



The Quarterly

The Little Miami River Partnership Newsletter

Volume 9 Number 3
October, 2007

Vision

Connecting People and Resources to Promote a Healthy Little Miami River Watershed

Mission

Promote a Healthy Little Miami River Watershed through Collaboration, Planning, Education and Action

In this Issue of the Quarterly:

- The Watershed Warble – Updates on the Little Miami River Partnership and its activities
- Upcoming Events

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





The Watershed Warble

A report on the activities of the Little Miami River Partnership

Vision

Connecting People and Resources to Promote a Healthy Little Miami River Watershed.

Mission

Promote a Healthy Little Miami River Watershed through Collaboration, Planning, Education and Action.

Little Miami River Watershed CREP (Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program)

Over the past months, the possibility of developing a 20,000 acre, \$50 million CREP for the Little Miami River watershed has been gaining momentum. The LMRP in partnership with Greene County Sanitary Engineering and Rick Shamblin has led this effort through:

- Holding a second POTW meeting in August to discuss the merits of the waste-water treatment plant operators paying for the application cost
- Helping ODNR to work out a \$185,000 Proposal to the POTW's for the CREP
- Helping the POTW's to understand the Proposal and cost estimates
- Looking into alternatives for which the CREP could be used to assist in water quality improvement
- Providing leadership in obtaining multiple POTW support for the CREP Application
- Meet with and briefed the Clinton County Commissioners on the CREP process and possible impacts on the Clinton County area.
- Attended a Gulf of Mexico Hypoxia meeting to help determine the national-level of impact of a LMR CREP

More work on support for the Proposal needs to be accomplished, but that is currently under way and the outcome looks very promising.

Lower Little Miami River WAP (Watershed Action Plan)

Work has been completed on the latest version of the LLMR WAP. It has been sent out to various professionals throughout the watershed for comments and critiques. Hopefully LMRP will host another public meeting on the WAP and submit it before year end to the ODNR for approval.

LMRP Welcomes a New Board Member: **Devin Barry!**

Devin Barry, a lawyer for the firm Thompson Hine, expressed interest in serving on our Board several months ago. Over the past few months he has met and worked with our Board and staff on a variety of different issues and projects – he expressed his interest and was elected to an open slot on our Board. Welcome and congratulations, Barry!

Lower Little Miami River TMDL Total Maximum Daily Load)

The LMRP has been providing outreach and communications planning assistance to the OEPA as they develop the LLMR TMDL. Several key OEPA personnel have left during this process, creating some confusion, but the outreach plan for 2008 seems to be moving towards acceptance.

2007 OEEF (Ohio Environmental Education Fund) Grant Received!!

The LMRP received \$4,950 through a 2007 OEEF Grant. This grant will allow LMRP to purchase audio-visual equipment needed to host large-scale meetings. We have committed to host several meetings throughout next year on the Lower Little Miami River TMDL process for the public and point source community.

The Watershed Warble, continued

5th Annual Water Quality Symposium

The LMRP is proud to hold its Fifth Water Quality Symposium: The Dollars and Sense of TMDLs. This professional level Symposium will provide attendees with a science-based understanding of TMDL's and their implementation. A full agenda is provided at the end of this newsletter.

4th Annual Little Miami River Watershed Festival

LMRP held the Festival at the Caesar's Creek Visitors Center on October 20th. It was a beautiful day and over 500 people, many of them children, came, enjoyed and learned about water at this festival. It was a great success and we look forward to working on this Festival next year. This Festival was paid in part by funds from OEPA's and the USEPA's 319 grant that the Upper Little Miami River Joint Board of SWCD's has received.

Watershed Projects

LMRP staff met with members of Clinton County Open Lands, Clinton County Stream Keepers and the East Fork Watershed Coordinator to discuss possible restoration or preservation projects for 2008. Projects are being developed and prioritized at this time.

1st Annual Little Miami River Watershed Photo

Contest

The contest has been coming on strong with many different entrees being submitted for the contest. At this time it appears that close to 100 photos will have been submitted by the deadline of October 31st. In November, judging will be completed and winners posted to our website! LMRP will be definitely holding this contest again!

LMRP Fund Raising Continues

LMRP continued its corporate fund raising by working with a number of new corporations and investigating banking institutions.

Upcoming Events

(provided by Anne Lyon)

WATER QUALITY 2007 SUMMER OPPORTUNITIES

Canoes Loaned for Cleanups: The Cincinnati Chapter of Izaak Walton League has purchased 12 canoes and 2 trailers. They will loan the canoes to organized groups who wish to conduct cleanups on the Little Miami River. For details contact, Izaak Walton League (513) 683-7233 or www.cinci.iwla.org



The Little Miami River Partnership

Presents

The 5th Annual Water Quality Symposium



The Dollars and \$ense of TMDLs:

Protecting the Little Miami River Using TMDLs and Other Tools

November 16th

City of Wilmington City Hall — Conference Room

Cost: \$35.00 (Includes Lunch, Beverages and Materials)

Professional Development Hours and Contact Hours Pending

Agenda

- 8:30 am **Registration**
9:00 am **Welcome and Introductions – Paul Berringer, President of Little Miami River Partnership (LMRP)**
9:15 am **What is a TMDL Study? – Hugh Trimble, Nonpoint Source Management Program Coordinator, Ohio EPA**

MONITORING SURVEYS

- 9:45 am **Little Miami River TMDL Monitoring Survey – Angela Drips, Survey Coordinator, Ohio EPA**
10:15 am **Mussels as Indicators of Water Resource Integrity in the Little Miami River System – Michael A Hoggarth Ph.D., Professor & Chairperson of the Department Life & Earth Sciences, Otterbein College**

10:45 am **Break**

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES

- 11:00 am **Lower Little Miami River Watershed Action Plan – Dennis Tenwolde, Watershed Coordinator, Little Miami River Partnership**
11:30 am **Clermont Counties Proposed CWA Section 4B Alternative to Traditional TMDL – Dennis McMullen, Project Manager, East Fork Collaborative**
12 Noon **Little Miami River National and State Scenic River Management Plan—Bob Gable, Scenic Rivers Program Manager, ODNr, Division of Natural Areas and Preserves**
12:30 pm **Lunch**
IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAMS – Panel Presentations Followed By Panel Discussion
1 pm **Panel Introduction – Moderator: Eric Partee, Executive Director, Little Miami Inc.**
1:15 pm **Greene County WRRSP Programs – Ron Volkerding, Deputy Director
Greene County Sanitary Engineering Department**
1:30 pm **US EPA 319 Programs – Avey's Run Stream Restoration Project – Jason Brown, Watershed Coordinator, East Fork
Watershed Initiative, Clermont Soil & Water Conservation District**
1:45 pm **USDA Farm Bill Programs –Jeff Mitchell, Conservation Programs Chief, Ohio -USDA Farm Services Agency**

For Registration, Food Choices and Directions call: 513.695.2542

Sponsored by:

