

Euclid Creek Watershed Update



**Happy Holidays
to you and your
families!**

Euclid Creek Partners:

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

Upcoming Meetings & Events

- Watershed Plan Technical Committee & Community Engineers Meeting— November 17 9:00 am Lyndhurst City Hall
- Watershed Plan Planning Committee Meeting— November 18 5:00 pm Richmond Heights Kiwanis Lodge Hall
- Friends of Euclid Creek Monthly Meeting - January 4 7:00pm— South Euclid Community Center
- Euclid Creek PIPE Committee January 14, 9:00 am
- Euclid Creek Watershed Council January 20 - 7:30am Euclid Senior Center

Watershed Planning Process Moving Forward

The Euclid Creek Watershed Plan is moving towards completion at an aggressive pace.

The Watershed Coordinator with assistance from Cuyahoga County Planning Commission, Ohio EPA, Friends of Euclid Creek, the Euclid Creek Watershed Council and numerous community stakeholders is assembling the inventory for the watershed.

The Planning process is moving into the development of existing conditions and recommendations for the watershed. These recommendations will include watershed-wide recommendations as well as detailed sub-watershed recommendations.

The Watershed is a highly developed area with a diversity of land use patterns and topographical changes that influence the conditions of the creek today.

The next step of the Watershed Plan process is to develop recommendations and solutions to restore, protect and manage the watershed to benefit Euclid Creek communities for the future.

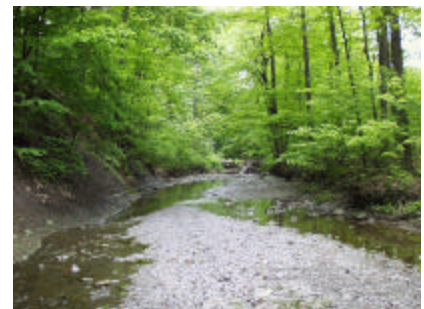
In January of 2005, a series of work sessions focusing on the priority issues identified at the Public Meeting in October will be held.

We also continue to work with our Plan and Technical Committees to provide input and assist with the develop-

ment of the plan.

The Plan is estimated for completion in May of 2005. A draft plan will be presented to the communities for public review in April of 2005.

Your involvement and input is important to the planning process. The Plan will lay out a blueprint for the future of the watershed. Be part of its future through participation.



Inside this issue:

Watershed Plan Update	1
Public Meeting Results	1
Upcoming Meetings & Events	1
From the Friends of Euclid Creek	2
Watershed Day Event Update	2
World Water Monitoring Day	2
Imperviousness, TMDL & Headwaters - What is it all about?	3
Euclid Creek e-Newsletter comes to town! - Upcoming Topics	4

Euclid Creek Public Meeting Sets Priorities

As part of the Watershed Plan process, it is essential to gain feedback from the public on assembling the final document.

A public meeting was held on October 27 at South Euclid Community Center. This meeting was held to provide the community an update of the plan, its preliminary findings and draft goals and recommended actions. The 24 attendees were then charged with prioritizing these actions to

better understand short-term and long-term priorities for the watershed.

Thanks to all who participated in this very important step of the plan.

Top Three Priorities Identified by the Public Meeting:

1. **Education**
2. **Stream & Riparian Protection**

3. **Restore Habitat**

**Save the Dates:
January 13, 19 & 26—2005**

Euclid Creek Priority Workshop Sessions

These sessions will provide an opportunity to brainstorm solutions and implementation strategies for each prioritized issue. Stay tuned for more details.



From the Friends of Euclid Creek

The Friends of Euclid Creek are a non-profit organization that advocates for the stewardship of the Euclid Creek Watershed. FOEC's mission is to:

PROMOTE
the social welfare through the preservation and protection of Euclid Creek and its associate riparian areas.

TO EDUCATE
the public regarding the benefits and importance of preserva-

tion and protection of Euclid Creek through public dissemination of information and communication with public officials.

TO ENCOURAGE
cooperative interaction among all of Euclid Creek's watershed stakeholders in order to promote mutually beneficial solutions for the preservation and protection of Euclid Creek.

