

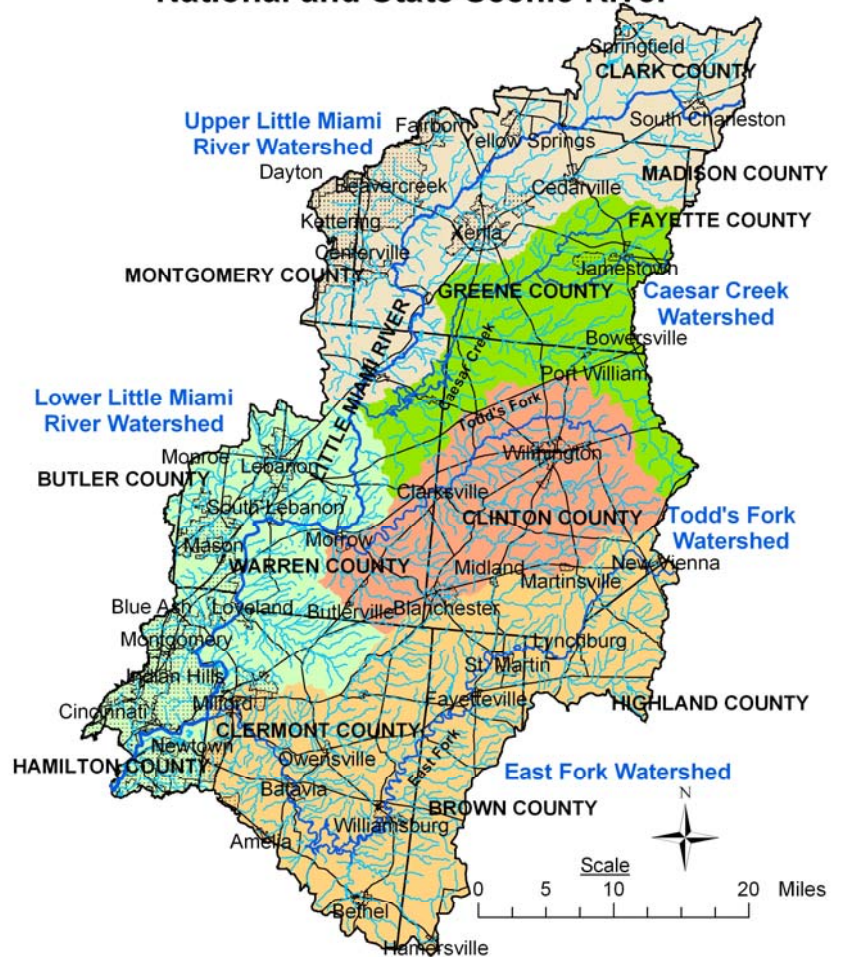


# The Quarterly

## The Little Miami River Partnership Newsletter

Volume 8 Number 2  
July, 2006

### The Little Miami River Watershed National and State Scenic River



### In this Issue of the Quarterly:

- The Watershed Warble – Updates on the Little Miami River Partnership and its activities
- Sub Watershed Reports:
  1. Lower Little Miami River
  2. Upper Little Miami River/ Caesar's Creek
  3. Todd's Fork
  4. East Fork
- Upcoming Events



# The Watershed Warble

## A report on the activities of the Little Miami River Partnership

### **LMRP-OEPA Supplemental Environmental Project Funding Collaboration**

The Little Miami River Partnership and the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency have developed a system to make Supplemental Environmental Project funds more readily available in the Little Miami River watershed.

Supplemental Environmental Projects (SEPs) are projects potentially funded from the fines imposed upon entities for environmental violations in Ohio by the Ohio EPA. When enforcement occurs, Ohio EPA can fine violators. Those fines can be either paid directly to the State of Ohio or can be used to pay for SEP's. This choice is completely up to the entity being fined.

