

## Euclid Creek Watershed Council 2021 Work Plan – Draft

---

### 04/13/2021 Work Plan Summary

Grant work continues on the Euclid Creek Mayfield Sand Ridge GLRI project. 90% Design submitted and reviewed by partners in March 2021. Project completion pushed out due to COVID-19 staffing complications and addition of bid package separation for the 3 phases. Deadline extension approved for June 30, 2021.

SWCD is actively serving on the CLEB Ohio EPA 319 funded basin retrofit screening tool and concept work grant committee. SWCD participated in the RFP process, consultant proposal review, interviews, and award. Sustainable Streams, LLC was awarded the work. SWCD will continue to participate in monthly check in meetings and is providing technical support and coordinating the effort to get Sustainable Streams needed local GIS and basin information.

Quarter 1 NEORSR ECWP 2021 WPSA work is complete and reporting has been submitted to NEORSR for SWCD, CRWP, and FOEC efforts.

OEEF has awarded CRWP funding for 2021-2022 Master Rain Gardener (MRG) program coordination with Cuyahoga and Lake SWCD. Work continues on William Bingham Foundation award and Cuyahoga SWCD assisted with CRWP winter online course. Currently working with partners to create universal Northeast Ohio Master Rain Gardener Website and interactive mapping for the program.

PIPE Program:

6 involvement events or activities and 6 educational programs have been held in 2021 for the [Euclid Creek Watershed Committee Communities](#). Virtual programming on Green Yards Healthy Homes, Backyard Stream Maintenance, Tree Care, Rain Barrels, Rain Gardens, and water quality monitoring is available on demand for promotion to residents. Simulated live presentations can be catered to individual communities for promotion and viewing at a specific time and date.

The planned in person Master Rain Gardener program was moved online. Classes start the week of April 26<sup>th</sup> and there are still openings, please advertise to your local garden clubs. A live “Let the Flare See the Air” presentation will be given on Go To Webinar April 21<sup>st</sup>, please advertise to residents and landscapers to learn about proper mulching techniques.

---

Specific updates on tasks/activities for the work plan are highlighted in [blue](#) below.

Tasks needing feedback or action are in [red below](#).

### 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:*

**Euclid Creek Watershed Council**  
**2021 Work Plan – Draft**

---

**Mayfield Sand Ridge -Lyndhurst– Design**

- Cuyahoga SWCD will manage project, money will pass from USEPA through OLEC to Cuyahoga SWCD. *Funded by GLRI.*
- *90% design set submitted to partners for review, review meeting held*
- *90% comments submitted, working with golf course to finalize bid packages*

**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*
- *Attended kick off meeting*

**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.*
- *Attending monthly check in meetings and coordinating GIS data sharing with consultant*

**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*
- *Working with Willoughby Eastlake School of Innovation on rain garden spring install*
- *Need to coordinate with Euclid and South Euclid on potential installs/rehabs*

**FOEC Outreach Grant**

- Cuyahoga SWCD will assist FOEC with ordering materials for educational outreach mailings and Enviroscape 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.*
- *Winter course support provided. Spring course to start week of April 26<sup>th</sup>. Working with partners on universal program website. Monthly volunteer emails and quarterly program update emails continue to existing steward and student base.*

**South Euclid Green Infrastructure Incentive Program**

- Cuyahoga SWCD will assist CRWP and the community with implementation of pilot stormwater incentive program.
- *Attended meeting with CRWP and Bluestone Heights to map out partner roles*

**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.
  - *Cuyahoga SWCD Stormwater staff have been sending monthly requests to contractor and county for proper stabilization.*
  - *Spring walk though with partners to occur in May.*

**Euclid Creek Watershed Council**  
**2021 Work Plan – Draft**

---

- **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.
  - [Trees ordered to enhance project area along highway this spring.](#)
- **Wildwood Lacustrine Wetland and Stream Restoration Project, Cleveland – Monitoring**
  - Coordinate with partners on future monitoring and maintenance activities.
  - [Spring Cleanup and invasive pull scheduled for May 15.](#)
- **Community Christian Church, Euclid – Tree Planting - Monitoring and Volunteer Maintenance**
  - Monitor restoration project and coordinate volunteer maintenance.
  - [Monitoring occurred this spring, majority of trees are healthy. Site is in need of a litter pick up day.](#)
- **Hawken School, Community Park Meadows and Rain Gardens, Lyndhurst – Monitoring and Volunteer Maintenance**
  - Monitor restoration projects and coordinate volunteer maintenance.
  - [Working with Hawken on potential tree maintenance day in May. Most trees in good shape, but cages in need of 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.
  - [Volunteer stewards have been working to address trash and invasives at Redstone Run and Greenwood Farm. Poisonous Hemlock was identified at Greenwood Farm and a request has been made for city staff assistance.](#)
  - [A few shrubs and trees have been ordered to enhance the bioretention at Greenwood Farm.](#)
  - [City of Richmond Heights looking into mulch order for the bioretention at Greenwood Farm.](#)
  - [SWCD coordinating with Enviroscience to treat Lesser Celandine at Greenwood Farm before end of April.](#)
- **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
  - [FOEC Stewards and SWCD staff led a cleanup event at the Highland Heights Wetland Preserve on April 10<sup>th</sup>. 6 volunteers removed 8 bags of trash. This event occurred due to a neighbor complaint about trash in the preserve.](#)
  - [The Highland Heights Wetland Preserve was inspected. A significant amount of lesser celandine was observed. SWCD is talking with partners to determine best plan of action to prevent further spread of this highly invasive plant.](#)

