

Notes from West Creek



Newsletter of the West Creek Preservation Committee, December 2010

WCPC Calendar

WCPC Public Meetings

*Tuesday February 8, 2011
7:00 PM
Brooklyn Heights
Community Center
225 Tuxedo Ave.
Brooklyn Heights, OH 44131*

Hikes

*Hemlock Creek
Meet @ Independence Tech
Center, 6801 Brecksville Road
Independence, OH 44131
Sunday February 20, 2011
2:00 pm - 4:00 pm*

*Henninger House / Brooklyn
Heights Park Greenway
Meet @ Henninger House
5757 Broadview Rd.
Parma, OH 44134
Monday, March 28, 2011
5:30 pm — 7:00 pm*

*Busch Conservation Area
Meet @ Sandy Hook Park
Near Sandy Hook and Larch Dr.
Parma, OH 44134
Sunday, April 10, 2010
2:00 pm — 4:00 pm*

For more info:
(216) 749-3720
www.westcreek.org

WCPC Expands Role of Urban Land Conservation into Greater Cleveland

Over the last twelve years, WCPC with its many partners and supporters, has strategically positioned itself to focus on conservation and restoration initiatives within the West Creek watershed. This has led to the conservation of high priority streams, wetlands, and woodland, the restoration of impacted waterways, and the development of regional greenway and trail systems.

As a result, WCPC has increasingly been sought out to assist or facilitate similar initiatives throughout the Greater Cleveland urban area. Recognizing this growing need and with the support of the Cleveland Foundation, WCPC completed a strategic planning process that not only reviewed the feasibility of a geographic expansion, but also explored how the infrastructure of the organization would need to develop and

(Continued on page 3)



West Creek Restoration Update



Restoration Site 11 (behind Midtown Towers, Broadview Road) Post Restoration - October 2010

Construction wrapped up this past summer on the third in a series of restoration projects on lower West Creek (known as Site 8). A result of a continuing collaboration among WCPC, Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District (NEORS), and several other partners, these projects help restore channel stability, increase natural vegetation along stream banks, create habitat enhancement, and improve ecological effectiveness.

(Continued on page 4)

Stormwater

It's Everybody's Concern

There's a great deal of hype lately about stormwater, and rightfully so. It's everybody's concern, everybody's financial burden, but also, and even greater so - everybody's water quality issue. For the better part of the century we've turned our back (literally) to our waterways, riparian areas, and wetlands. We are now biting the bullet and reaping the backlash of water quality degradation.

Our developments, whether residential, commercial, or industrial, have historically encroached right up to the edges of our lakes, rivers, and streams with little regard for their ecological integrity. Waterways need room to breathe, filter, and move - and squeezing them into one form of development or another has proven to be a disaster. We spend billions on flood control and flood damage. We experience higher flooding levels and at more frequent intervals - exemplifying the fact that our historical (and present) forms of water management are not sufficient or efficient.

Water breaching the banks of any waterway is perfectly natural. Natural waterways utilize floodplains, wetlands, and riparian areas to saturate the excess, allowing the waterway to literally breathe or spread out. Not only is this a natural function, which helps dissipate flow, velocity and volume, but it further provides a very natural opportunity for these buffers to absorb or filter the excess or overabundance of nutrients, sediments, or other pollutants — all of which lead to water pollution (we spend billions on dredging sediments, billions on filtering pollutants, and lose billions because of harmful algal blooms).

Yes, there is no question that this is going to cost us. No matter what watershed or political boundary you're in, it's going to cost us all. It's a direct financial burden and it's a DIRECT water quality problem. How many days were lost at our State's beaches because of sewage overflows? How many coastal areas and inland lakes were shut down because of harmful algal blooms? What's the cost of not being able to readily consume fish out of our own waterways? What's the cost of not being able to take the kids or grandkids to the beach because water quality concerns have shut it down? What's the true cost of stream, wetland and lake restoration or the loss of ecological diversity that make the Great Lakes great? And how many of our tax dollars are going to dredge the Cuyahoga and lake shipping channel, not to mention the cost and impacts of dredge disposal?