The Ohio EPA has striven to have violators make these fines available for SEP's, but has often not had any projects to provide for funding. Due to the legal nature of the enforcement process, often little time is available for the Ohio EPA to make public the funds available for a SEP. The Little Miami River Partnership (LMRP) and the Ohio EPA wish to change this by creating a "bank" of possible projects available for funding through the SEP program and by creating a quick response e-mail system to alert potential groups about SEP funding opportunities.

The process is simple. The Little Miami River Partnership has developed a one-page project application that meets all the criteria for a SEP application. LMRP will provide that application to all entities who wish to implement environmental projects in the Little Miami River watershed. Groups can then submit potential projects to LMRP and LMRP will provide all of these projects to the OEPA to create a "bank" of potential projects. That "bank" of projects will then be used by OEPA when a potential SEP funding is available. Having a project(s) in the "bank" will be the main way to easily access potential SEP funding.

In addition, if LMRP receives word of a new potential SEP, LMRP will send out an immediate notice for proposals with a needed response time. This will happen only from time to time, since OEPA wants to use the "bank" of projects as its main means for providing SEP's.

This process does not replace the process that Ohio EPA already had in place. It simply is designed to create an easy method to assist the Ohio EPA to use SEPs and allow environmental groups to access those funds.

The application and directions are attached. LMRP asks you to read and fill out a form for *each* potential project and forward them to us to share with the Ohio EPA.

The Little Miami River Partnership wants to help your organization obtain these SEP funds. This will help us all work towards a healthier Little Miami River watershed. Plus, it will help LMRP move towards its goal to **Promote a healthy Little Miami River watershed through community involvement.**

If you have any questions or wish to take advantage of this funding source, please contact LMRP at 513.695.2542 and we will provide additional information.

### **Todd's Fork Watershed Action Plan Endorsed**

At the end of April, the State of Ohio, via the OEPA and ODNR officially recognized and endorsed the Todd's fork Watershed Action Plan. The result of over two years worth of research, public meetings, and data analysis provides the watershed with a picture of what current environmental conditions are and on means to improve or protect water resources.

### **The Lower Little Miami River Watershed Action Plan**

Work continues on writing this watershed action plan. Data collection and analysis is nearly complete, and the plan should be submitted to the State of Ohio for endorsement by the end of August or beginning of September.

### **The LMRP 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Water Quality Symposium**

The LMRP will be hosting its 4<sup>th</sup> Water Quality Symposium, called "Protecting Riparian Corridors," on August 25<sup>th</sup> at Wilmington College, Wilmington Ohio. Please see the notice on the next page for all of the details!



The Little Miami  
River Partnership  
Presents:



4th Annual Water Quality Symposium

**PROTECTING RIPARIAN ZONES**

Wilmington College, Wilmington, Ohio  
Pyle Student Center

August 25th

\$25.00 (includes lunch, beverages and materials)

Agenda

- |                      |  |
|----------------------|--|
| 8:00 am - 8:30 am.   | Registration and Introductions   |
| 8:30 am - 9:15 am.   | <u>Evaluating Riparian Health with QHEI</u> — Ed Rankin,<br>Senior Research Scientist, Midwest Biodiversity<br>Institute                                       |
| 9:15 am - 10:00 am.  | <u>Correlating Riparian Zones to River Health</u> — Dr.<br>Bernie Daniels, Senior Environmental Scientist, USEPA   |
| 10:00 am - 10:15 am. | Break  |
| 10:15 am - 11:00 am. | <u>Voluntary Tools to Protect Riparian Corridors</u> — Eric<br>Partee, Executive Director, Little Miami, Incorporated  |
| 11:00 am - 11:45 am. | <u>Government Tools to Protect Riparian Corridors</u> —<br>Kyle Dreyfus-Wells, Chagrin River Partners  |
| 11:45 am - 12:30 pm. | Lunch  |
| 12:30 pm - 1:15 pm.  | <u>Innovative Funding Strategies to Protect Riparian<br/>Corridors</u> — Steve Grossman, Executive Director, Ohio<br>Water Development Authority               |
| 1:15 pm - 4:30 pm.   | <u>Tour: Lytle Creek Riparian Protection and the Curliss<br/>Property</u> — Lytle Creek League of Conservators and<br>Clinton County Open Lands, Incorporated. |

