistle plants in riparian area (\$1,000 budget from NEORS-ECWP Service Agreement).
 - **EnviroScience treated invasives in the spring.**

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- Need to determine long-term plan for this site with City.
- Part of USFS award will include invasive treatment and additional tree planting along Claribel Creek.

- **Wildwood Lacustrine Wetland and Stream Restoration Project– Monitoring**
 - Coordinate with partners on future monitoring and maintenance activities.
 - Spring mugwort pull event hosted.
 - Annual photo monitoring continues, erosion inspections continue after each 2 inch rain event.
- **Redstone Run Highland Reserve, Richmond Heights – Monitoring & Invasives Management**
 - Monitor restoration plantings and manage invasives in coordination with West Creek Conservancy.
 - Annual monitoring continues. SWCD staff working with FOEC to remove enclosure material and invasives.
- **Bishop Road Property, Highland Heights Conservation project - Monitoring**
 - Monitor restoration plantings and manage invasives in coordination with West Creek Conservancy.
 - Annual monitoring continues. WCC coordinating tree removal along resident driveway.
- **East Branch Dam Removal Project - Monitoring**
 - Continue with annual monitoring to ensure project stability, due to proximity to Highland Road bridge footers.
 - Unable to inspect this year due to overhead bridge construction.

Project Planning:

- **Cleveland Clinic-Lyndhurst Campus – Hydrologic Reconnection Concept Plan**
 - Waiting for NEORS D Master Planning Effort before beginning pursuit of funding
- **Mayfair Lake Dam Removal Project, Richmond Heights - Restoration Project**
 - Continue to meet and work with partners to try and secure funding.
 - Met with airport, City, WCC, and Consultant to discuss potential project options.
 - WCC has list of property owners to approach and discuss potential restoration options.
 - Working with WCC. WCC drafted WRRSP Pre-proposal for project.
 - SWCD staff need to present on project to City Council and neighbors before pursuing project funds. Need to coordinate with County – Robert Hartigan vacated the airport position.
- **Stormwater Retrofit project prioritization – Green Infrastructure Projects**
 - Find funding for concept plans that were developed for top two sites in 2010.
 - Find funding to develop concepts for projects on list without plans.
 - CLEB Partners have received 319 funding and SWCD will be helping to lead coordination with consultant for creating concepts and a basin retrofit tool for pilot stormwater projects.
- **East 185th Street Fish Passage Project (ODOT spillway) – Feasibility Study**
 - Watershed Program Manager participates in meetings and reviews. (NEORS D and USACE leading project.)

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- WPM attended meeting. USACE presented updates to preferred alternatives. Next steps will be to present the proposed project for public input.
- **Cleveland Clinic-Lyndhurst Campus – Stream Restoration Project**
 - Continue to monitor property for sale and approach new owner about project.
 - Staff at Cleveland Clinic have indicated that due to COVID no movement on sale of the property has occurred. It is possible that Cleveland Clinic may reevaluate and decide to keep the property.

Watershed Plan Update:

- **Euclid Creek Watershed Action Plan Update / Nonpoint Source Implementation Strategy Document (NPS-IS)**
 - Continue to update plans and submit new critical areas, goals, objectives, and project summary sheets to help secure federal funding for projects.
 - Version 1.2, dated January 29, 2020 submitted and approved by Ohio EPA – update added two project summary sheets for Mayfield Sand Ridge Projects.
 - Compiled cost estimates for possible basin retrofits in Highland Heights and Beachwood.
 - Received buried stream layer from county. Intent to map in NPSIS and do targeted education campaign for community members along buried streams.

2. Watershed Resources:

- Provide watershed resources and conference / training information to Euclid Creek Watershed Council and Technical Committee.
- Interact with local, state and national agency initiatives such as Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) reports, research opportunities, outreach and funding initiatives.
 - WPM presented on WES project at Ohio Stormwater Conference.
 - GLRI anti-Litter collaborative grant – SWCD led application and will manage grant if awarded – Not awarded
 - Assistance with two CRWP GLC Grants for residential streambank erosion projects
 - Periodic emails to committees with conference/program updates

3. Grant Opportunities & Technical Assistance:

- a) Provide communities grant opportunity resources to evaluate for their use.
- GLRI-USFS – Submitted joint application with CRWP for Tree Projects in Lyndhurst and Richmond Heights – Awarded
 - Dominion/WRLC Mini Watershed Grant – up to \$5,000 for Watershed groups. Program being managed by Western Reserve Land Conservancy. Awards will be announced in October.
 - SWCD applied for rainscaping installation (5 public rain gardens or native plant gardens) \$2500.
 - SWCD assisted FOEC with application for 2021 marketing/educational materials - \$1500.
 - OEEF Joint grant with CRWP and Lake SWCD for Master Rain Gardener support in 2020/2021. Awaiting grant advisory review on March 31st. Initial reviews were excellent. Funding for OEEF has been tabled during COVID and state budget adaptations.

