

# COASTAL LAKE ERIE WATERSHED CHAMPIONS PROGRAM

Be a CHAMPION for [Coastal Lake Erie Watersheds](#) and earn a YARD SIGN to show your support!

Circle your completed actions below:

Circle at least **three actions** you have completed in **YOUR YARD** to protect **CLE Watersheds**:

- Install a rain barrel to help slow stormwater runoff while harvesting water for your gardening needs (check with your community to determine if permits are needed)
- Shrink your lawn by planting native trees, shrubs, and plants
- Remove non-native or invasive plants and replace with native plants to provide food and habitat for wildlife, as well as improving your soil health and water infiltration
- Leave your leaves where they fall as natural compost and added habitat throughout the winter
- Keep pesticides out! Only spot treat when necessary, or use boiling water or natural solutions when possible
- Save water by not watering your lawn
- Keep nutrients out! Only fertilize after a soil test, and use organic fertilizers when you must
- Remove pavement and replace it with permeable pavement or native plants
- Build a rain garden (check with your community to ensure that a rain garden is allowed at your residence first)
- Keep chemicals out! Wash your car on your lawn or at a car wash

Do you live along a streambank or the lake shore? If so, circle at least **one action** below that you have completed in **YOUR YARD** in addition to the three actions that you chose above:

- Leave a 25 foot buffer of long rooted plants along your stream or the lake shore (don't mow to the edge of the waterway)
- Add plants to the edge of creek and bare banks with native groundcovers, shrubs, trees, live stakes, and flowers (contact Cuyahoga SWCD if you need any technical assistance)
- Keep your grass clippings and leaves out of the waterways (never dump anything into the water)

Choose at least **one action** you will take in **YOUR COMMUNITY** to help **CLE Watersheds**:

- Become a member of your local watershed group (if your community has one)
- Spread the word and tell your neighbors how they can become CLE Watershed Champions
- Display your CLE Watersheds Champion sign proudly in your yard
- Lobby your Home Owners Association to use better practices
- Volunteer at a local watershed stream cleanup

Would you like to receive the Cuyahoga Soil and Water Conservation District Newsletter?

- Yes
- No

If yes, which format?

- Email
- Hard Copy

Please provide your email address and mailing address so I can delivery your yard sign and sign you up for our newsletter if you checked the yes box!

Name:

Email:

Address:

Once the form is completed, please return to:

Jaimie Johnson: [jljohnson@cuyahogaswcd.org](mailto:jljohnson@cuyahogaswcd.org)

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