Yes, these may all be daunting, and somewhat scary questions, but it all comes around to NOT turning our backs to OUR water. In order to truly reclaim the quality of our water and control its quantity, we need a systemic and programmatic change, one that involves an ecosystem and comprehensive management approach of an entire watershed or drainage area, such as the Lake Erie Basin. In Greater Cleveland, we have a very large water system feeding Lake Erie. Whether it is the Cuyahoga River, Rocky River, the Chagrin River, or one of the dozens of tributaries that feed it - they ALL have a very tangible impact on quality and quantity. We must protect the areas around our streams and rivers - give them room to breathe. We can restore degraded areas allowing for natural functions to return. We can implement alternative practices, whether from the get-go or retrofit, that minimize impacts. It is possible to have a positive impact on water quality and quantity.

No easy or quick solution, but rather a true commitment is needed to restore the quality and safety of OUR water.

Healthy Lake = Healthy City = Healthy People

Notes from West Creek is published by West Creek Preservation Committee, a non-profit 501(c)3 citizen organization working to conserve open space and create outdoor recreation opportunities in and around the West Creek watershed in Parma, Seven Hills, Brooklyn Heights, Independence, and the Greater Cleveland Area.
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(Role Expansion...Continued from page 1)

evolve to undertake the role of an urban land conservancy.

As a result of this planning process, WCPC's board adopted a multi-year plan with two overall goals:

- * Continue conservation, restoration, stewardship, & greenway development activities in the West Creek Watershed and its communities.
- * Serve the urban land conservation and stewardship needs of additional watersheds, communities, and organizations in Greater Cleveland.

The plan further lays out strategies for effectively accomplishing these goals and a framework for expanding WCPC's capacity to do so.

To help kick off this new initiative, the Gund Foundation has provided a three-year grant to assist WCPC as it implements its new Greater Cleveland Urban Land Conservancy program

The need for an urban land conservancy serving the Greater Cleveland area has never been more evident. Even in the original Cuyahoga County Greenspace Plan and Greenprint, as prepared by the Cuyahoga County Planning Commission (2001), there was a large number of high priority properties that were considered important to greenspace conservation, trail linkages, park expansions, water resource protection, historical preservation, and various other initiatives.

That number of properties has exponentially increased across the County due to many social and economic issues affecting not just Cleveland, but the entire state and country. But here in Greater Cleveland is where WCPC can have its impact. With so many vacant and/or otherwise available lands, we have the opportunity, with all the partners of Re-Imagining Cleveland to revise the actual framework of our region. (Please refer to www.gcbl.org for more information.) Sustainable and prosperous neighborhoods can be designed or re-designed around greenspace, parks, trails, and other forms of productive land management (such as urban agriculture, green energy generation, and recreational amenities) by revitalizing vacant lands, removing blight, and engaging the local community.

We are very excited to be able to supplement the many important initiatives and programs under way across the County. But please be assured that our commitment to our work in the West Creek watershed will remain steadfast, even as we take on important and needed work in the larger Greater Cleveland area. We've had great success, but there is still much to do. If you'd like to learn more about our expansion role, please feel free to call our office.

Resident Donates 1.2 acres in Euclid Creek

In July, local resident Alen Michael donated 1.21 acres in the lower Euclid Creek area to WCPC. The property, located on Euclid Creek near E. 174 Street and Lake Shore Boulevard (North Collinwood neighborhood), is unique in many ways. Not only does it include several hundred feet of Euclid Creek, but it also includes a section of the stream that was retrofitted into a concrete channel to reduce flooding and erosion. However, due to over 20 years of sedimentation and deposition into the channel, the entire reach has accumulated with healthy substrate, fish populations, and bird life. Kingfishers, hawks, and herons are a regular sight. And believe it or not, so are beaver!



Alen Michael's donation will help protect and restore part of Euclid Creek, pictured above.

The property also fits within the Lower Euclid Creek Greenway Plan and is immediately upstream from Wildwood State Park. Friends of Euclid Creek and Watershed Coordinator Claire Posius will shortly begin a significant restoration project with support from the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative. The Alen Michael property is near the border of Wildwood State Park, making preservation of this land even more significant.

WCPC extends a very special *thank you* to Alen for his generous donation!