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- Bingham Foundation – joint grant with CRWP and Lake SWCD for Master Rain Gardener – Awarded.
- b) Assist local communities on the assembly of grant applications.
 - Utilize NEORS D Stormwater Program Community Cost Share as local match for restoration project grants and other shared priority projects with watershed communities
 - Assistance with Richmond Heights Supplemental Environmental Project – Community Park Swale Retrofit. City engineer leading.
- c) Assist Watershed Council communities with watershed projects
 - Provide assistance with projects in adjacent watersheds like Nine Mile, Green Creek and Euclid Lake Erie Watersheds
 - Compiling addresses for targeted mailing to Green Creek.
- d) Provide technical assistance to communities on natural resource issues during master planning or update efforts, on floodplain management activities and on stream maintenance best management practices as requested.
- e) Provide technical assistance to watershed landowners with stream maintenance, erosion and/or drainage issues as requested.

Virtual Backyard Stream Ownership Webinar available to landowners with stream maintenance questions.

- Beachwood
 - Native plant seed advice
 - HOA looking into addition of a stormwater basin
 - Site visit to watershed champion – using rain barrels and native landscaping practices
- Cleveland
 - Green Infrastructure ideas to urban partners
 - Rain garden soil advice to landowner
 - Landowner phone consult and email about potential for rain garden on property
 - Rain Barrel maintenance email assistance
- Euclid
 - School observation/outdoor education project potential coordination
 - resident input about native landscaping project
 - Native Plant Garden Feedback and Invasive Species ID
- Highland Heights
 - wetland project feedback
 - Stonewater Golf Course Email communication and input to Community and NEORS D about Irrigation Pond and upstream sediment discharge
 - Downed tree assistance (with WCC)
- Lyndhurst
 - Landowner Rain Garden Feedback and resources – email and phone support
 - Property Management call and follow-up site visit about erosion and tree care along creek
 - Landowner Call about concern with maintenance along stream
 - Resident questions about native fish in Euclid Creek

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- Illegal dumping concerns
 - Mayfield Village
 - Resident call about creek wading and permissions
 - Richmond Heights
 - Meeting with Church about DePave Retrofit opportunities and follow-up report for potential green scaping
 - South Euclid
 - property owner input about shady wetland plants
 - property owner – contractor list who can do native landscaping projects
 - Property owner looking into grey water capture and use
 - Pepper Pike
 - Golf course looking to dredge basins – email feedback and coordination with CRWP
 - CRWP landowner assistance with erosion

- 4. Volunteer Monitoring Program (VMP): Continue and advance VMP program
 - Conduct Volunteer Monitoring Committee meetings as needed.
 - Recruit new citizen volunteers.
 - Outreach and facilitate with interested groups.
 - Input data collected annually and develop annual report for volunteers and watershed communities.
 - Host water quality monitoring party with program updates and input for future.
 - Coordinate with Cleveland Metroparks Watershed Volunteer Program
 - Hosted water quality monitoring party with program updates and input for future. March 2020 Mayfield Village
 - Updated kits with support of NEORS and WVP
 - New kit storage locations at Nature Center/Wildwood Marina
 - Continued data entry/qa/qc
 - SWCD has centralized the Rocky River, Euclid Creek, and Cahoon Creek water quality programs with the reorganization of SWCD staff duties to allow one staff member to oversee the entire volunteer monitoring program and increase consistency in protocols across all watersheds. Watershed Coordinator Meg Hennessey will now be running the volunteer monitoring program.
 - Staff ordered monitoring equipment and consumable supplies for quarter 3 and 4. Many supplies will be delayed due to manufacturing shortages.
 - SWCD staff have been working with Cleveland Metroparks on their new smart citizen science initiative. Staff and volunteers have been monitoring using a device made to sample using an iPhone (Erie Open Source “EOS”) in addition to our normal monitoring kits to test a new protocol for viably collecting nutrient data with the use of the EOS device and an iPhone.
 - Staff have been working with Water Reporter to have Euclid Creek data mapped instantly once data entered by volunteers is reviewed by staff.
 - SWCD staff continue to assist with calibration of kits and have updated the monitoring data sheets and protocols for ease of volunteer use. Data collection was centralized and submittal methods revised to support volunteers who do not have access to email or smart phones and to lower economic barriers for

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participation. In response to COVID-19 all monitoring kits were supplied with alcohol disinfectant wipes and volunteers disinfect all primary contact surfaces after use.

