

Euclid Creek Watershed Council
2018 Work Plan
October 2018 Update

Euclid Creek Watershed Action Plan Implementation

1. Restoration, Conservation, and Green Infrastructure Projects: Continue implementing and maintaining stream and floodplain restoration projects, greenspace conservation and stormwater management projects in the watershed and within the Council's community boundaries.

Annual grants list:

Project: Willoughby-Eastlake School of Innovation Stream Restoration project

Grantor: Ohio Environmental Protection Agency-Section 319

Timeframe: February 2018 – Spring 2019

Amount Requested: \$156,462 (local match of \$104,308 from Willoughby Hills Stormwater Management and NEORS)

Amount Expended: \$53,689.25

Summary/Status: The purpose of this grant is to reconnect the stream to the floodplain, create habitat, and reduce maintenance issues by removing a culvert. The Willoughby Eastlake School of Innovation has been very involved in the project and plans to create an outdoor learning lab to teach others about streams.

% Complete: 60%

- Holding bi-weekly project calls.
- 30% and 60% design meetings were held.
- All permits have been approved.
- Construction kick off meeting October 15th with anticipated construction starting week of October 22nd. Weekly construction meetings are anticipated for approximately 6-8 weeks of construction.
- Presentations were given to students about invasives, erosion, and design charettes were "judged" at the 8th grade PBL/Science Fair.
- Presentation was given about the project to Willoughby Hills Planning and Zoning on 9/20.

Project: Community Christian Church Riparian Tree Planting, Euclid

Grantor: Dominion/WRLC

Timeframe: November 2017 – October 2018

Amount Awarded: \$2000

Amount Expended: \$1706.41

Summary/Status: The purpose of this grant is to plant 50 native trees and shrubs along stream and woods to reduce mowing costs and to improve urban tree canopy.

% Complete: 50%

- Met with pastor at the Church Bazaar to talk about the project. May
- Presentation to church about the tree planting at their church picnic. 7/14
- Tree planting event 10/13.
- Signage will be ordered by end of the month.
- Final report to Dominion is due October 31.
- The city provided mulch for the project on 10/12.
- Trees were delivered 10/11.
- Friends of Euclid Creek provided coffee and donuts for volunteers.
- Hoses and trolley were ordered to help with watering during the first few years of establishment. Watering bags will also be provided in kind.
- Shovels were ordered to help with project and CSWCD tool kit.
- Tree guards from another grant will be used to protect from deer browse.

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Project: West Branch of Euclid Creek, Cleveland Clinic Lyndhurst Campus Stream Restoration Project

Grantor: Ohio Environmental Protection Agency-Section 319

Timeframe: 2018-2019

Amount Requested: \$300,000 (local match of \$305,000 from NEORS D)

Amount Expended: \$0

Summary/Status: The purpose of this grant is to reconnect the stream to the floodplain, create instream habitat, restore riparian vegetation, and remove a fish passage barrier on the Cleveland Clinic Lyndhurst Campus.

% Complete: 0%

- Grant awarded 8/14/2018
- NEORS D Match awarded 9/6/2018
- Working with NEORS D on grant agreement for cash and in-kind services.
- Staff salary and fringe were not included in this grant due to total project cost exceeding 319 limits.
- Anticipate going out for design build bids 4th quarter 2018.

Project: Euclid Creek Tree Planting at Lower Hawken School

Grantor: Dominion/WRLC

Timeframe: Spring 2019

Amount Awarded: \$2400

Amount Expended: \$0.00

Summary/Status: To plant 75 trees and shrubs on Lower Hawken Property just upstream of Cleveland Clinic property basin. Expanding the forested buffer along this property will help with infiltration and uptake of stormwater runoff, key to reducing erosion and flooding in Euclid Creek. In addition, reducing the amount of turf grass to reestablish tree canopy will contribute to the goal of increasing tree canopy in Cuyahoga County.

% Complete: 0%

- Awarded grant 10/3/2018.
- Spring planting event for Hawken Service Day will occur on April 18, 2019.

Project: West Branch Euclid Creek – Mayfield Campus Stream Restoration Project

Proposed Grantor: OLEC/GLNPO - GLRI

Timeframe: 2019-2020

Amount Requested: \$1,685,216

Amount Expended: \$0

Summary/Status: This project is phase 1 and 3 of the Mayfield Campus Stream Restoration project which are part of a 6-phase plan to improve habitat on the campus. The goal for all 6 phases is to restore and stabilize 5,850 feet of West Branch Euclid Creek and a tributary to the West Branch of Euclid Creek on the Mayfield Golf Course Campus using several methods as applicable: creating a low flow channel with floodplain bench, floodplain grading, and stream realignment. Nearly 10,850 feet (two banks) of poor-quality streambank will be regraded or relocated and stabilized using native plants and bioengineering techniques. Roughly 27 acres of existing riparian forest will be enhanced and treated for invasives, roughly 8.7 acres of rough will be converted to native riparian forest or meadow.