(Restoration...Continued from page 1)

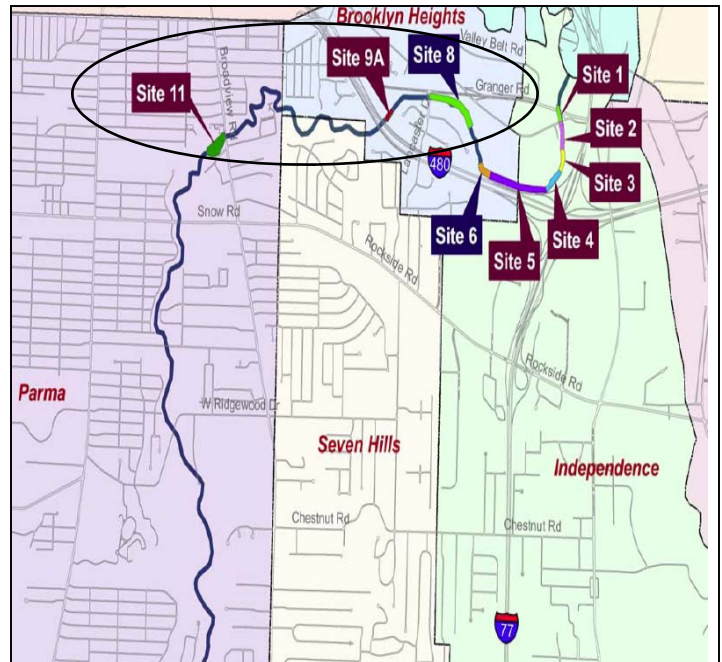
Sections of West Creek had been incised, entrenched, and filled to accommodate development, mostly during the post WWII era. Relatively newer detriments to West Creek have occurred because of infrastructure (highway, road, or utility) projects, such as I-480 or other forms of in-fill development. Increased stormwater flows have also had an impact. The series of restoration initiatives is intended to repair some of this damage to the creek.

We previously reported the completion of two restoration projects, one of which was a low-head dam removal behind Midtown Towers off Broadview Road in Parma, and the other northwest of Lancaster Road adjacent to I-480. We are now pleased to announce the completion of this additional restoration project just downstream (southeast) of Lancaster Road in Brooklyn Heights, known as Site 8.

With technical support from NEORS and funding from both the Ohio EPA 319 Program and the Ohio EPA Water Resource Restoration Sponsorship Program, this project used natural stream design and native materials to rehabilitate approximately 1/3 of a mile of West Creek's main channel.

With an array of bioengineering tactics, the eroding banks were stabilized, fish migration barriers were removed, riffle-pool sequences were established, and grade control structures were installed. To help mitigate the invasion of non-native species, a control plan was implemented pre and post construction, aiming to allow newly established vegetation to thrive.

During 2009-2010, WCPC and its partners have restored nearly one mile of West Creek. For that success, we again sincerely thank our partners, which include NEORS, City of Parma, Village of Brooklyn Heights, Ohio EPA 319 Program, Ohio EPA WRRSP Program, Great Lakes Commission, and National Fish and Wildlife Foundation.



*Locations of stream restoration projects:
Sites 8, 9a, & 11 (circled) are COMPLETE
Site 1 is funded with work slated to begin during 2011
Sites 2-6 are proposed future projects.*



*Above: Upstream view of Site 8 - post restoration
Below: Downstream view of Site 8—post construction*



Above: upstream (towards Lancaster Drive) view of Site 8 - post restoration

More West Creek Restoration Coming Soon

West Creek Confluence



The conceptual restoration plan for the West Creek Confluence, located on West Creek between Granger Road and the Cuyahoga River in Independence.

The West Creek Confluence Project has been building momentum over the last four years. From a collaborative partnership during the acquisition phase to interim management, WCPC is now coordinating efforts with the City of Independence and the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District, devoted to the full restoration of the 10-acre site. WCPC has effectively raised \$2.5 million dollars for full restoration, with support from the Ohio EPA 319 Program, the Ohio EPA Water Resource Restoration Sponsorship Program, the Ohio Department of Natural Resources — Coastal Management Office, and the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation.

Depicted on this page is the initial restoration concept for the West Creek Confluence Project which has been expanded to include the former Valley Tavern site across the street. We are still at the preliminary stages of design, but the objective is to re-meander the present entrenched, incised and straightened channel, restore access to the floodplain, and re-establish wetland complexes, while utilizing the site to store and

filter non-point source and storm water pollution problems along this reach of the Cuyahoga River. This project will serve as a prime example of how to restore our riverine habitat, exemplifying the necessity for riparian areas, wetlands, floodplain, and naturally functioning ecosystems within our urban environment.

