

# Euclid Creek Watershed Update



## Upcoming Meetings & Events

- Euclid Creek PIPE Committee  
March 4, 9:00 am
- Friends of Euclid Creek  
Monthly Meeting -  
March 8 7:00pm— South  
Euclid Community Center
- Euclid Creek Plan  
Committee Meeting  
March 2, 6:30 pm  
Location TBA
- Euclid Creek Technical  
Committee Meeting  
March 2, 9:00 am  
Location TBA
- Euclid Creek Watershed Council  
Meeting—April 21 7:30 am  
Euclid Lakeshore Community  
Center
- FOEC Night at the Natural His-  
tory Museum with Joe Hannibal  
on Euclid Bluestone February  
16, 7:00 pm
- FOEC Spring Hike  
March 12, 10:00 am  
Meet at Highland Picnic Area  
Lot in Euclid Reservation
- **Save the Date:**  
Euclid Creek Watershed Day—  
September 17 Ideas are  
needed and volunteers are  
encouraged to call!

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

If you would like to provide information for future newsletters, please contact the Euclid Creek Watershed Coordinator.

### **Euclid Creek Partners:**

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

## Euclid Creek Public Meetings Garner Ideas for the Future—What are your Ideas?

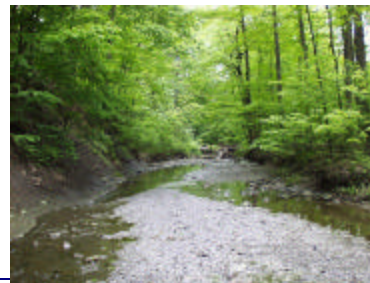
The Euclid Creek Partners with support from Ohio EPA, Cuyahoga County Planning Commission and OSU Extension held two public work sessions January 19 & 26 to begin to layout ideas on the watershed stewardship priorities for Euclid Creek.

With over 80 participants, the work sessions were a success and it demonstrates the community interest and dedication to watershed stewardship in Euclid Creek.

The work sessions provided an update and overview of the Planning Process, including the inclusion of the County Greenspace Plan and the Euclid Creek TMDL activities.

At the second session Keith Bowers from Biohabitats, a ecological restoration firm and President of the Society of Ecological Restoration, a national organization, presented case studies of applying natural stream restoration in urban areas.

Thank you to all who attended the work sessions and the great input and ideas in creating the Watershed Plan for Euclid Creek.



### **Ideas Generated from Sessions:**

- Green Design Approach to Development.
- Conserve Critical Areas along stream.
- Protect Headwaters.
- Collaborate with other local and regional organizations.
- Create Network for Volunteer Stewardship activities with local groups.
- Examine removal of dams.
- Connect green spaces such as Lake Erie and Metroparks Reservation.
- Create awareness of Euclid Creek's location.

## Euclid Creek Watershed Plan Update—Greenspace Connections

The Cuyahoga County Planning Commission is working with the Euclid Creek Partners and the Watershed Coordinator on developing a vision on the greenspace opportunities within Euclid Creek as an integrating element of the watershed stewardship resources.

The Greenprint established in 2001 set the foundation in which to foster greenspace enhancements into the developed environment of the very

urban Cuyahoga County. The Euclid Creek effort, funded by the Ohio Coastal Management Assistance Grant Program and Friends of Euclid Creek through the Gund and Cleveland Foundations, provides an opportunity to create a more detailed assessment of these county-wide recommendations and their application to the community in association with improved water quality resources.

### **Greenspace Plan Principles:**

- Manage Greenspace We Have*
- Restore Landscapes*
- Connect People to Land, Water & History*
- Balance Natural and Manmade*
- Beautify Neighborhoods & Streets*



The Friends of Euclid Creek are up and running with many activities slated for 2005. Your membership or donation to FOEC helps us work on protecting, restoring and managing the watershed at a community level through active participation.

Annual Membership is \$10.00

To become a member contact:  
Larry McFadden  
18310 Marcella Road  
Cleveland OH 44119 or

## From the Friends : Photo Contest Winners/2005 Activities

Log on to FOEC's website at [www.friendsofeuclidcreek.org](http://www.friendsofeuclidcreek.org) for a membership form.

As part of the FOEC's efforts to increase awareness of Euclid Creek resources, a photo contest was held in 2004. 51 entries from all ages were submitted. Over the course of the year the winners will be part of this newsletter's photos. Stay tuned for great pictures of Euclid Creek!

Congrats to the winners and thanks for your involvement .

### Winners:

Best of Show: Joe Ciccía Jr.