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This project is tentatively slated to be funded by GLRI as part of Cuyahoga AOC efforts to remove the habitat beneficial use impairment. Cuyahoga SWCD will be project implementer, funds will funnel from GLNPO to OLEC to Cuyahoga SWCD.

% Complete: 0%

- Drafted workplan and budget for OLEC to submit to GLNPO for project to restore and stabilize 1,950 feet of West Branch Euclid Creek on the Mayfield Golf Course Campus using several methods as applicable: creating a low flow channel with floodplain bench, floodplain grading, and stream realignment. Nearly 3,950 feet (two banks) of poor-quality streambank will be regraded or relocated and stabilized using native plants and bioengineering techniques. Roughly 10.7 acres of existing riparian forest will be enhanced and treated for invasives, roughly 2.6 acres of rough will be converted to native riparian forest or meadow.

Annual projects list:

- **Cleveland Clinic-Lyndhurst Campus – Hydrologic Reconnection Concept Plan**
 - Once concept complete (CLEB funded, EnviroScience led), get partner support and apply for implementation funding.
 - Concept is complete. Arranging meeting with partners to discuss.
 - Jaimie Johnson, new Cuyahoga SWCD Watershed Specialist will lead discussions with partners about next steps, waiting for NEORS D master planning efforts to begin first.
- **Dusty Goldenrod Preserve, Highland Heights – Ecological Management Plan**
 - Davey Resource Group completed management plan through \$2,500 WRLC/Dominion watershed mini-grant in 2017;
 - In 2018, FOEC coordinating with school and CSWCD on implementation of top priority management actions.
 - FOEC working on deer exclosure locations to submit to Highland Heights for approval.
 - FOEC volunteers have been managing invasive plants.
 - Deer exclosure project on hold until School and City approval is granted.
- **Richmond Heights City Hall Riparian Planting - Monitoring & Invasives Management**
 - Manage invasive Canada thistle plants in riparian area with EnviroScience (\$1,500 budget from NEORS D-FOEC Service Agreement; spent \$1,008 in 2017).
 - Invasives sprayed by EnviroScience in May. Spraying was included in treatment of Redstone Run and Greenwood Farm for \$1300
 - Monitored 7/2
- **East 185th Street Fish Passage Project (ODOT spillway) – Feasibility Study**
 - Project was on hold due to NEORS D sponsorship ending when stormwater program challenged; study resuming in 2017.
 - NEORS D project sponsor; feasibility study ongoing through 2018; construction by 2021
 - No activity.
- **Wildwood Lacustrine Wetland and Stream Restoration Project– Monitoring**
 - Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) funded project complete, \$1,396,050.

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- Coordinate Year 5 monitoring and compile/submit final annual monitoring report to USACE due 12/31/18. Cross section monitoring performed on May 16. Unable to survey most upstream cross section due to depth of stream.
 - Conduct visual erosion inspections when rain events over 2" and coordinate with Metroparks and Cleveland on maintenance of project site. Conducted two visual erosion inspections when rain events over 2". 4/18 and 5/23
 - Plan spring volunteer event. - Spring Cleanup was held on 5/19 and we had 30 attendees
 - Coordinate with partners on future monitoring to assess project success.
 - Claire reached out to NEORSD, WPC and Metroparks about future Monitoring. Will follow Up this fall.
 - [Annual Photo Monitoring – 8/7](#)
 - [2-inch rain event monitoring – 10/14](#)
 - **Redstone Run Highland Reserve, Richmond Heights – Monitoring & Invasives Management**
 - Monitor restoration plantings at site with West Creek Conservancy.
 - Coordinate education and outreach on property with interested residents and with Richmond Heights schools as land lab opportunity.
 - Manage invasive plants on property with EnviroScience.
 - -Managed invasive plants on property with EnviroScience in May.
 - -Monitored with WCC on 7/17
 - [Native meadow seed mix spread on 9/28](#)
 - **Bishop Road Property, Highland Heights Conservation project - Monitoring**
 - Monitor restoration plantings at site with West Creek Conservancy.
 - Work with City on any improvements at site, e.g. project signage.
 - -Monitored with WCC on 7/17
 - [Tax Abatement request for WCC for Easement Maintenance](#)
 - **Mayfair Lake Dam Removal Project, Richmond Heights - Restoration Project**
 - Revive project when new County Airport manager hired.
 - [No activity.](#)
 - **Stormwater Retrofit project prioritization – Green Infrastructure Projects**
 - For concept plans that were developed for top two sites in 2010, find Green Infrastructure funding sources since Ohio EPA SWIF on hold (ensure Highland Heights in support of concept before pursuing funding; resell to Mayfield Village as new administration from when concept developed);
 - Find funding to develop concepts for projects on list without plans.
 - [No activity.](#)
 - **East Branch Dam Removal Project - Monitoring**
 - Grants are closed.
 - Continue with annual monitoring to ensure project stability, due to proximity to Highland Road bridge footers. Repairs on hold currently.
 - [Annual monitoring 8/29 with NEORSD and CMP.](#)
 - [Working with CMP, NEORSD, Ohio EPA, and Army Corps to ensure Bridge work does not impact fish passage structures. Potential for improvement to downstream area to prevent future erosion.](#)
2. *Watershed Plan Update:*
- ***Euclid Creek Watershed Action Plan Update / Nonpoint Source Implementation Strategy Document (NPS-IS)***