In addition to the ecological restoration efforts, this site is also the Gateway from the West Creek Greenway and Trail System to the Towpath Trail. WCPC is continually meeting with project partners to effectively plan for the connection of the trail systems.

WCPC anticipates construction commencement in the summer of 2011!

Seven Hills Homeowner Protects 9 Acres - Donates Conservation Easement to WCPC

Emma Lee Spring of Seven Hills recently protected the woods and open space adjacent to her home in Seven Hills by donating a conservation easement to WCPC. This 9-acre easement ensures that this special land will never be built nor bulldozed, but rather will be permanently managed as a conservation area. Located along the West Creek Greenway, the easement also allows for the future extension of the West Creek Trail.

All of us at WCPC thank Ms. Spring for her generous donation and for making a choice to save one of the remaining natural areas in our community.



This beautiful greenspace will be permanently conserved thanks to the generosity of Ms. Spring.

Henninger House Fall Clean-Up



State Representative Tim DeGeeter and Parma Councilman Brian Day (right) joined several WCPC volunteers to spruce up the Henninger House and nearby greenway corridor.

Saturday, October 23 was a typical fall day with a lot of sunshine and a wind that gave a hint of the winter chill to come. Thanks to the effort of Barb Hermes, WCPC's Volunteer Chairperson, and Natalie Fox, an intern from Baldwin Wallace College, about 40 willing and capable volunteers came to the Henninger House to clean up debris from the site as well as from the proposed trail connection from Henninger House to the Brooklyn Heights Park. We were honored to have State Representative Timothy DeGeeter, who came to help. He brought his son Jack, a precocious three-year-old, who is adept at throwing a Frisbee. Also in attendance was Brian Day, Parma Councilman for Ward 4, who represents the area that includes Henninger House in his ward. We had an entire family: mother, father, three siblings and a friend, plus a wheelbarrow. All were hard-working and had a great deal of fun in the effort.

Irene Toth, Editor of West Creek's newsletter, gave a short history of the Henninger House and the Henninger Family. The quarries of this area were important in early development, and the remnant of the Henninger quarry can be seen along Old Rockside Road. Irene presented a handout of information gathered from interviewing Henninger Family descendants and from Ernest R. Kubasek's book, *The History of Parma*.

Items collected would have qualified for a scavenger hunt. There was a large wooden sign advertising an apartment complex, the drum of an old washing machine, a street light, and many pipes and other metal parts. The trash bag count grew with each trip Jerry took with his truck to pick up the filled bags along the route. We thank the Parma City Refuse trucks that picked up all the collected trash.

Some of the volunteers continued a hike from the end of Skyline Drive to the Brooklyn Heights Park, where a trail ends at a bridge over West Creek. This area has been called West Creek's Grand Canyon by those who have witnessed its scenic beauty.



Trash removed from the future trail alignment and adjacent stream between Henninger House and Brooklyn Heights Park.

WCPC Thrives on Volunteerism

The success of West Creek Preservation Committee is greatly dependent upon the dedication and hard work of its many volunteers. Volunteers have aided our mailings by folding, stuffing, stamping, and sorting so that we save postage. Volunteers have aided clean-ups and plantings, removed invasive species, shopping carts, and removed trash. Others have staffed our information tables at various events, spreading their own enthusiasm to those they meet. It is to the thanks of their efforts that we have been able to accomplish so much.

There are some very special volunteers we wish to acknowledge.

Jerry M. Wasylyzyn is one of those special volunteers. He has been an active member of WCPC who demonstrates a personal commitment by providing valuable service. Logging numerous volunteer hours, Jerry has put more than 500 miles on his personal vehicle. He has assumed responsibility for landscape maintenance by cutting grass, seeding lawn areas, and trimming trees and shrubs; he also has undertaken minor repairs at WCPC properties, and helped coordinate events. Jerry has utilized his carpentry skills to build shelves and stabilize signs in need of repair. Over time he has monitored, inspected, photographed, and documented properties under WCPC's stewardship. Working throughout local neighborhoods, Jerry has maintained good rapport with the neighbors.

In June, 2010, Jerry was named Citizen of the Month by Mayor Dean DePiero and the Parma City Council, an honor truly deserved.

Another outstanding volunteer is **Candy Ridler**. Candy has become The Gardener at the Henninger House. She has planted flowers and made improvements to the grounds around the house. Before the two rain barrels were installed, Candy carried water from her home to keep the plants watered. You may see her and her crew of three most Wednesday mornings at the Henninger House.