#### Color Plants & Animals

1st: Joe Ciccía Jr.  
2nd Monica Daugherty  
3rd Steve Levitan  
HM M. Jane Toth  
HM Terry Vacha  
HM Edward McGrath

#### Color Recreation & Family

1st: Andy Daugherty  
2nd Penni Rubin  
3rd Terry Vacha  
HM Diane DeRubertis  
HM Daniel Parks

#### Color: Cultural & Historic Sites

1st: Terry Vacha  
2nd: Elizabeth Oleksiak  
3rd: Monica Daugherty  
HM: Andy Daugherty

#### Black & White—All Subjects

1st: Andy Daugherty  
2nd Terry Vacha  
3rd: Joe Ciccía, Jr.  
HM: Dan Zimmet

#### Students (17yrs and younger)

1st: Aaron Rapport  
2nd: Max Zimmet  
3rd: Ariana Zimet  
HM: Maya Zimet

## Public Involvement Activities Set for 2005—Mark your Calendar and get involved!

**Save the Date:** September 17 for the 2005 Euclid Creek Watershed Day. The Euclid Creek PIPE Committee has established the theme for this year's event: ***Back to the Future in Euclid Creek—Exploring its past, Understanding its present and realizing its future.*** The Coordinator will be working closely with the PIPE Committee and Friends of Euclid Creek to organize activities around this theme for the day. If you or your group would like to participate or sponsor an activity for the Day, please contact Lynn Garrity or your community PIPE Committee representative.

Euclid: Dorothy Fike, Hank Gulich

South Euclid: Patti Schnell, John Llncoln

Richmond Heights: Marilyn Wilson, Elaine Kolp

Beachwood: Keith Voigt

Highland Heights: Tom Jenkins

Cleveland: Donetta Conley

Mayfield Village: Tom Marsalis,

Mayfield Heights: Joe Newman, Gayle Teresi

Lyndhurst: Bobby Ina, Josh Mandel.

Stay Tuned for additional activities in April.

### Results of 2004:

Held Euclid Creek Watershed Day—100 participants

Distributed four articles to communities on watershed stewardship for community newsletters

Provided education assistance to over 600 students in the watershed.

Provided Educational Display and brochure to communities.

Performed Storm Drain Stenciling in select communities.

Launched the Euclid Creek e-newsletter.



## Get your Local Schools, Groups Involved!

Through the leadership of the Euclid Creek Public Education and Public Involvement Committee and the technical assistance of the Cuyahoga Soil & Water Conservation District, Euclid Creek schools will have great opportunities to align curriculum standards with watershed stewardship as well as community service objectives.

The Euclid Creek PIPE Committee and the Watershed Coordinator will be providing opportunities to the schools and local groups for participation on activities in the coming months. If you and your school, organization, group or business would like to volunteer for an Euclid Creek event in 2005, please contact the Watershed Coordinator. Stay tuned for activities in April.

## Wild Ones Program Offers Watershed Stewardship on the Ground

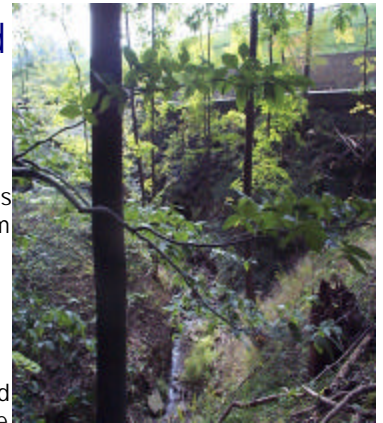
One of the critical issues within the Euclid Creek Watershed is the loss of habitat from continued development of the last remaining tracts of land within the Euclid Creek communities. Past development patterns have eliminated many of the things that make a stream sustainable and manageable including the native vegetation that lies within these sites. Fostering landscape stewardship on these sites will have a profound effect on the site's urban runoff contributions as well as mitigation efforts of native plants to other parts of the watershed. This will be critical to

restoring the water quality of Euclid Creek.

Wild Ones® is a national group promoting sustainable landscaping practices that can foster this stewardship locally and has just established a local chapter in Northeast Ohio that meets monthly at North Chagrin Nature Center. As part of the Euclid Creek Watershed Plan recommendations, the creation of a collaborative effort with Wild Ones to perform plant retrievals from developing sites for re-use, removal of invasive plants and replanting of native plants with Euclid Creek com-

munities and local developers will be encouraged. This collaboration can serve as a win-win for the development of sites to meet water quality and storm water objectives of the watershed and sustain the last remaining native plant areas indicative of our natural history. For more information or to get involved, contact the Watershed Coordinator or Western Reserve Wild Ones via Barb Holtz at 440.473.3370 (Wed./Thurs.) or go to

<http://www.epa.gov/glnpo/greenacres/wildones/>



## Mitigation Sites in Euclid Creek

If you are a developer or community who is developing a site in Euclid Creek which is requiring the alteration or filling of our streams or wetlands, please don't mitigate outside of the watershed. The Ohio EPA and its watershed partners are encouraging working with the development community in meeting mitigation requirements within the watershed to reduce the net loss of the watershed's resources any further. Please contact the Watershed Coordinator on potential sites to consider for mitigation obligations. Our list continues to grow and we are working closely with OEPA on identification of these sites.