For Registration and Directions call:  
513.695.1187

# The Lower Little Miami River Watershed

## Saturday Stream Snap-Shot receives National Award

The citizen-volunteer water-quality sampling project called Saturday Stream Snap-Shot was awarded the National Outstanding Conservation Award by the Issack Walton League. This program is run by Anne Lyon of the Greenacres Foundation. This program provides high-quality data about water quality on many streams throughout the Lower Little Miami River watershed and adjacent areas. Congratulations!

## Scenic Rivers Trail Center

The Little Miami, Inc. Scenic River Trails Center, located on the bike path in downtown Loveland, has been making steady progress towards finishing its displays. After the displays are built and completed, the Trail Center will be open for business!

## Prairie Grass Planting

This past Spring, the Little Miami, Inc., planted over 60 acres of riparian lands to native grasses and flowers. This was in an effort to help protect riparian acres along the Little Miami river and to create more natural habitat in the area for local wildlife.

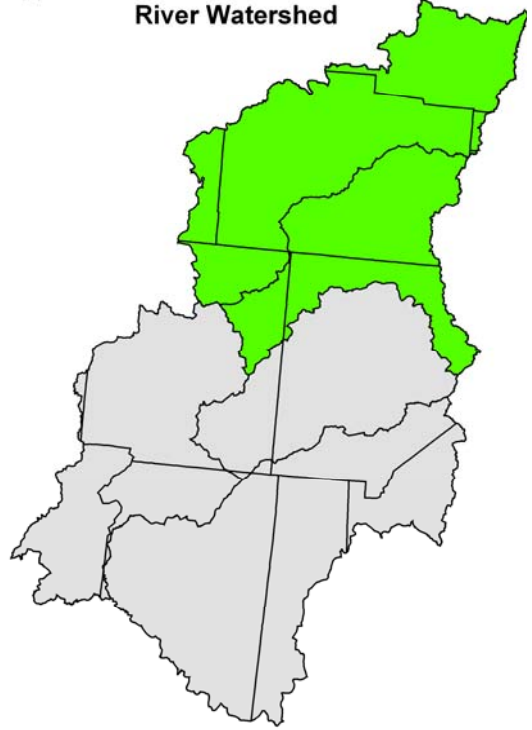


# The Upper Little Miami River and Caesar's Creek Watershed

## Source Water Protection Rules Passed

Spring Valley Trustees have adopted Source Water Protection rules to protect their drinking water supplies. These rules will aid them in protecting the water quality of their drinking water.

Upper Little Miami and Caesar's Creek River Watershed



# The Todd's Fork Watershed

## **Lytle Creek Event calendar August, September and October 2006**

**Todd's Fork Watershed**



July 17, 4:30 PM Lytle Creek League of Conservators, regularly scheduled meeting , City Hall

July 20, 12:00PM Lytle Creek League event planning committee, Jen's Deli

August 15, Lytle creek trailhead pavilion floor poured by DHL/ABXair construction crew

August 25, Little Miami River Partnership symposium on water quality and riparian corridors

September 15, Laminated Park Shelter Arches placed on trailhead pavilion supporting columns

September 17, Dedication of site of future west side city park on the Lytle Creek Greenway

September 19, Roof decking and shingles placed on pavilion arches Greenway trailhead pavilion

October 21, Inauguration of the Lytle Creek trailhead pavilion and the Lytle Creek bridal trail

### Partial List of Cooperating organizations

Lytle Creek League of Conservators, Clinton County Coalition of Rails -to-trails, Wilmington City Park Board, Wilmington Department of Parks and Recreation, Clinton County Open Lands, Clinton County Horsemen's Council, Clinton County Streamkeepers, Wilmington News Journal, Wilmington College, Clinton County Leadership Institute, Clinton County Soil and Water District, Clinton County Board of Commissioners, Leadership Clinton, Wilmington Community Improvement Corporation, Clinton County Visitors and Convention Bureau, Little Miami River Partnership., Clinton County Park Board and numerous local commercial corporate entities.