## Euclid Creek Watershed Council 2021 Work Plan – Draft

---

- Coordination with Orange High School Senior on senior project to help with restoration site and conservation site management and monitoring (3 week project in April & May focused on Dusty Goldenrod Preserve, Greenwood Farm, and Acacia Reservation)
- Sampling ammonia at Dusty Goldenrod Tributary #2. Volunteer data indicates high ammonia at this location. SWCD coordinate with Ohio EPA, Highland Heights, NEORS, and County Board of Health to try and track down the source. Follow up monitoring indicates the source is between Wilson Mills and the properties along Hawthorne, but is yet to be determined.
- **Other Riparian Plantings, Stream Restoration, Conservation Sites, and Stormwater Management Project Monitoring and Maintenance**
  - Coordinate monitoring and management activities with project partners including tree care, invasive management, and native plantings to ensure long term success of projects.
  - Lyndhurst –Wildflower Meadows and Rain Garden Inspections (2 sites)
  - South Euclid –Rain Garden Inspection
  - Arbor day tree purchase to support Mayfield Heights Joe Newman Memorial Planting

### *Project Planning:*

- **Mayfield Sand Ridge -Lyndhurst**
  - Pursue grant opportunities for construction of Phases 1-3 on West Branch Euclid Creek
  - Ohio EPA has indicated support of the proposed 319 grant application for Phase 1. USEPA had some follow up questions to address before determining awards.
- **Cleveland Clinic-Lyndhurst Campus – Hydrologic Reconnection Concept Plan**
  - Waiting for NEORS 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.
  - Reviewing Highland Heights Community Park Green Infrastructure concept for grant potential/tie-in to proposed access/trails work community is looking into.
- **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
  - Meetings with the City and WCC have been held. SWCD has been in talks with FOEC who are hesitant to support any trails around the Dusty Goldenrod Preserve and Highland Heights Wetland Preserve.
  - WCC and SWCD will meet with OHM to talk about next steps/concept work April 21<sup>st</sup>.
- **East 185<sup>th</sup> Street Fish Passage Project (ODOT spillway) – Feasibility Study**
  - Watershed Program Manager participates in meetings and reviews. (NEORS and USACE leading project.)
- **Cleveland Clinic-Lyndhurst Campus – Stream Restoration Project**
  - Continue to monitor property for sale and approach new owner about project.

## Euclid Creek Watershed Council 2021 Work Plan – Draft

---

### *Watershed Plan Update:*

- ***Euclid Creek Watershed Action Plan Update / Nonpoint Source Implementation Strategy Document (NPS-IS)***
  - 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.
- [Euclid City coordination and information about potential invasive plant talk with council](#)
- Interact with local, state and national agency initiatives such as Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) reports, research opportunities, outreach and funding initiatives.
- [Call with Ohio EPA about pollutant based critical areas](#)

### 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
  - [Working with S Euclid councilwoman Sarah Continenza on Food Strong Rain Garden installation \(utilizing WRLC/Dominion Grant Funding\)](#)
- 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.
  - [Watershed Friendly Maintenance for Community Virtual Workshop held February 23, 2021. Recording available for viewing. Will host additional live presentations in 2021.](#)
- e) Provide technical assistance to watershed landowners with stream maintenance, erosion and/or drainage issues as requested.
  - Virtual Backyard Stream Ownership Webinar available to landowners with stream maintenance questions.
  - [Beachwood –Meetings Temple about watershed friendly landscaping and memorial garden, site visit, information on improper mulching and tree care](#)
  - [Euclid -Business Manager call and assistance with illegal dumping behind property](#)
  - [Highland Heights -Resident assistance with mapping and research about new oil & gas well proposed in neighborhood](#)
  - [Highland Heights -property owner call about trash in easement & coordinating with FEOC Conservation committee on cleanup](#)
  - [Lyndhurst -Property Owner Call about ravine stabilization](#)
  - [Lyndhurst -Property Owner Rain Garden technical assistance report and call](#)

