

Ohio Coastal Management Program Grants in the Cuyahoga River Watershed



Defined: Watershed - an area of land that water drains across on its way to a common waterbody.

ODNR Office of Coastal Management



The Cuyahoga River is one of 18 main tributaries that drain Ohio's portion of the Lake Erie watershed.

Fresh Water Lake

- Lake Erie is the shallowest, southernmost, warmest and most biologically diverse of the five Great Lakes. The lake was the first to form after the retreat of the glaciers more than 10,000 years ago.
- Smallest by volume at 127.7 trillion gallons, Erie is the fourth largest Great Lake in total surface area (9,910 sq. mi.) and frequently produces more fish for human consumption than the four other Great Lakes combined.
- Ohio's Lake Erie ports handle commodities including steel, iron ore, coal, salt and grain.
- One-third of Ohio's boating occurs on Lake Erie, the source of daily drinking water for more than 3 million Ohioans.
- More than 119,000 northern Ohio jobs are directly linked to Lake Erie-region visitors who spend more than \$10.7 billion annually generating \$430 million in state taxes and \$320 million in local taxes.
- Ohio's Lake Erie Watershed covers 11,649 square miles and drains portions of 35 counties. The eight counties along Ohio's 312-mile Lake Erie shore are home to 2.55 million people, nearly one-quarter of Ohio residents.

40 YEARS OF IMPROVEMENTS

Lake Erie is one of the largest and most successful restoration projects in the world. Pollution that nearly destroyed the lake has been abated in part due to the formation of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the passage of legislation such as the Clean Water Act and Coastal Zone Management Act.

Today, Lake Erie and the Cuyahoga River are used as representative models for environmental management. Although the Cuyahoga River's mainstem is just 100 miles long, the river and its watershed have played a world-wide starring role in Lake Erie's environmental improvement story.

The U-shaped Cuyahoga River drains 813 square miles (520,320 acres), includes 1,220 stream miles and spans parts of 83 local jurisdictions in six counties (Cuyahoga, Geauga, Medina, Portage, Stark and Summit). Land use patterns vary greatly throughout the watershed and its geo-political complexity adds a unique dimension to achieving sustainable water quality improvements.

MILESTONES

In 1974, the Upper Cuyahoga was designated a State Scenic River from the Troy-Burton township line in Geauga County downstream to State Route 14 in Portage County.

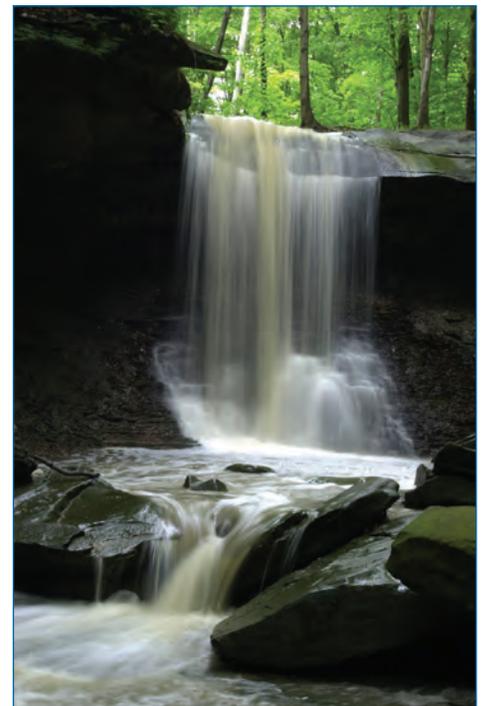
In 1985, the International Joint Commission identified the area from the Ohio Edison Dam, located in Akron near Cuyahoga Falls, to the mouth and the Lake

Erie nearshore areas in Cleveland as one of 43 Areas of Concern on the Great Lakes.

In 1988, a Remedial Action Plan (RAP) was developed to address pollution problems affecting beneficial use impairments.