- SWCD will work with Cleveland Metroparks staff to utilize the Water Reporter social media platform to increase engagement.
- SWCD staff are planning to start bacteria monitoring in Euclid Creek and anticipate starting the program in quarter 4 once supplies are received.

5. Model Ordinances: Implement local ordinances to meet community stormwater management plan goals.

- Work with local communities and City Engineers in updating the ordinances to meet the 5-year Stormwater Management Plan goals.
- 2020 Goal: continue to work with Mayfield Heights, Highland Heights and Lyndhurst on riparian setback ordinance consideration/passage.
- CRWP and SWCD Presentation to Highland Heights Planning Commission in February 2020. Follow-up with Law department and Vince Adamus.
- **Need to set up meetings with Mayfield Heights, Highland Heights and Lyndhurst for next steps.**

Watershed Outreach & Program Partner Collaboration

1. PIPE Program

- Continue implementing the PIPE program through the PIPE Committee and coming up with new and innovative education and outreach opportunities.
- PIPE Committee Meeting Held 3/3/2020
- [See separate work plan updates for 2020 programming.](#)

2. Watershed Outreach

- Continue to coordinate watershed outreach with the goal of reaching a diverse group of stakeholders from streamside property owners to large landlocked landowners.
 - Euclid Creek Newsletter - Assemble and distribute the Euclid Creek newsletter at least one time a year. Newsletter emailed to distribution list and mailed to ECWC Communities (public officials and city staff).
 - [The annual newsletter was created and printed. The newsletter was delivered to 531 households. In addition, 25 copies of the newsletter were delivered to each Euclid Creek community for display. 25 copies were also shared with the libraries and community recreation centers in Euclid Creek watershed communities. 50 newsletters were displayed at Wildwood and Euclid Creek Reservation. 100 newsletters were shared with FOEC for distribution.](#)
 - Broadcast emails/E-Newsletter – Send out monthly broadcast emails/E-Newsletter, so more frequent updates with more timely information. Add city council and staff to email distribution list.
 - 1/27 – 1,633
 - 2/17 – 1,627
 - 3 / 4 – 271 (volunteer email)
 - 3/16 – 1,625
 - [4/20 – 1,747](#)
 - [4/24 – 158 \(volunteer email\)](#)

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- 5/7 – 265 (volunteer email)
- 5/18 – 1,673
- 6/15 – 1,671
- 6/24 – 263 (volunteer email)
- 7/18 – 1,823
- 7/31 – 1,671
- 8/19 – 1,666
- 9/23 – 1,662
- 10/2 – 270 (volunteer email)
- Website – Continue updating website with new projects and news.
 - Program pages and content added for Conservation Easements and Mayfield Sand Ridge Project
- Social Media (facebook, Instagram, twitter) – Manage Euclid Creek Watershed Program social media accounts. Post 1-5 times a week.
 - Weekly (or more) posts continue on Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram
 - Facebook Analytics
 - Likes – 860, Followers – 862
 - 345 posts
 - Most Engaging Post “Euclid creek is free of 23 bags of trash, over 100 golf balls, a tire, two shovels, a golf flag stick and a bunker rake! Thanks to our wonderful volunteers and the city of South Euclid staff for this successful event! #neowaterstewards #lakeeriestartshere #onlyraindownthedrain #dontbealitterbutt #keepitclean #masksonohio” with photos from cleanup on 7/18 – Total post reach 1,148
 - Instagram – 174 followers
 - Twitter – 188 Followers
- Targeted Streamside Property Owner Mailing –Continue annual mailing to streamside property owners in Euclid Creek focusing on watershed management and best practices on properties.
 - Life at Water’s Edge 5 “Don’t Dump” sent to 1,448 streamside residents
 - In addition, the Euclid Creek Newsletter was mailed to 25 streamside residents in each Euclid Creek community (except for Mayfield Heights and Mayfield Village where most of Euclid Creek tributaries are buried.)
 - A “What to Do with Yard Waste” brochure will be mailed to streets in Euclid, Lyndhurst, and South Euclid in October where residents or council members have requested information be sent.
 - Will discuss with Euclid possible mailings of series of Life at Waters Edge documents to residents along Green Creek on Miami Road.
- Euclid Creek Watershed Champion Pledges – Encourage residents to take simple steps in their yard and community to help Euclid Creek. Participants will receive a yard sign.
 - Beachwood – 3
 - Cleveland – 10
 - Cleveland Heights – 1
 - Euclid – 8
 - Highland Heights – 7
 - Lyndhurst – 2
 - Richmond Heights – 2

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- South Euclid – 5
- University Heights - 2

