

## For the Environment

Keep unwanted aquatic animals out of a waterway, including the greenery sold with them. They are very destructive to our native species. For disposal advice, contact a pet store or Metroparks at 440-473-3370.

Fishing line harms animals. Dispose of in a lidded container.

Keep unwanted fishing worms out of a wooded area. They eat the decaying leaves that plants need to grow. Throw in trash.

Don't feed wildlife people food. Table scraps make them dependent on humans and brings them into the yard and street.



Join or donate to an environmental organization.

Teach children to love and appreciate nature when they are young. They are the future caretakers of the environment. Join them in a search for bugs, birds and flowers outside. Take them to nature programs in the park.

## To learn about what is happening in our area:

Cuyahoga Soil & Water Conservation District  
<http://www.cuyahogaswcd.org>  
216-524-6580

Friends of Euclid Creek  
<http://www.euclidcreekwatershed.org>  
[FriendsofEuclidCreek@gmail.com](mailto:FriendsofEuclidCreek@gmail.com)

Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District  
<http://www.neorsd.org/stormwater-watersheds.php> 216-881-6600

Cleveland Metroparks Watershed Center  
[wsc@clevelandmetroparks.com](mailto:wsc@clevelandmetroparks.com)  
440-887-1968

Recycle Information  
Contact city or county offices and  
<http://earth911.com/recycle>

Bee and Native Plant Information  
<http://u.osu.edu/beelab/gardening-for-bees/>



THANKS FOR CARING  
Friends of Euclid Creek  
Education Committee



## Making it Better for Mother Earth

A few simple actions  
we all can do ...

*To keep our water safe to drink*

*To reduce litter and trash*

*To protect our natural  
environment*

*To provide for animal habitats*

*To ensure our food supply*

Friends of Euclid Creek

**Water** (and everything else) runs downhill. All water from rain and snow drains over a “watershed” area of land downward into streams, creeks and rivers. This water carries pollution from roofs, yards, streets, ditches and construction. In our area, this water ends in Lake Erie.

**Plastic and Trash** Tons of litter and trash pile up every year on land and in the water. It lasts for hundreds of years.



- Teach children the importance of not littering. Cigarette butts and holders should go in the trash not on the ground.
- Take reusable grocery bags when you shop. Return plastic bags to be recycled.
- Cut handles of bags before disposing to prevent animal injury and “plastic flowers” that hang in the trees for years.
- Cut the links in plastic beverage holders to save animals from entanglement.

- Avoid microfiber materials. They contain tiny flakes of plastic that get into the water, stay forever, and harm fish.
- Reduce non-recyclables used such as straws and picnic ware. Encourage recyclable-only or durable items at meetings and events.
- Use your city-provided recycle bin.



- Pick up pet waste to reduce bacteria in the lake. Call 216-881-6600 for a “Pick up the Poop” yard sign.

## Bees and Food

Bees, butterflies (and other insects) carry pollen from flower to flower. Without pollination, one-third of the world’s fruits and vegetables cannot produce food (including tomatoes).

- Reduce or eliminate fertilizers, pesticides and herbicides that harm pollinators, animals and people.
- Buy local farm produce and organics in season. Or even grow your own easily in containers.
- Plant pollinator-friendly flowers. The best ones are regional native plants. For information, contact OSU Master Gardeners at 216-429-8200.

- Never put paint, harsh cleaning products, oils and solvents down the sink. The sewer plant can’t stop it all from going into the lake. Take to a local hazardous waste drop off.
- Use non-toxic cleaners such as soap & water, baking soda, vinegar, and borax. For *Green Cleaning workshops* contact [cuyahogawcd.org](http://cuyahogawcd.org), 216-524-6580.
- Avoid antibacterial cleaners. They contain harmful chemicals and create super-germs.
- Take unwanted prescriptions to a community drop-off.
- Report strange colors, debris, or odors in any waterway to that city’s service department. Call police if you see anyone dumping into a storm drain.