

Euclid Creek Watershed Update - Happy Earth Day, Newsletter and Farewell!

APRIL 22, 2018

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Happy Earth Day and Farewell My Friends!

Have a wonderful Earth Day and I hope you find time to celebrate in the Euclid Creek or surrounding watersheds this weekend!

After ten years as Euclid Creek Watershed Program Manager, it is with sadness and excitement that I say my goodbyes as I'm moving on to a position. I am staying in the Cleveland area and will continue working in the stormwater management field - so my passion for water resources continues into this next stage of my career.

Padding
around the
Euclid
Creek
Wildwood
Wetland
and
Stream
Restoration
Project

My last week on the job was an especially bitter sweet one, saying my goodbyes to colleagues and coworkers. The sweet part was getting to spend the final days celebrating Earth Day with a group of residents putting together rain barrels in Lyndhurst and leading Earth Day events with Girl Scouts. We had over 90 Girl Scouts clean up a bioswale and garden beds at Greenwood Farm in Richmond Heights, clean up two nature preserves in Highland Heights and Forest Hill Park in East Cleveland, and plant trees at Beachwood Park East. Not a shabby way to give back on Earth Day!

Over my ten years in the job, we've worked on so many amazing projects together, from land protection projects to rain gardens to green infrastructure projects to dam removals to stream and wetland restorations - it's been an absolute blast and rewarding beyond any expectations I had when I started the job. While I could write pages about all of the amazing projects we've implemented, it's the people that make Euclid Creek so special.

From all of the fantastic people on the Watershed Council and the dedicated municipal staff, Councils and Mayors, who work hard every day to improve water quality by putting down less salt, passing watershed-friendly ordinances, or sharing an article about the benefit of trees with residents - each community in the Watershed Council is a watershed leader solving problems in Euclid Creek. To our dedicated volunteer monitors who observe the stream and take measurements of its health on a monthly basis - reporting any concerns they see. To the unbelievable FOEC volunteers - I was most struck when I realized over the past 10 years that I had worked with all but one of the nine FOEC presidents. To see how each leader has taken the group in a unified yet unique direction has been a neat experience for me. And working with tireless FOEC volunteers over the years who have given thousands of hours of time toward the program. I've been inspired by the passion of the conservationists, students and teachers, girl scouts and boy scouts, poets, photographers, archeologists, musicians, botanists, gardeners, fishermen, birders, historians and the broad range of professionals and consultants who have taken an interest in Euclid Creek and enriched the program. Lastly, working with the Cuyahoga Soil & Water Conservation District team has been enriching in all aspects of my life - this most unique group of professional conservationists who take their jobs preserving our soil and water seriously, with a

lot of humor, on the job and outside of the job has led this cast of characters to become my second family.

I'm so lucky to have had the opportunity to lead the Watershed Program and I leave the program in a strong place from a funding perspective with lots of projects complete and many more ready to be implemented. There's still a lot of work to do to educate watershed residents about water quality issues and to change behavior to improve the watershed, but we take it one person at a time and we make positive change slowly but surely.

Thank you all for supporting me and it has been my pleasure getting to know you all - please continue to support this great program as the next program manager takes on the challenge of managing this watershed program in our special watershed...the Euclid Creek!

Sincerely, Claire Posius

Euclid Creek Spring Summer Newsletter

This edition covers the following:

- Willoughby-Eastlake School of Innovation Stream Restoration Project Announced
- Thank You Volunteer Water Monitors!
- 2018 Upcoming Meetings & Events
- **Friends of Euclid Creek Updates**
- President's Message - Looking Ahead
- Wildlife..Butterfly First
- 2017 Awards and Review
- FOEC Awarded First Cuyahoga Arts and Culture Grant
- Just One Word...PLASTICS
- Watershed Nature Festival
- **Euclid Creek Projects Updates**
- Community Christian Church Tree Planting
- Euclid Creek US Army Corps Flood Control Channel Shoaling Project
- Acacia Restoration by the Numbers
- Dusty Goldenrod Preserve Management Plan Completed
- Euclid Creek Reservation Could Expand by 63 Acres!
- South Euclid Bans Pesticides on City and School Properties

FOEC May Program

Man's Impact on Our Waters

Wed., May 2 - 7-9pm
Highland Heights Community Center, [5827 Highland Road](#)

Presenter: Sandy Bihn
Executive Director of the Lake Erie Waterkeeper & the Lake Erie Foundation

Please join FOEC and the Highland Heights Green Task Force for an exciting joint program! Have you ever wondered what type of impact the habits of humans have on the health of our waters? Executive Director Sandy Bihn will address this issue. The Waterkeeper Alliance was approved in 2011 to cover the Lake Erie watershed between the Detroit River and Buffalo. Lake Erie Waterkeeper has been a licensed program of the International Waterkeeper Alliance since 2004. The license requires that one person is designated by the sponsoring organization as Waterkeeper. Sandy Bihn has served this role since 2004 and is now serving in a dual capacity as Executive Director of the Waterkeeper and the Lake Erie Foundation.

FOEC May Stewardship Activity

We hope you can join us for the annual Wildwood Park Spring Cleanup! This year we'll be picking up trash along the wetland floodplain and adjusting tree cages throughout the stream and wetland restoration project. Come out and see how the restoration project is doing and we'd love your help at the cleanup!

Volunteers Needed for Upcoming Community Events:

Volunteers are needed to help the Euclid Creek Watershed Program Manager with rain barrel workshops, green cleaning workshops, community event education tables, wetland cleanups, and plantings - training provided! See the events schedule and sign up at the [SignUp Genius link](#) here or contact the new Watershed Program Manager.

To volunteer for a Friends of Euclid Creek committee (education, membership, finance, board, grants, marketing) or to help with monthly member events contact Ken Messinger-Rapport, foecpresident@gmail.com.

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