## Euclid Creek Watershed Council 2021 Work Plan – Draft

---

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. [Held January 23rd](#)
  - Coordinate with Cleveland Metroparks Watershed Volunteer Program
  - [Coordination with volunteer monitors, Highland Heights, and partners with high ammonia results at Dusty Goldenrod Tributary #2. Follow-up monitoring was performed by SWCD with multiple kits at 8 stations to narrow down the source location.](#)
  - [Meeting with Ohio EPA about high ammonia samples](#)
  - [Housing and providing pickup for volunteer monitors, updating sign up genius for kit check out.](#)
  - [Routine monitoring data review and certifying data.](#)
  - [Two additional Euclid Creek volunteers have been trained in Q1 this year.](#)
  - [Processing 8 e.coli samples \(volunteers take water samples, SWCD staff run bacteria protocols and use incubator\)](#)
  - [20 out of 120 bacteria tests have been performed finding loads above the TMDL, consistent with NEORS D findings.](#)
  - [Planning with NEORS D includes supplementing their sampling, as NEORS D can only sample two years out of every 10. Sites outside of the sewer district's area will be targeted to provide baseline data.](#)
  - [Water Quality Monitoring Training held 4/10/2021. Next training scheduled for May 11<sup>th</sup>.](#)
  
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.](#)
    - [CRWP gave a presentation about riparian setback adoption and implementation assistance at the Euclid Creek Summit, assisted with facilitation of breakout sessions, and follow up outreach to Euclid Creek communities about technical assistance available for riparian setback adoption.](#)
    - [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.
  - [PIPE Committee Meeting Held 3/22/2021](#)
  - [See separate work plan updates for 2021 programming.](#)

## Euclid Creek Watershed Council 2021 Work Plan – Draft

---

### 2. Watershed Outreach

- 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.
    - [January Eblast \(1,784 recipients\)](#)
    - [Water Quality Volunteer Eblast \(267 recipients\)](#)
    - [February Volunteer outreach and recognition Eblast \(1,776 recipients\)](#)
    - [March Eblast \(1,630 recipients\)](#)
  - Website – Continue updating website with new projects and news.
    - [FOEC Content to monthly blog, updating front page, updates to water quality monitoring contacts](#)
  - Social Media (facebook, Instagram, twitter) – Manage Euclid Creek Watershed Program social media accounts. Post 1-5 times a week.
    - [102 posts in Quarter 1 \(ECWP Programs, Cleveland Plastic Reduction Working Group updates, partner events and information\) \(Reach: Facebook: 968 followers, 886 likes; Twitter: 199 followers; Instagram: 217 followers\)](#)
  - Targeted Streamside Property Owner Mailing –Continue annual mailing to streamside property owners in Euclid Creek focusing on watershed management and best practices on properties.
    - [Richmond Heights & Willoughby Hills Phragmites mailer to 20 homes along the creek with reported invasive plants in back yards](#)
  - 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.
    - [1 new Euclid Creek champion in Q1 2021](#)

### 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.
  - [Drafted 2020 meeting minutes and posted updates to website](#)
- Continue coordinating the Euclid Creek Watershed Council meetings and committees, including the PIPE Committee, Technical Committee and Volunteer Monitoring Program Committee.
  - [PIPE Committee Meeting Held 3/22/2021](#)
  - [Gauge Technical Committee Interest on virtual fall programming – Proposed MS4 Permit Updates, SCM Maintenance, Tree Care, Good Housekeeping](#)
- 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.
- [Assisted NEORS with Cuyahoga Board of Health coordination to provide requested septic system information](#)

## Euclid Creek Watershed Council 2021 Work Plan – Draft

---

- 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.
  - [Q1 Reporting submitted](#)

### **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**
  - [Assisted CMP with information for WRRSP Acacia Reporting](#)
  - [Promoting CMP Acacia cleanups, assisting with Wildwood cleanup and invasive pull](#)
  - [Provided SWCD and FOEC letters of support to CMP COTF Grant Application for trail extension of Euclid Creek Reservation north onto old Euclid Middle School property](#)
  - **CLEB**
  - [Attending monthly committee meetings and 2 CLEB led DEI workshops](#)
  - **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
    - [SWCD staff attended and supported January 25<sup>th</sup> quarterly AOC committee meeting](#)
    - [Next advisory committee meeting: April 19](#)
  - **NEORS Stormwater Program**
    - [Attended Quarter 1 WAC Meeting.](#)
  - **NOACA**
    - [J. Rybka serves on the Water Quality Subcommittee](#)