Derek Schafer, Councilman Nicholas Celebrezze, Jerry Wasylyzyn, & Mayor Dean DePiero. In June 2010, Jerry Wasylyzyn was named Citizen of the Month by Mayor Dean DePiero and Parma City Council.



Volunteers pulling another runaway shopping cart from West Creek during Riversweep in May, 2010

Tools and Equipment for Needed for Conservation Stewardship

Aside from the great support so many of you provide to WCPC, we could use assistance in another manner... **we need tools and equipment.** WCPC is constantly adding new properties, all of which require some form of light (and in some cases challenging) maintenance and management.

Lightly used or new equipment is welcome. Call us at 216 749 3729 and we'll pick it up. Or if you know of any business that might be willing to donate such tools, equipment or related services, please pass along the good word!

Thanks - WCPC

What we Need!!!

Shovels, Spades, Rakes, Pruning tools, Axes, Hand saws

Wheelbarrow, Garden carts

Lawnmowers (riding and push)

Trimmers, Weedwackers, Edgers, Leaf blowers

Hammer, Sledgehammer, Pry bars

Power Tools (Chainsaw, Drills, Circular saws, Jigsaw, Generator)

Toolboxes, Extension cords, Wrench sets, Buckets (5-gallon)

Portable wood chipper

The Greenway and Where is It?

“What’s Taking so Long?”

For anyone with an interest in multipurpose bike lanes and trails, the pace of construction of these trails might be frustrating. “What can possibly take so long to spread a little asphalt on an already smooth path?” you might be tempted to ask. This innocent question quickly leads to much more challenging issues when one considers ownership and access rights, environmental issues, land acquisition costs, state and federal permits, not to mention hard construction dollars.

Rest assured that the West Creek Preservation Committee is diligently working through these issues. Plans are well under way to continue building the West Creek Greenway from the Confluence site on Granger Road in Independence through areas in Parma, Seven Hills, and Brooklyn Heights to the West Creek Reservation and then connect back to the Towpath Trail. Grant applications are being written, land is being acquired, trail sections and bridges are being engineered, and the process is steadily moving forward, but not always visible to a casual observer.

Imagine trying to build a mile long trail, 5,280 feet overall. You might need to negotiate with different property owners the whole way, try to arrange meetings with businesses, or negotiate with utility companies or transportation departments for the right to cross their easements. You might need to design the best way for a trail to descend a steep slope, safely cross a highway, or follow a stream while protecting the environment – all in all, a very difficult proposition.

Finally, the last hurdle to clear even after acquiring land rights, crossing permission, and complete engineering, is to raise the necessary funds to complete the on-site construction. Unfortunately, even a \$500,000 trail segment will require several totally different grant awards as well as local matching funds, not counting applications and rejections, just to move forward. The barriers to implementation are high, but not insurmountable.



The West Creek Greenway Trail in Seven Hills, Ohio..

Fortunately, the West Creek Preservation Committee has so many dedicated people and partners committed to completing the Greenway vision, but we still need your active support. You might ask, “How can I help?” Simply voicing your support for trail projects is a great start. Encourage federal, state, local funding of trail programs and the inclusion of trails as part of road and transportation projects. Participate in public trail planning meetings when scheduled. Introduce your friends and neighbors to your favorite trail and help educate them about the benefits of trails in our community. Of course, you could take part in a trail hike, or get involved as a volunteer helping with trail planning, building and maintenance activities. And if you are not already a member, consider joining WCPC. Your membership dues make our trail and conservation work possible.

If you own land or a business, consider how you could benefit from a link to a nearby trail. Maybe suggest or support trail options through property owned by your employer, school, or place of worship. If you think a portion of your land could host a section of the Greenway trail, or if you learn of a potential trail parcel that becomes available, give us a call at 216-749-3720.

Perhaps after seeing the bigger picture of why a particular section of trail seems to take forever to complete, your question might change from “What takes so long?” to “Wow, look at we are accomplishing!”

2010 Greater Cleveland Trails & Greenways Conference

Trails and Greenways benefit us in many ways. Walking, hiking, running, or bicycling on a trail can have a positive impact on our health. Whether we use the trailway for relaxation, for exercise, for transportation, or for recreation, having a path nearby gives us an opportunity to get a little more active. Of course, we have all heard the medical professionals remind us that most of us need to be more active.