## Euclid Creek and the "Area of Concern"—What does it mean ?

The piles of acronyms and activities associated with Euclid Creek are sometimes overwhelming as we begin to get our arms around how to address watershed protection and restoration targets in Euclid Creek. One of these is the Area of Concern. Euclid Creek is part of what is known as the Cuyahoga Area of Concern.

The Area includes the majority of the Cuyahoga River and the tributaries east of the Cuyahoga that include

Doan Brook, Dugway, Nine Mile and Euclid Creek. The Area of Concern was established by the International Joint Commission under the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement in 1987 identifying waters within the Great Lakes Basin as impaired and not meeting fourteen (14) objectives for healthy waters. Euclid Creek is included as one of 43 AOC's within the Great Lakes and one of four in Ohio. Efforts to understand what conditions exist in Euclid Creek that

continue to restrict the Creek from meeting these objectives is part of the Watershed Plan process.

The Watershed Coordinator is working closely with Ohio EPA and the Cuyahoga RAP in evaluating the current conditions, progress of meeting the objectives and what areas are still in need of restoration. Websites for more information: [www.ijc.org](http://www.ijc.org) [www.cuyahogariverrap.org](http://www.cuyahogariverrap.org) [www.epa.state.oh.us](http://www.epa.state.oh.us)

## Innovative Solutions - Putting Landscapes to Work - Rain Gardens

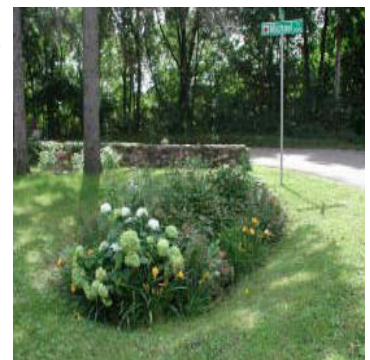
Because of the highly developed nature of Euclid Creek, restoration will impart on some innovative and creative solutions to return its resources back to appropriate water quality standards.

One Best Management Practice is the use of rain gardens.

Rain gardens are landscaped areas that treat storm water runoff and remove urban pollutants such as sediment, metals and phosphorous.

Design Considerations include: Soil Type, Topography, Water Table and infiltration rate.

Establishing rain gardens in Euclid Creek is a great way to beautify the community and reduce the pollutants in Euclid Creek. If you would like to install a rain garden, please contact the Watershed Coordinator for more information.



## ***Euclid Creek Partners:***

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

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

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Email: lgarrity@cuyahogawcd.org

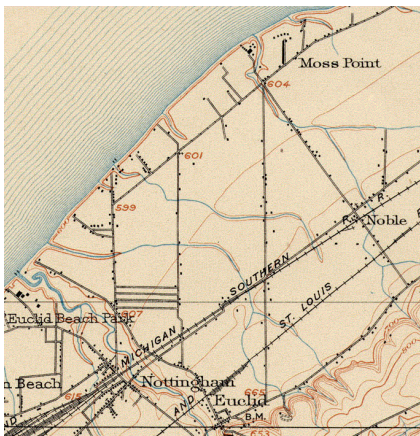
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We're on the web: [www.cuyahogawcd.org](http://www.cuyahogawcd.org)

Then click Euclid Creek!

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## **Euclid Creek Historical Moment— Moss Point**



One wonders what the first settlers embarked upon when they set foot on Euclid Creek and its shoreline. One of these places is Moss Point, just east of Euclid Creek in today's Euclid.

Roy Larick & Craig Semsel's work in [Euclid Township 1796-1801, Protest in the Western Reserve](#) provides a description:

"Moss Point served as a unique navigation landmark between the Chagrin and Cuyahoga Rivers. It marked the final approach to the Cuyahoga from the east and it served as an excellent vantage point for observing

lake traffic. John Moss had established the lot known as Euclid Contract Lake Lot 29 in 1798. The point continued to be an activity hub through the 1850's along the Euclid Creek in today's Euclid.

As travel progressed and new roads were built, Moss point lost its emphasis in the nineteenth century and a greater focus surrounded the adjacent waterways of Euclid Creek .

Today, Moss Point is still used and referenced on navigational maps for boaters in Lake Erie.

The historic linkages like Moss Point can establish great opportunities throughout the watershed to promote its history and significance within the Euclid Creek Watershed and its surrounding communities.

For more information, contact Roy Larick at the Euclid Historical Society.