In 1998, the Cuyahoga River was designated by the U.S. EPA as one of 14 American Heritage Rivers, recognizing its role in shaping our nation's environmental, economic and cultural landscape.

In 2009, the many partner groups who have played a role in the Cuyahoga River's restoration over the last 40 years will commemorate and recognize the impact the Cuyahoga River has had on our region's public image and self-image, and on the entire country's attitude toward the balancing the use and preservation of our natural resources.



Blue Hen is one of a variety of waterfalls found in the Cuyahoga Valley National Park.

Ohio Department of Natural Resources

OHIO COASTAL GRANTS

The Ohio Department of Natural Resources Office of Coastal Management administers the federally approved Ohio Coastal Management Program. The program sets forth 41 polices and guidelines to monitor activities that affect Ohio's Lake Erie coastal resources and ensure resource protection while balancing social, economic and environmental interests.

The Office of Coastal Management is funded in part by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, from which the office receives approximately \$2 million annually to implement the Ohio Coastal Management Program.

Every year, the Office of Coastal Management awards approximately \$1 million in grants to help carry out the goals outlined in the program and simultaneously enhance coastal communities and watersheds.

From 1998-2009, \$6,160,318 in Ohio Coastal Management Program grants have funded \$10,005,893 in projects (listed here) that promote environmental and cultural enhancements to the Cuyahoga River and its watershed. For more details, visit www.ohiodnr.com/coastal and select "Grants."

GRANTS

Award year, Grantee, *Project Title*, Grant Amount/Total Project Cost.

2009 – Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District *Walworth Run Green Infrastructure Feasibility Study*, \$50,000/\$106,000.

2007 – Cuyahoga River Community Planning Organization, *Big Creek Watershed Management Plan*, \$19,950/\$43,800.

2006 – Summit County Metroparks, *Pond Brook Wetland Acquisition*, \$2,750,000/\$3,329,000.

2006 – Cuyahoga County Board of Health (Cuyahoga, Summit, Portage counties), *Mill Creek Watershed Action Plan*, \$32,238/\$78,336.

2006 – Cuyahoga River Community Planning Organization, *Supporting Balanced Growth in the Chippewa Creek Watershed*, \$35,947/\$55,984.

2005 – City of Cleveland, *Cleveland Flats East Bank Riverfront Park Acquisition*, \$1,210,000/\$2,420,000.



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2005 – Cuyahoga County Board of Health, *Community Plan for the Mill Creek Watershed*, \$39,322/\$87,918.

2004 – City of Cleveland, *Lake Erie Shoreline/Canal Basin Park Acquisition*, \$1,250,784/\$2,501,568.

2004 – City of Aurora, *City of Aurora Natural Stream and Floodplain Restoration Study*, \$32,000/\$40,000.

2004 – Cleveland Metroparks, *Mill Creek Greenway Connector Trail*, \$90,000/\$219,539.

2004 – Cleveland Metroparks, *Cuyahoga River West Bank Preservation*, \$89,500/\$138,300.

2004 – City of Cleveland, *Rehabilitation Study for the Former U.S. Coast Guard Cleveland Harbor Station*, \$50,000/\$100,010.

2003 – Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency, *Community Revitalization Plan for Lower Big Creek, Cleveland, Ohio Phase 2*, \$43,256/\$129,726.

2001 – City of Hudson, *Mud Brook Preserve Sensitive Wetland Addition*, \$149,000/\$186,250.

2001 – City of Parma, *West Creek Land Acquisition and Stream Restoration*, \$206,000/\$348,600.

2001 – Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency, *Community Revitalization Plan for the Lower Big Creek Watershed*, \$60,000/\$123,447.

2000 – Cuyahoga County Planning Commission, *West Creek Valley Management Plan*, \$30,000/\$65,527.

1998 – Cuyahoga County Planning Commission, *Cuyahoga Corridor Towpath Study*, \$22,321/\$31,888.

Working together for a better Lake Erie

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