

Slow it Down

Shrink Your Lawn

The Runoff Dilemma

Some view a 'green' lawn as pleasing to the eye, but it is not pleasing toward our environment. Underneath turf grass is a shallow root system and compacted soil. This combination doesn't allow for rain and snow melt to soak into the ground and it runs off your lawn taking pollutants with it such as fertilizer, pesticides, dog waste and soil. This is stormwater pollution.

Water flows over land and picks up soil and pollutants and deposits them into streams, ponds, wetlands, rivers and eventually Lake Erie. You can help slow down the water by shrinking your lawn with native plants!

Plant Native

Native species are healthier, stronger and will establish faster making them more hardy and healthy. Some of their root systems go down 20 feet! This is great for soaking in stormwater and filtering out pollutants. They also provide habitat for wildlife, are low maintenance and require less watering, fertilizer and pesticides.



Big Bluestem



Chokecherry



Cardinal Flower



Black-eyed Susan

Visit www.cuyahogawcd.org for our full list of recommended native plants.

Slow it Down, Spread it Out, Soak it In
#LakeErieStartsHere

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Adding native plants to your landscape means less mowing, fertilizing and watering. It means more habitat and long roots to soak up pollutants. It also adds beauty to your home landscape.

Cut Corners

Pick a corner of your lawn to install a native wildflower garden, creating a bed that will complement, not compete with your lawn. Cutting corners is good for your wallet and your yard! Less mowing, fertilizer and water. More habitat and long roots to soak up pollutants.



Hedge the Edge



The hedge area or edges of your yard are usually the least used area. Enhancing your edges with native plants adds beauty and privacy to your yard. Combine an assortment of native plant species to make a tapestry hedge, a row of mixed shrub varieties.

Go Wild

Reduce yard work, water and fertilizer use, create a more interesting landscape, and increase wildlife habitat by installing a self-sustaining natural ecosystem like a small prairie. Native plants often have roots up to 15 feet deep!



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