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

Log on to FOEC's website at
www.friendsofeuclidcreek.org

Monthly meetings are held the 1st Tuesday of each month at the South Euclid Community Center at 7:00 pm

Watershed Day Brings out Euclid Creek Stewards

Despite the rain on October 2, almost 100 volunteers participated in a variety of events around the watershed to clean up, learn, and celebrate the wonders of Euclid Creek.



Stream Monitoring in Lyndhurst

The public had an opportunity to take part in a range of activities including learning to fish at the mouth of Euclid Creek at Wildwood State Park, testing a tributary stream for chemical and biological health in Lyndhurst, taking part in cleaning up trash and debris in Euclid and recycling motor oil in Beachwood and Richmond Heights.

Following the morning activities, Dan Petit, Chief of Natural Resources with Cleveland Metroparks, gave an update of the great work in evaluating

headwater streams of the watershed. See Page 3 for more details of the Headwater Habitat Survey.



Dan Petit, Headwater Update

Thanks to all who assisted in organizing and participating in this year's event! See you next

year for another great event celebrating Euclid Creek!

Thanks to the Euclid Creek Watershed Day Sponsors and Partners!

Euclid Creek Watershed Council

Friends of Euclid Creek

Cleveland Metroparks

ODNR Lakefront State Park

Federation of Fly Fishers - Great Lakes Council

Starbucks Coffee— Lyndhurst

World Water Monitoring Day at Euclid Central Middle School

World Water Monitoring Day came to Euclid Creek this year as part of the global effort to foster education and stewardship in monitoring our world's water resources to celebrate the Clean Water Act.

Through collaboration with Ohio EPA, Cuyahoga Soil & Water Conservation District and Euclid Central Middle School, monitoring and science curriculum

were provided to over 300 seventh graders on October 15 & 18.

Activities included testing chemistry of Euclid Creek, identifying insects and fish, determining the clarity of the stream



through a sediment stick test and understanding macro-invertebrates through a game of "Macroinvertebrate Mayhem".

The students were provided an opportunity to use Euclid Creek as an outdoor laboratory to meet their science standard

objectives and have fun while doing it.

Thanks to all of our partners for a truly collaborative stewardship effort for Euclid Creek.

Go to <http://www.worldwatermonitoringday.org/> for more information on this global event.

Imperviousness of Euclid Creek

Imperviousness is the amount of area in a watershed that does not provide infiltration of storm water. These surfaces include rooftops, parking areas and even lawn areas.

The increase in these surfaces within a watershed can have an adverse impact to the water quality of its streams and rivers.

Studies conducted by the Center for Watershed Stewardship have determined that at certain thresholds of imperviousness, water quality conditions are affected as follows:

0-10% Sustained storm water services such as flood control, habitat for pollutant filtration and stable stream channels.

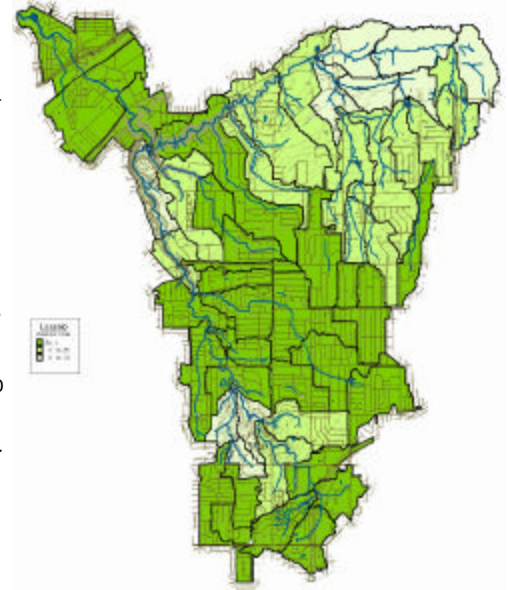
11-25% Impacted streams with eroded channels, unstable floodplain and disappearing habitat that lends to storm water management.

26% + Non-Supporting Streams. Habitat is eliminated, stream is culverted and channel becomes highly unstable.

Due to its urban nature, Euclid Creek has a majority of areas

over 25% surfaces impervious. Best management practices to protect and restore these impervious areas for the future of Euclid Creek are being examined in the Watershed Action Plan process.