On a community wide scale, trails and greenways contribute to the quality of life, to the sense of community, and even to the local economy. They can connect neighborhoods to parks, schools, business and commercial centers. Due to their documented popularity with homebuyers, trails help attract residents and give a boost to property values. The presence of a greenway or trail can be a factor in attracting and retaining businesses and spurring economic development. Many cities across the country have recognized that they can leverage trails for just that purpose.

Locally, trails are very popular as evidenced by usage rates on the Towpath Trail and the multi-purpose paths in the Cleveland Metroparks. Further, several plans and opportunities have been identified to add to, expand upon, and connect the regional system of trails and greenways. Well known examples include the West Creek Trail Plan, plans for completion of the Towpath, and the City of Cleveland's Bikeway Master Plan. Implementation of these trail plans has challenges of course, and sometimes progress in putting trail on the ground seems slower than we would like. Nevertheless, interest in establishing or completing trails and leveraging their benefits remains strong in several local communities.

In order to focus on the state of trail development in Greater Cleveland, highlight the benefits inherent to trails and greenways and to explore the tools needed to develop them, a partnership of regional entities, led by Friends of Big Creek and West Creek Preservation Committee acting as co-chairs, held the region's first **Greater Cleveland Trails & Greenways Conference** on June 7th, 2010. The event, which attracted nearly 200 attendees, took place at Southwest General Health Center and Polaris Career Center in Middleburg Heights.

The conference provided an opportunity for public, private, and nonprofit professionals and advocates to examine model trail initiatives, as well as local goals, opportunities and experiences. The program also highlighted the health benefits of recreational trail use and showcased the Cleveland Metroparks' recently completed Lake to Lake Trail. Many of the presentations and materials from the 2010 conference are available online at <http://www.GCtrails.org/proceedings2010>

Due to the success of the conference and interest in continuing it on a recurring basis, Friends of Big Creek and WCPC will be leading planning efforts for the 2nd biannual Greater Cleveland Trails & Greenways Conference, tentatively planned for the spring of 2012. To learn more about the 2010 conference and details about the 2012 event as they become available visit: www.GCtrails.org.

The Conference planning partners would like to express their gratitude to the many organizations for their generous support of the 2010 first Greater Cleveland Trails & Greenways Conference. Their contributions are essential to our ability to deliver an innovative program providing state of the art planning, development, and funding techniques, professional development, and networking opportunities.



Above: A trail conference breakout session focuses on building community support for implementing trail projects.

Below: Conference attendees tour the Metroparks' Lake to Lake Trail. A breakout session examined the technical challenges and solutions encountered in the construction of this trail



Making a Difference... Some people care about local conservation, others do something

about it! We would like to acknowledge these members and friends who have joined WCPC, renewed their membership, or donated in support of our mission between **January 1 and December 5, 2010**. **Thank You** for your continuing participation, for protecting local natural areas, restoring our streams, and for creating greenways and trails to link our communities to these special places. Questions? - contact us at 216.749.3720 or DSchafer@westcreek.org.

Individual/Family

Anonymous
Madeleine & Carl Arona
Robert & Nancy Bartholomew
Charles & Mary Becker *
Thomas Bertin
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Bitsko
Mrs. Cathy Black
Alan & Donna Blake
Marianne & Susan Blaschke
John & Claudia Brandeburg
Sean Brennan
Mary Brhel
Marge Cambareri
Doreen Cannon
Charles Cichocki
Joe Cirincione
G. D. Course
Wayne Cox
Ruth E. De Siero
State Representative Tim DeGeeter
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Harry & Donna Thom
Mark Vasarhelyi
Kathy Wanek
Jerry Wasylyszyn
Gene A. Wimmer
Wally & Josie Wolf
William & Sue Zacharias
Jane M. Zickes

WoodLand Steward

Mark & Karen Chmielecki
Terry & Laura Davison
Councilman Brian Day
Anne Graham
Nancy Hayes
Fred Hipp
Brett & Rachel Iafigliola
Independence Garden Club
David & Mary Jecmen
Geraldine Kaftan
Mike Kannard
Matthew Ksenyak
Catherine Langan
David & Lisa Lastovka
Carole & Donald Lisy
Mike & Monica Losneck
Eileen M. Miller
Mary Murphy
Kimberly Novak
John & Marguerite Phillips
Elise Repp
Brian & Karen Riegel
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Robinson
Kathy Schneider
Kent Starrett
Mary Ann Wiedl