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- Overall plan approved (Version 1.3, dated April 17, 2017), but need to add critical areas and projects to get 319 and other federal OEPA and USEPA funding
 - Plan update included:
 - Update draft NPS-IS plan with new data, needs, projects, etc.
 - Update watershed-wide restoration and protection strategies and meet with partner agencies and affected communities to review / append / approve strategy
 - Hold meetings to get feedback on opportunities identified (with Service Directors, Engineers)
 - Prioritize top restoration/protection projects and incorporate into plan
 - Submit plan to OEPA/ODNR/ODA for review/approval
 - Second critical area and project added and submitted to Ohio EPA.
 - Plan Update approved (Version 1.1, July 13, 2018)
 - Need to schedule meetings with Communities to identify additional projects.
 - Need to schedule public meetings for December.
 - Modifying critical areas to be issue related per Ohio EPA request. Will make adding new projects easier. Proposed Critical Areas:
 - Fish Passage Barrier
 - Large Impervious Areas
 - Hydromodification/Habitat Modification
 - Deforested Riparian Zones
 - Directly Connected Impervious Areas
 - Preservation Opportunities
3. Watershed Resources:
- Provide watershed resources and conference / training information to Euclid Creek Watershed Council and Technical Committee.
 - Training Opportunities Emailed
 - NEORS Community Discussion 8/30
 - Pervious Concrete Certification Course 8/30
 - Monthly SCM Tips 8/1
 - Interact with local, state and national agency initiatives such as Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) reports, research opportunities, outreach and funding initiatives.
 - Euclid Green Space Acquisition Site Visits with Bluestone Heights, West Creek Conservancy, and Western Reserve, 6/11
 - Euclid Meeting with Bluestone Heights, City Planning, CRWP, Stormwater department about watershed and city program opportunities, 6/6
 - Updated Euclid Watershed Fact Sheet to help city with outreach
 - Meeting with Metroparks to talk about Greenway plans 9/11
 - Meeting with Euclid to Discuss stormwater program 9/14
 - Cleveland MS4 Steering Committee, 7/20
4. 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.

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- 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
 - Aid in developing Watershed Plans for 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.
 - Met with NEORSD, Doan Brook, and Bluestone Heights about upcoming Master Planning Efforts
 - e. Provide technical assistance to watershed landowners with stream maintenance, erosion and/or drainage issues as requested.
 - Site visit with landowner in Cutters Creek, South Euclid, 7/9
 - Phone call with Stonewater Golf Course about addressing invasive plants
 - [Meeting with Euclid Property Owner HGR for Stormwater Audit 8/20](#)
 - [Moreland Hills Site Visit - Streambank Erosion, 7/23](#)
 - [Richmond Heights – Illegal Dumping Email Correspondence](#)
5. 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.
 - Two training events have been held in 2018 to recruit new volunteers (6/10-9 attendees, 4/30 – 5 attendees). Working with CMP Watershed Volunteer Program to get new recruits.
 - [Attended CMP WVP Training to recruit more volunteers 8/9](#)
 - Input data collected annually and develop annual report for volunteers and watershed communities.
 - OEPA Monitoring of Euclid Creek 2015 – incorporate final data when received into WAP update and present data to watershed partners and community in 2018.
 - Draft data was incorporated into NPS-IS
 - [2018 Integrated data being incorporated into NPS-IS](#)
6. Model Ordinances: Implement local ordinances to meet community storm water management plan goals.
- Work with local communities and City Engineers in updating the ordinances to meet the 5-year Stormwater Management Plan goals.
 - [Meeting with Beachwood 7/27](#)
 - Goal: work with Highland Heights and Lyndhurst on riparian setback ordinance consideration/passage in 2018.
 - Reached out to Highland Heights and Lyndhurst. Waiting on community to set up meetings. CRWP working on maps of potential impacts to city for meeting through CLEB support hours. Target August for meetings.
 - [Reached out to Mayfield Heights about presentation to community on 10/5.](#)
 - [Riparian Setback meeting with Highland Heights 9/18](#)
 - [Meeting with Lyndhurst scheduled for 10/30](#)