3. Euclid Creek Watershed Council Coordination

- Watershed Coordinator serves as Secretary to Euclid Creek Watershed Council (non-voting member). Gives notice of meetings, prepares meeting agendas with ECWC Chair and content, keeps minutes, and records all votes.
 - Held virtual meeting 4/9, drafted minutes
- Continue coordinating the Euclid Creek Watershed Council meetings and committees, including the PIPE Committee, Technical Committee and Volunteer Monitoring Program Committee.
 - PIPE Committee Meeting Held 3/3/2020
 - Highland Heights Bioretention Maintenance Meeting
 - Euclid – meeting with Councilwoman about PIPE outreach opportunities
 - Richmond Heights – meeting with new PIPE representative
 - Gauge Technical Committee Interest on virtual fall programming – Proposed MS4 Permit Updates, SCM Maintenance, Tree Care, Good Housekeeping
- Continue to promote best land use practices in communities.
- Assist with and coordinate the NPDES Phase II Permit among the Council communities as requested by the Technical Committee.

4. Watershed Partner Liaison

- Assist watershed partners with Euclid Creek watershed resources.
- Serve as liaison between Euclid Creek Watershed Council and watershed partners.
- Provide Euclid Creek watershed program updates to watershed partners and at watershed partner meetings as time allows.
- Coordinate with watershed partner members at watershed events.
- SWCD has reorganized their watershed program staff. Meg Hennessey, our new Watershed Coordinator will be the primary liaison to Friends of Euclid Creek (FOEC) and other watershed friends group. Elizabeth Hiser, Watershed Program Manager will remain the primary liaison to Euclid Creek Watershed Council members.
 - Attended Friends of Euclid Creek (FOEC) Board/Committee Meetings on: 4/29, 7/6, 7/9, 7/20, 8/1, 8/5, 8/18
 - Attended FOEC Membership Meetings on: 2/4, 8/11, 9/1

Watershed Program Sustainability / Funding

- **Euclid Creek Watershed Council MOU for 2021-2025** – renew watershed program MOU with Euclid Creek Watershed Council communities and see if Pepper Pike or Willoughby Hills interested in joining
 - Resolution & Signature pages received by Beachwood, Euclid, Mayfield Heights
 - SWCD prepared presentation for Richmond Heights council
 - SWCD presenting at Highland Heights Council Oct. 13th
 - Still need resolution and signature pages from Cleveland, Highland Heights, Lyndhurst, Mayfield Village, Richmond Heights, South Euclid
- **Central Lake Erie Basin (CLEB) Watershed Organization Collaboration**– local watershed groups from Black River to Ashtabula/Conneaut River Watershed
 - Meet quarterly to discuss collaboration opportunities, funding challenges, watershed gaps in coverage, etc.

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- Table events collaboratively – share watershed volunteer time v. all groups at regional events at separate tables – central messaging key to avoiding public confusion of watersheds
- CLEB applies for funding to maintain support and assist existing watershed groups with workload and to assist groups without watershed programs in special projects/programs.
 - Attended CLEB Meetings: 1/15, 3/25, 5/12, 7/15, 9/9
 - Assisting CRWP with two GLC grants
 - Joint application for USFS grant
 - Joint application to William Bingham for Master Rain Gardener Support
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- **NEORS-ECWP Watershed Organization Service Program 2020**
 - Cuyahoga SWCD will manage 2020 service program according to three-way MOU with FOEC and CRWP. FOEC awarded \$40,000. CRWP to be the fiscal agent.
 - Reporting and deliverables completed in coordination with CRWP & FOEC.
 - Quarter 1, 2, and 3 services and reporting complete. Total spent: \$30,450.46
 - SWCD Salary- \$16,511.82, Materials - \$9,481.19, CRWP Professional Services- \$3,721.25, FOEC - \$736.20
 - Drafting 2021 application with CRWP and FOEC. Letters of support requests made to ECWC communities.

Additional Watershed Efforts led by Partner Agencies

- Participate in partner agencies' meetings, serve on committees, and/or planning efforts as requested/needed.
 - **Cleveland Metroparks - Acacia Reservation, Euclid Creek Reservation- Wildwood Park**
 - Attended Greenway Planning Bike Recon Meeting – 9/3
 - Assisted with organizing volunteer events to cleanup and plant/maintain trees at Acacia
 - **Cuyahoga Area of Concern (AOC) Committees**
 - Participated in AOC interview March 2020.
 - Attended AOC Committee Meetings: 6/23, 7/20, 8/25, 9/9
 - **NEORS-ECWP Stormwater Program**
 - Meetings with South Euclid, Lyndhurst & CRWP about NEORS-ECWP Pilot Stormwater Control Incentive Program
 - **NOACA**
 - Cleveland Office of Sustainability – Plastic Reduction Working Group
 - Attended Meeting – 7/14