Trail Builder

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Penny & Mark Bruce
Susan & Robert Chapman
David Daams
Mayor Dean DePiero
Audrine & Rebecca Finnerty
Chuck & Anne Germana
Clarence & Mary Gregory
Barbara & Ann Hrdlicka
James Kosarik
Jeff Lennartz
David W. Thomas
Justina B. Vinaris
Dr. Gregory Warren

Quarry Partner

Bill & Holly Brooks
Dorothy & Irvin Hazel
M.J. Lanza
Kathleen Schlemmer

Greenway Champion

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Barbara & Rudolf Hermes
Irene Toth

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Eugene & Barbara Degyansky
Mrs. Marilyn Demsey
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Florence Klimas
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Paula Kramer
Mrs. John Lanser
Donna Lastovka
Maude Linden
Ethel Nagy
Jane Norris
Richard Nowicki
Mrs. Stephanie Roubal
Elinor Rowan
Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine
Jim Sprague

West Creek Memorials

The following persons have made memorial contributions toward our conservation efforts..

In memory of
Eleanor Wagner

by

Linda S. Bagley
The Burnham Family
J. Phillip Calabrese
Sean Conway
Rose Cox
Bob & Debbie Dzurilla
The Gardner Family
Antoinette Geanneses
Lynn Glasser
Joyce Hoffman & Mary Price
Elsie A. Marchak
Roberta Metheny
Ohio Child Conservation League
Nicholas Rajkovich
Susan M. Rasch
Walter J. Rekstis, III
Daniel & Karen Soja
Henry & Dawn Stankiewicz
Leslie G. Stanley
And several unnamed friends and
family of Eleanor Wagner



In memory of
Louise Dzurilla

by

Bob & Debbie Dzurilla

In memory of
John W. Frcho

by

Bob & Debbie Dzurilla

A special **Thank You** to all
those who have donated to
honor the memory of beloved
family members and friends

In memory of
Richard W. Toth

by

Ellen T. Davis

Tina & Michael Urbanowicz
Tom Walczak

Donations of Gift Memberships

Dorothy & Irvin Hazel

Donors

Karen Stockman-Givens
Kathleen Schlemmer

Special Appeal Contributions

Barbara Rajavich

Matching Gifts

Nestle Foundation

In-Kind Donations

Audrine Finnerty
Gefen Properties / Rockside Plaza

Giant Eagle
William & Christina Mueller

Conservation Land/Easement Donation

Alen Michael
Emma Lee Spring

* Denotes Gift Membership Recipient

Join WCPC or Renew Today

Annual Memberships: New Renewal

- Individual/Family \$25
- Woodland Steward \$50
- Trail Builder \$100
- Quarry Partner \$250
- Greenway Champion \$500
- Watershed Patron \$1000
- Senior/Student \$15
- I would like to volunteer

Let's continue to protect local natural areas, restore our streams, create hiking and bicycling trails and complete the West Creek Greenway. Your participation makes a difference, and membership donations are tax deductible as charitable contributions.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____

Please make checks payable to:
West Creek Preservation Committee
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Notes from West Creek

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The West Creek Reservation, located on West Ridge-wood Drive in Parma, will soon be home to a new Watershed Stewardship Center.

West Creek Reservation

Ground-Breaking Update

The West Creek Reservation has literally been a work-in-process for a little over thirteen years. From the inception of WCPC, to the voter-approved ballot to get the ball rolling, to dozens of land conservation and restoration projects, and finally to the lease with the Cleveland Metroparks, the West Creek Reservation has become a source of pride in our community.

The final design for this 16th Cleveland Metroparks Reservation, including a new entranceway, trails, picnic shelter, and Watershed Stewardship Center, is complete. The Metroparks released bid notices in November and held preliminary construction meetings with potential contractors. With full construction proposals in, a bid award is anticipated for February 2011. If weather and schedules come together, we can even expect a shovel in the ground in early 2011 with completion by summer of 2012.

Cleveland Metroparks is one of the most renowned Metropolitan Park Districts in the country, and we are truly excited about West Creek's transformation as another fine jewel in the Emerald Necklace.

WCPC looks forward to a continued partnership with Cleveland Metroparks, especially as we continue to restore the West Creek watershed and build upon the West Creek Greenway.