Watershed Outreach & Program Partner Collaboration

1. 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 - Continue the assembly and distribution of the Euclid Creek e-newsletter two times a year. Newsletter emailed to distribution list and mailed to ECWC Communities (public officials and city staff) – 4/22/2018.
 - Broadcast emails/E-Newsletter – Send out monthly broadcast emails/E-Newsletter, so more frequent updates with more timely information.
 - 1/31 – 1,620 recipients
 - 2/27 – 1,617 recipients
 - 3/30 – 1,624 recipients
 - 5/7 – 1,616 recipients
 - 6/1 – 1,601 recipients
 - 7/6 – 1,593 recipients
 - 8/1 – 1,602 recipients
 - 8/29 – 1,610 recipients
 - 10/4 – 1,632 recipients
 - Website – Continue updating website with new projects and news.
 - Acacia Project added to website
 - Willoughby Eastlake School of Innovation added to website
 - Updates to Volunteer Monitoring and ECWC pages
 - Social Media – Manage Friends of Euclid Creek Facebook page. Post 1-5 times a week. Manage Twitter account with Tweets weekly at most.
 - Regular Facebook updates and periodic Twitter and Instagram updates
 - Targeted Streamside Property Owner Mailing – Mailing started in 2016. Continue annual mailing to streamside property owners in Euclid Creek focusing on watershed management and best practices on properties. Fall deliverable.
 - Targeted Mailing Property Owners with Large Lots and room to reduce grass or impervious - Letter to see if property owner wants to reduce impervious or grass for green infrastructure or native plant meadow or more watershed friendly practice and offer to provide technical assistance. No responses in 2017/early 2018. Fall deliverable.
 - FOEC Nature Festival (was DITLEC) – [September 8, 2018 with Greenwood Farm](#)

2. 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. Meetings held 4/5, 7/26, [10/18](#)
- Continue coordinating the Euclid Creek Watershed Council meetings and committees, including the 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.

3. Friends of Euclid Creek (FOEC) Liaison

- Assist FOEC with watershed resources and organizational support.
 - [Staff support of FOEC Brochures](#)
- Serve as liaison between Euclid Creek Watershed Council and FOEC.
- Provide watershed program updates at FOEC meetings and participate in FOEC board/committee meetings as time allows.

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- Participated in board meetings, committee meetings, and membership meetings/hikes:
 - [Attended FOEC Education Committee Meeting 4/10](#)
 - [Attended FOEC April Program 4/3](#)
 - [Attended FOEC May Meeting 5/2](#)
 - [Attended Board Meeting 5/16](#)
 - [Attended 6/5 June Meeting](#)
 - [FOEC Support Meetings on 6/14, 6/21](#)
 - [Attended 6/25 July Hike](#)
 - [Staff support of Perils of Plastics event, 8/14](#)
 - [Staff support of Fall Festival event 9/8](#)
 - [Staff support with Dusty Goldenrod Preserve Management Plan](#)
 - [Attended Board Meeting 8/8/18](#)
- Coordinate with FOEC members on volunteering at watershed events, tabling at community events.
 - Tabled FOEC Booth at Euclid Beach Live 7/13, 7/27
 - Updating Sign Up Genius site and plugging volunteer opportunities in monthly emails
 - Volunteer emails: [8/13](#), [8/21](#), [9/26](#), [10/8](#)