For more maps and inventory information, go to www.cuyahogawcd.org and click on Euclid Creek.



Imperviousness in Euclid Creek

Euclid Creek TMDL—What does it mean and who cares?

Ahh—the TMDL process has arrived in Euclid Creek. Some may think this is a painful process and wonder its benefits verses getting our teeth pulled.

Well, have no fear, the Euclid Creek TMDL will provide the Watershed Action Plan additional valuable information to determine targeted recommendations and strategies. As federally mandated for all impaired waters, the Euclid Creek TMDL was initially scheduled for 2010. To avoid duplication of the planning process and to augment the work of the Water-

shed Action Plan, Ohio EPA has agreed to accelerate the schedule for us. In addition, having a federally approved TMDL, opens the door to additional funding sources for restoration, protection and management projects.

The Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) program, established under Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act ([33 U.S.C. 1313](#)), focuses on identifying and restoring polluted rivers, streams, lakes and other surface waterbodies. A TMDL is a written, quantitative assessment of water quality problems

in a waterbody and contributing sources of pollution. It specifies the amount a pollutant needs to be reduced to meet [water quality standards \(WQS\)](#), allocates pollutant load reductions, and provides the basis for taking actions needed to restore a water body.

The Euclid Creek TMDL

The main branch of Euclid Creek currently does not meet water quality standards and is considered in non-attainment of the Clean Water Act. The East Branch of Euclid Creek is in partial attainment of meeting water quality standards.

The Euclid Creek TMDL is being developed and scheduled for completion in Spring, 2005.

Stay tuned for public comment opportunities in the coming months. For more information or interest in involvement with the TMDL process contact the Watershed Coordinator or Bill Zawiski, Ohio EPA at 330- 963-1200.

Cleveland Metroparks Headwater Habitat Survey

Cleveland Metroparks is providing unprecedented resources to Euclid Creek and its headwaters—those small streams found in the southern and eastern portions of the watershed.

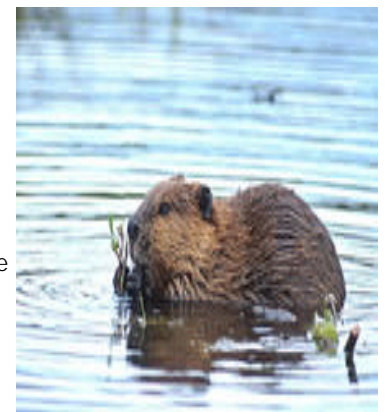
During the summer of 2004, the Metroparks conducted field

surveys of over 80 stream segments throughout the watershed to assess their condition and health.

The Metroparks is now interpreting and developing a GIS data map of its findings.

The data will also contribute to the identification of streams that are good candidates for future restoration activities.

Stay tuned in early 2005 for the Metroparks results and findings.



Euclid Creek Partners:

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

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

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Fax: 216-524-6584
Email: lgarrity@cuyahogawcd.org

We're on the web: www.cuyahogawcd.org

Then click Euclid Creek!

Euclid Creek e-newsletter comes to town!

This is the first edition of the Euclid Creek e-newsletter. The newsletter will be produced quarterly throughout the year to provide updates and information regarding the stewardship of the Euclid Creek Watershed.

If you would like to be sent this e-newsletter automatically, please send an email to lgarrity@cuyahogawcd.org or contact the SWCD office at 216-524-6580, Ext 16. Also, don't forget to check out the website at www.cuyahoga.swcd.org, then click Euclid Creek for additional information.

Upcoming Newsletter Sections:

Community Corner—Each newsletter will provide a section that highlights a Euclid Creek community and its stewardship activities for Euclid Creek.

The Legacy of Euclid Creek—Tell your stories of the settlement and exciting tales of the Euclid Creek history. Don't forget your photos.

Euclid Creek Partner Focus—As our network of professionals and agencies continues to grow, this section will highlight our partners efforts and contribution to Euclid Creek.

Also to be included:

- Lake Erie research
- 2005 Watershed Stewardship Events
- Innovative Solutions: Exploring the technical approaches to protect, restore and maintain Euclid Creek.

