Euclid Creek Watershed Update

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

Thanks for Another Great Euclid Creek Day

September 16, marked the 4th annual Euclid Creek Day event to celebrate and give back to the Creek through stewardship activities. This year folks dug in with both hands and planted our third rain garden in the watershed. Deb Marcinski from the Metroparks provided a Natural History Tour of Euclid Creek. Dr. Mike Nichols helped train more volunteers for the water quality monitoring program and the Friends of Euclid Creek hosted a cookout for all of the participants. We also had displays of local groups and supporting organizations such as Save Our Streams Hawken Students, our avid student Diana Drushel (see page 2), and the Cleveland Division of Water Pollution Control. Thanks to Mayor Welo and State Representative Yuko for coming out and enjoying the day with us. Thanks to Friends of Euclid Creek, Cleveland Division of Water Pollution Control and the Cleveland Metroparks for their sponsorship for this event. See you next year!

Rain Gardens Everywhere in the Watershed

Since our last newsletter, three more rain gardens have been installed in the watershed; South Euclid-Lyndhurst Library, Cleveland Metroparks, Welsh Woods, Richmond Heights Kiwanis Lodge and Lyndhurst Brainard Park. The rain gardens, funded by the Ohio Lake Erie Protection Fund, provided an opportunity to learn and diagnose rain gardens as a best practice and its applicability both in practice and policy for Euclid Creek and other similar watersheds. Thanks to all of the various groups who made these possible. Go visit the rain gardens and see good things on the ground in Euclid Creek.

Thanks to: Cities of South Euclid, Lyndhurst, Richmond Heights, Euclid, Cleveland Metroparks Park Staff, Friends of Euclid Creek, WildOnes, Cleveland Museum of Natural History, Urban Ecology Students (see photo), Ohio Lake Erie Protection Fund, and NRCS. Supplies and Signage were provided by: Kurtz Brothers, Ohio Prairie Nursery, Michael Roach Graphic Design and Firehouse Signs.
**From the Friends : Friends of Euclid Creek Fundraiser**

**Celebrate the Holidays with Euclid Creek and Help Support the Friends of Euclid Creek—December 5**

Come join the Friends of Euclid Creek in celebrating Euclid Creek and support the Friends in educating the community on Euclid Creek stewardship. This year’s event will be held December 5, 7:00pm at the Mayfield Village Community Center with a Buffet Dinner and a raffle for prizes and live entertainment. Tickets are $20.00 for the event. Contact Barb Pophal to purchase tickets at 216-481-4397.

**Join FOEC Today!**

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 for a membership form.

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**Euclid Creek Events Bring out Local Stewards**

**Local Student is Awarded at Regional Science Fair**

Diana Drushel has been a volunteer at the Euclid Creek Day the past three years. Through her participation, she chose to use Euclid Creek as her Science Fair Project as a seventh grader at Cleveland Heights Monticello Middle School. Her Project - "Dissolved Oxygen and pH levels in Euclid Creek" won her first prize at the Monticello Science Fair and advanced her to win a third place at the Northeastern Ohio Science and Engineering Fair among seventh and eight graders. Diana is continuing her work in Euclid Creek for this year’s science program. Congrats to Diana as one of our youngest stewards in the watershed and her use of Euclid Creek as a laboratory for her academic success!

**Great Scot! The Stewards are here!**

The Scots in Service through the College of Wooster Alumni Association is a day in which College of Wooster Alums across the country help out in their community. This year, the Cleveland service day came to Euclid Creek at Wildwood State Park to take out invasive plants and remove trash and debris along the stream and beaches. Over 50 alum helped out on October 7 including our own Scots Alum, Brian Friedman from Northeast Shores Community Development Corporation. The President of the College, R. Stanton Hales came out with the Alumni to provide stewardship service in the Watershed. Thanks to the Scots and Service program and Danielle Coppola organizing this great event for coming to Euclid Creek!
Community Stewardship in Action

Lyndhurst in Practice

Thanks to Rick Glady, Service Director for the City of Lyndhurst, urban lawn areas are being replaced with native meadow on our public lands in the heart of Euclid Creek’s headwaters. At Brainard Park, replacing turf grass with a native meadow mix will reduce the rate of urban runoff and provide deeper root systems to take up excess nutrients. This practice will also reduce the amount of fertilizer application needed and maintenance costs to the City. This is a good thing for Euclid Creek and we applaud the City of Lyndhurst on their leadership. Another small action making a big difference in Euclid Creek. Contact Rick Glady, City of Lyndhurst on this project.