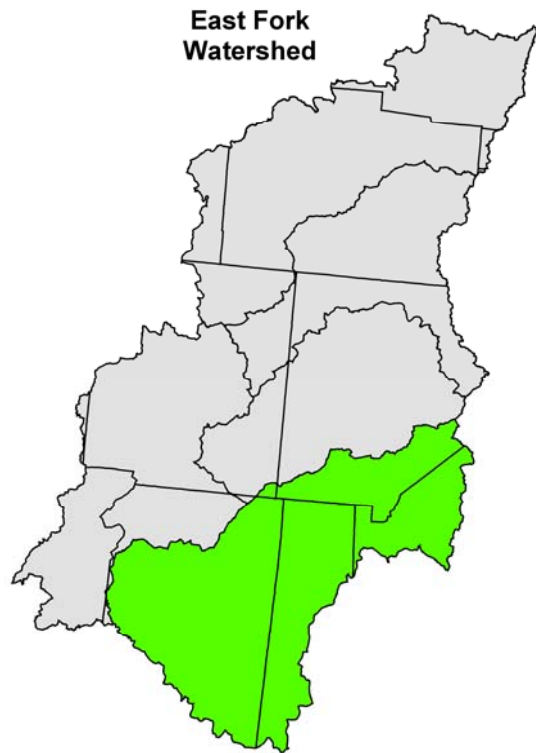
# The East Fork Watershed

## Headwater Watershed Action Plan (WAP)

The Headwaters WAP was submitted to the State of Ohio for endorsement at the beginning of this year. Based upon comments from the State, a few revisions were made and the plan resubmitted for endorsement. Endorsement by the State of Ohio should take place some time this Fall.

## Lake Tribs Watershed Action Plan (WAP)

The Lake Tribs WAP work has been proceeding smoothly and should be ready for turning into the State of Ohio for endorsement late this Summer or early Fall.



# Upcoming Events

## July 15th - Family Fishing at Greenacres: Greenacres and the Cincinnati

Chapter of the Izaak Walton League will host a free Family Fishing Program at Greenacres Pond 7/15 from 1-3 p.m. Registration is limited. To register, contact Anne Lyon at (513) 891 4227 or [alyon@green-acres.org](mailto:alyon@green-acres.org) <<mailto:alyon@green-acres.org>>.

## August 7 - 10 - 2006 Splash "Connections" Teacher Training Workshops:

Looking for fun, creative, hands-on science activities that are already correlated to Ohio's Academic Content Standards? Greenacres Foundation, Hamilton County Soil and Water Conservation District, and the University of Cincinnati Center for Economic Education are offering 4 day-long workshops:

8/7: Water, Weather, Wildlife, and Food Chains

(Grades 3-5)

8/9: Diversity, Weather, Earth Systems, and Change

(Grades 6-8)

8/9: Monitoring Streams, Ponds, Lakes, and Wetlands

(Grades 3-12)

8/10: Human Impacts, Data Interpretation, Maps, and Technology (Grades 9-12)

All workshops will be held at Greenacres Old Church from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Each one-day workshop costs \$35 and includes resource materials, activity supplies, and snacks. Reduced price UC Graduate Credit is available. Contact Anne Lyon at (513) 891-4227 or [alyon@green-acres.org](mailto:alyon@green-acres.org) <<mailto:alyon@green-acres.org>> for more information.

## August 25th - Little Miami River Partnership (LMRP) and Ohio Extension Service Symposium "Protecting Riparian Zones":

See advertisement inside the Newsletter for more details.