

## Euclid Creek Watershed Council 2021 Work Plan – Draft

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### 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. *Funded by GLRI.*

#### **USFS GLRI Tree Planting**

- Cuyahoga SWCD will assist CRWP and communities with administration of tree planting and invasive management that is part of regional grant to CLEB for riparian reforestation efforts. *Funded by USFS/GLRI*

#### **Basin Retrofit Screen Tool**

- Cuyahoga SWCD will work with CLEB partners on 319 grant for screening tool to prioritize basin retrofits. *Funded by EPA 319 Program.*

#### **Rain Garden and Native Plant Installation**

- Cuyahoga SWCD will manage grant deliverables for 4-5 native plant or rain garden installations. *Funded by WRLC/Dominion Energy*

#### **FOEC Outreach Grant**

- Cuyahoga SWCD will assist FOEC with ordering materials for educational outreach mailings and Enviroscope educational tool for tabling. *Funded by WRLC/Dominion Energy*

#### **Master Rain Gardener Program**

- Cuyahoga SWCD will assist CRWP and Lake SWCD to manage grant deliverables to administer the Northeast Ohio Master Rain Gardener Program – *current funding from WRLC/Dominion Energy and William Bingham Foundation, and OEEF grant awarded April 2021 to continue program into 2022.*

#### **South Euclid Green Infrastructure Incentive Program**

- Cuyahoga SWCD will assist CRWP and the community with implementation of pilot stormwater incentive program.

*Existing Project Stewardship:*

- **East Branch Dam Removal Project, Euclid and Richmond Heights - Monitoring**
  - Continue with annual monitoring to ensure project stability, due to proximity to Highland Road bridge footers.
  - Work with NEORS and CMP to ensure bridge work stabilization meets intent and watershed requirements.
- **Willoughby Eastlake School of Innovation Stream Restoration Project, Willoughby Hills – Restoration Project Monitoring and Volunteer Maintenance**
  - Work with school to maintain invasives and monitor project.
- **Wildwood Lacustrine Wetland and Stream Restoration Project, Cleveland – Monitoring**
  - Coordinate with partners on future monitoring and maintenance activities.

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- **Community Christian Church, Euclid – Tree Planting - Monitoring and Volunteer Maintenance**
  - Monitor restoration project and coordinate volunteer maintenance.
- **Hawken School, Community Park Meadows and Rain Gardens, Lyndhurst – Monitoring and Volunteer Maintenance**
  - Monitor restoration projects and coordinate volunteer maintenance.
- **Ninemile Rain Garden and Native Landscape Beds, South Euclid – Monitoring and Volunteer Maintenance**
  - Monitor Bioswale and native beds installed 2019 and coordinate volunteer maintenance.
- **Redstone Run Highland Reserve, City Hall Riparian Planting, Greenwood Farm Green Infrastructure, County Airport Rain Garden, Richmond Heights - Monitoring & Invasives Management**
  - Manage invasive Canada thistle plants in riparian area (Work with USFS/GLRI project on long-term solution).
  - Monitor restoration plantings and manage invasives in coordination with West Creek Conservancy.
- **Highland Heights Wetland Preserve, Dusty Goldenrod Preserve, Service Department Bioretention, Highland Heights – Monitoring & Invasive Management**
  - Monitor restoration plantings and manage invasives in coordination with West Creek Conservancy.
  - Coordinate with volunteers to weed bioretention

*Project Planning:*

- **Mayfield Sand Ridge -Lyndhurst**
  - Pursue grant opportunities for construction of Phases 1-3 on West Branch Euclid Creek
- **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.
- **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.
- **Highland Heights Community Park Connections**
  - Work with City and WCC to determine feasibility, potential funding sources of connections to watershed amenities in and around the Community Park
- **East 185<sup>th</sup> Street Fish Passage Project (ODOT spillway) – Feasibility Study**
  - Watershed Program Manager participates in meetings and reviews. (NEORS D and USACE leading project.)
- **Cleveland Clinic-Lyndhurst Campus – Stream Restoration Project**
  - Continue to monitor property for sale and approach new owner about project.

*Watershed Plan Update:*

- **Euclid Creek Watershed Action Plan Update / Nonpoint Source Implementation Strategy Document (NPS-IS)**

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- Continue to update plans and submit new critical areas, goals, objectives, and project summary sheets to help secure federal funding for projects.
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.
  3. Grant Opportunities & Technical Assistance:
    - a) Provide communities grant opportunity resources to evaluate for their use.
    - b) Assist local communities on the assembly of grant applications.
      - Utilize NEORSD Stormwater Program Community Cost Share as local match for restoration project grants and other shared priority projects with watershed communities
    - 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
    - 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.
  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
  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.
    - 2021 Goals:
      - continue to work with Mayfield Heights, Highland Heights and Lyndhurst on riparian setback ordinance consideration/passage.
      - Host workshop on successful implementation of setbacks with CLEB partners for communities with setbacks in place.

### **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.
2. Watershed Outreach

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- 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).
  - Broadcast emails/E-Newsletter – Send out monthly broadcast emails/E-Newsletter, more frequent updates with more timely information. Continue to add new city council and staff to email distribution list.
  - Website – Continue updating website with new projects and news.
  - Social Media (facebook, Instagram, twitter) – Manage Euclid Creek Watershed Program social media accounts. Post 1-5 times a week.
  - Targeted Streamside Property Owner Mailing –Continue annual mailing to streamside property owners in Euclid Creek focusing on watershed management and best practices on properties.
  - 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.

### 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.
- Continue coordinating the Euclid Creek Watershed Council meetings and committees, including the PIPE Committee, Technical Committee and Volunteer Monitoring Program Committee.
- 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.

### **Watershed Program Sustainability / Funding**

- **Euclid Creek Watershed Council MOU for 2021-2024** – Renew watershed program MOU with Euclid Creek Watershed Council communities and approach Pepper Pike and Willoughby Hills to gauge interest in joining
- **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.
  - Table events collaboratively – share watershed volunteer time at regional events – 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.
- **NEORS-ECWP Watershed Organization Service Program 2021**
  - Cuyahoga SWCD will manage 2021 service program according to three-way MOU with FOEC and CRWP. FOEC awarded \$40,000. CRWP to be the fiscal agent.

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### **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***
  - ***CLEB***
  - ***Cuyahoga Area of Concern (AOC) Committees***
    - Cuyahoga SWCD is now the AOC facilitator and can no longer hold a voting member position
    - M. Hennessey will be attending and keeping records for all AOC subcommittee meetings
    - E. Hiser will be attending and keeping records for all AOC Strategic Project Implementation committee meetings
  - ***NEORSD Stormwater Program***
  - ***NOACA***