Watershed Program Sustainability / Funding

- **Euclid Creek Watershed Council MOU for 2017-2020** – renew watershed program MOU with Euclid Creek Watershed Council communities removing PIPE from Watershed services to be included in new PIPE Program MOU (between Community, NEORS and CSWCD)
- **Central Lake Erie Basin (CLEB) Watershed Organization Collaboration - ‘Your CLE Watersheds’** – local watershed groups from Black River to Ashtabula/Conneaut River Watershed
 - Meets quarterly to discuss collaboration opportunities, funding challenges, watershed gaps in coverage, etc. Met 7/18
 - Table events collaboratively – share watershed volunteer time v. all groups at regional events at separate tables – central messaging key to avoiding public confusion of watersheds
 - Posius leading Mapping Group coordination with NEORS – to map watershed projects on one regional platform, and to have regional watershed events in one location. This effort has been tabled. New effort led by WCC to create CLEB Website with definition of group and map with links to partner watershed groups.
 - CLEB applied for Ohio EPA 319 funding and Gund funding in 2017/18 for 2 new temporary positions to assist existing watershed groups with workload and to assist groups without watershed programs in special projects/programs.
 - utilizing hours for Highland Heights, Lyndhurst, [Mayfield Heights](#) communities Ordinance review. Assistance with outreach to Mayfield Golf Course.
- **NEORS-FOEC Watershed Organization Service Program 2018**
 - Proposal developed with FOEC for service-oriented proposal. Submitted October 20. FOEC awarded \$40,000. Quarterly reporting compiled / submitted 4/12, 7/9
- **NEORS-FOEC Watershed Organization Service Program 2019**
 - Proposal developed with FOEC for \$40,000 service-oriented proposal. Submitted October 2nd.

Additional Watershed Efforts led by Partner Agencies

- Participate in partner agencies’ meetings and/or planning efforts as requested/needed.
 - **Cleveland Metroparks**

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- **Acacia Reservation** – participate in Ecological Restoration Plan Implementation and Outreach Process and assist with grants obtained
 - o Stream Restoration Webinar – added to website
 - o Plant Monitoring Webinar – added to website
 - o Met with Constance Hausman to discuss tree project on site
 - o [Acacia Bioblitz - July](#)
- **Euclid Creek Reservation** – participate in capital planning for park with Metroparks planners
 - o *Old Highland Road Connector Project* - City of Euclid-led discussions with Cleveland Metroparks – participate in meetings as scheduled
- **Euclid Creek Reservation-Wildwood Park proposed bikeway, Cleveland & Euclid, from 2006 Lower Euclid Creek Greenway Plan effort**
 - o Participate in meetings to discuss new trail alignment and reconstruction of pedestrian bridge over I-90 as meetings scheduled by City or Metroparks.
- **Cleveland Tree Coalition- Arbor Day Committee Meetings**
 - Mission of Group: To provide resources and expertise to assist in the reforestation of the City of Cleveland and the region, to raise awareness about the many benefits of trees and to bring a new appreciation for trees to the residents of Northeast Ohio.
 - Participating representing CSWCD as needed
- **Cuyahoga Area of Concern (AOC) Coordinating Committee**
 - Euclid Creek a part of the Cuyahoga AOC. Posius is elected representative for Friends of Euclid Creek on Committee. Participate in quarterly meetings to have voice on Committee, AOC delisting criteria and project prioritization.
 - Posius on Strategic Implementation Subcommittee in 2017
 - Hiser attended Strategic Implementation Subcommittee on 6/27
 - [Hiser attended AOC Advisory Committee Meeting on 7/24](#)
 - [Hiser applied to be on 2019 Advisory Committee](#)
- **NEORS D Stormwater Program**
 - Billing started back up in July 2016
 - Communities can access community cost share money now (through NEORS D application)
 - Attend Watershed Advisory Council (WAC) meetings – March & October Annually
 - Posius attended March meeting
 - [Hiser to attend meeting on 10/25](#)
- **NOACA 208 Plan Update Process**
 - Aid NOACA through watershed collaboration on Chapter 9 update - Watershed Planning Approaches in NEO chapter (document last updated in 2000).
 - o Meeting with NOACA to review sample watershed fact sheets
- **Green Infrastructure Cost Share Study in Mayfield Village**
 - Participate in CRWP-led Green Infrastructure Champions grant to assess barriers to GI in Mayfield Village – pilot to see how program, subsidies, etc. could help promote GI, kickoff meeting 10/17.
 - CWRP has reviewed ordinance, did stormwater audit for Beta Park, mailing, presentation, plan review, and resident feedback survey (4 residents at meeting)
- **Richmond Heights Hovnanian Ridge Property Conservation**
 - Cleveland Metroparks Board approved purchasing land, need to find ~\$550,000 to purchase 63 acre mostly-wooded site adjacent to Euclid Creek Reservation off of highland Road.
 - Except for lakefront property, this will be the biggest single addition the history of the 473-acre park, cobbled together from smaller plots starting in 1920.
 - Support fundraising effort through grant writing support and/or letters of support.
 - [Monitored property on 9/14 for opportunities](#)
 - [Letter of support provided on 10/8 for Clean Ohio application](#)