

LACUSTRINE WETLAND AND STREAM RESTORATION PROJECT IN WILDWOOD PARK

Euclid Creek Watershed Wildwood Park, Cleveland, Ohio

The Lacustrine Restoration Project is located in Wildwood Park, part of Cleveland Metroparks Euclid Creek Reservation, in the Euclid Creek Watershed on the Main Branch of Euclid Creek, a tributary to Lake Erie that is heavily urbanized and affected by urban runoff and habitat degradation in the City of Cleveland.



The Cuyahoga Soil and Water Conservation District received a \$1,396,050 grant from US EPA through the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) to fund the wetland and stream restoration project. The Lacustrine Refuge project provides a rare opportunity for residents of an urban area to connect with nature and to experience native plant species long displaced from our region and to enjoy wildlife species which have disappeared.

Project Benefits and Outcomes

Ecological restoration of the Lower Euclid Creek was awarded to a Northeast Ohio design-build team called RiverWorks (EnviroScience, Inc., GPD Group and RiverReach Construction). Collaboration between a technical advisory committee, the RiverWorks team, and construction oversight manager, Davey Tree Expert Company, created the following positive changes for Euclid Creek:



- Restored 2.3 acres of important coastal and lacustrine wetlands, and 1.16 acres of floodplain;
- Restored 1,100 feet of Euclid Creek and placed the stream in its natural, historic alignment;
- Increased the overall ecological function of Lower Euclid Creek;
- Increased fish habitat and spawning of recreational species;
- Improved fishing and recreation for the community;
- Increased habitat for birds and amphibians;
- Stabilized 435 feet of eroding stream bank in three locations within the park;
- Controlled and managed 3.2 acres of pervasive invasive plant species;
- Provided opportunities for environmental education and public involvement;
- Assisted Euclid Creek in reaching State of Ohio water quality attainment standards; and,
- Aided in delisting Cuyahoga River AOC (Area of Concern).

Project Partners: City of Cleveland, Cleveland Metroparks, Cleveland Museum of Natural History, Cuyahoga County Engineer, Cuyahoga Soil & Water Conservation District, Friends of Euclid Creek, Midwest Biodiversity Institute, Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District, Northeast Shores Development Corporation, Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) Cleveland Lakefront State Parks and Ohio State Parks Divisions, and Ohio EPA.

Land Owner: City of Cleveland

Land Management Entity: Cleveland Metroparks

Grants Manager: Cuyahoga Soil & Water Conservation District

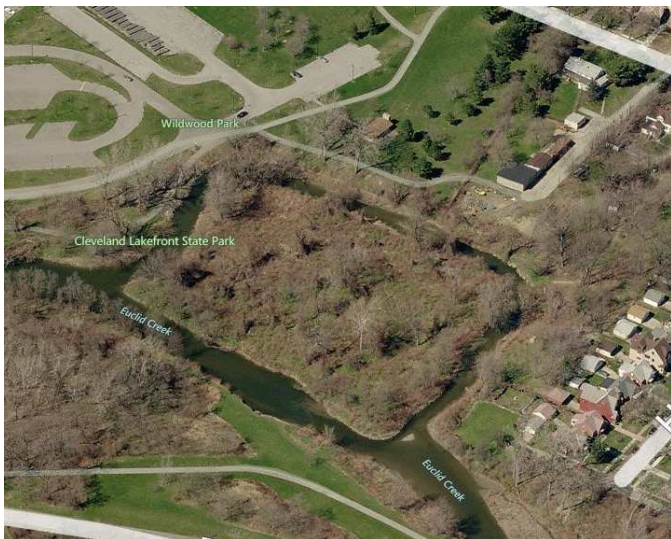
Design / Build Consultant Team: RiverWorks - A partnership for Stream & Wetland Restoration made up of EnviroScience, Inc., the GPD Group, and RiverReach Construction

Construction Oversight Manager: Davey Resource Group and TGC Engineering, LLC

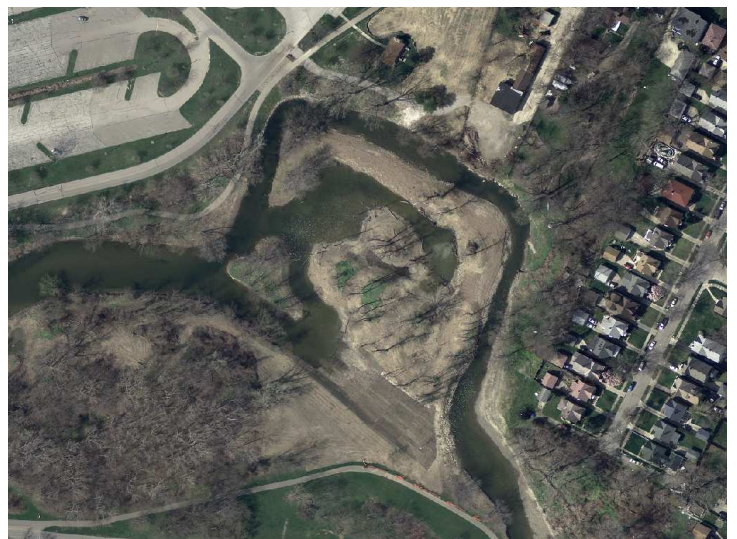
Project Costs: \$1,349,112 (Design/Build: \$1,310,818; Construction Oversight: \$22,388)

Project Funding: Great Lakes Restoration Initiative administered by US EPA

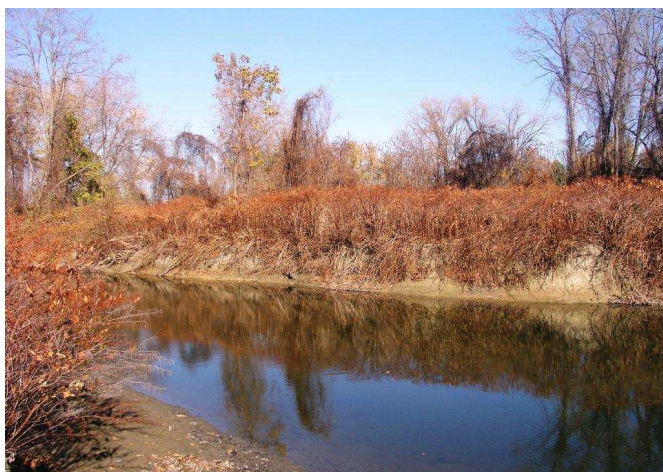
Project Website: <http://www.EuclidCreekWatershed.org> (programs)



Before aerial—Duck Island before restoration (2010)



After aerial—wetland restoration following construction re-grading (2012)



Before photo—Invasive Japanese knotweed dominated habitat on island (2010)



After photo—wetland native plants at Year 1 after planting (2014)

*For more information, please contact the Euclid Creek Watershed Program Manager
Cuyahoga Soil & Water Conservation District, 216-524-6580 or go to www.EuclidCreekWatershed.org.*