Tri-C East Receives USEPA Grant

Cuyahoga Community College was awarded $13,949 from the US EPA Environmental Education Grant Program for Region 5 for watershed based teacher training in the Euclid Creek Watershed. The project was one of six projects in the Great Lakes region with over 100 proposals applying. The project will develop a course about Euclid Creek that is designed for local teachers and community group leaders with in-classroom instruction and hands-on field instruction to educate and increase environmental stewardship. The project will also produce a DVD on sampling techniques for Euclid Creek monitoring to assist in acquiring the skills necessary to participate in assessing watersheds. Another great partner in the watershed doing great things. Stay tuned for further details.

US Fish and Wildlife Grant Awarded to Euclid Creek

Euclid Creek has partnered up with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Big Rivers Region through the National Fish Passage Program to award funding towards the East Branch Dam removal. The funding will go towards the restoration of the East Branch fish barrier and its stream channel. Additional support is being provided by ODNR Division of Wildlife and Cleveland Metroparks. Additional funding is being sought for the project for full implementation. The Euclid Creek efforts continues to bring funding back home at a national level. This effort is part of returning native fish species back into the lower Euclid Creek and to foster fish habitat connections to the upper watershed. We look forward to working with the US Fish and Wildlife and our local and state partners to realize this project’s full implementation.

Volunteer Monitoring Launch Moving Ahead in 2007

Euclid Creek’s volunteer monitoring program is up and running and going well. Volunteers have been collecting data from five sites every month and recording the data. The data collected through this program is available for viewing at http://chemistry.jcu.edu/mnichols/Euclid_Creek/volunteermonitoringhome.htm

The data, while focused on the chemical conditions of Euclid Creek was a great starting point to get volunteers started. The Volunteer Monitoring Committee will be working on developing a program for biological monitoring for volunteers in 2007 and training events for folks to get involved. An analysis of this data will be developed in 2007 also. Thanks to all of the volunteers who have taken the leadership in getting this going. If you would like get involved, please contact Lynn Garrity at Cuyahoga SWCD. Thanks to the Volunteers and Partners: Mary K Evans, Lillian Houser, Tina Scott, Stephen Love, Nell Rapport, Nanette K. Frank Faranacci, Tom Pukelnick, Sandy Ammon, and Tim McCunn. Thanks to Dr. Nichols at John Carroll for his support and Quality Control. Also, Tri-C East Campus, Notre Dame College and Ursuline College professors for their continuing support and using Euclid Creek as its outdoor classroom.
Euclid Creek Places: Mayfair Swim Club– Then and Now

Mayfair Lake has been part of the local landscape in Richmond Heights for over 40 years, since its heydays of the Mayfair Swim Club. Today, the lake has run its course as it continues to fill with sediment. The majority of the Lake is now owned by Cuyahoga County Airport to provide more buffer to its runways. As one of the longest headwater streams entering the East Branch, Cuyahoga SWCD is working with the City of Richmond Heights and Cuyahoga County on restoration and conservation opportunities that can provide a healthier stream corridor for Euclid Creek and the residents that live adjacent to it. A neighborhood meeting was held with the residents in August on this project to hear concerns and thoughts. We look forward in continuing to work with the community as we examine restoration opportunities.
Thanks to all of our Supporters in 2006!

Come be part of Euclid Creek.

Keeping great places in Euclid Creek great and bringing back the rest of the great places in the watershed, we need everyone who can help out to make it happen. Assistance is needed with the following activities.

- Donate to the Friends of Euclid Creek to leverage grants, to conduct conservation projects in the watershed, and continue to educate and partner with local communities on the value of Euclid Creek.
- Sign-up to Monitor Euclid Creek in your backyard or in the watershed. Training provided and as your schedule allows.
- Help with Fundraising with our business community
- Sign-up to join the Public Education & Involvement Committee to help plan events and provide information to the community.

Contact your local community, the Euclid Creek Watershed Coordinator or Friends of Euclid Creek on how to get involved in supporting the stewardship of Euclid Creek.