



2020 ANNUAL REPORT



DIVERTED BUT
DETERMINED



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2020 TOTAL IMPACT

609 VOLUNTEERS
20,121 POUNDS OF TRASH

As I reflect on a tumultuous year, it is amazing all that Partners for Clean Streams and our community accomplished alone, together. I am unbelievably grateful to be able to lead this organization and to be joined by so many to get through 2020 and come out stronger than before.

Much like when a river is diverted, a lot of things changed. 2020 brought change to our programming and our staffing so we adjusted our programming to make it as safe as possible to continue our mission for clean, clear, and safe waterways.

We have determined volunteers and a mission for clean water that is essential to life; and that helped us persevere even during a pandemic. We hope to fold in our 2020 experience and the new things learned to our usual operations at PCS as we continue the mission for clean water in for our communities - which is something not even a pandemic could change. In fact, the pandemic further illustrated how important clean, abundant fresh water is for our personal health and for the health of our communities.

2020 changed the world around us. We learned that our organization could be diverted but our determination to achieve our mission together never changed.

Sincerely,

Kristina Patterson
Executive Director

Pandemic Changes



In 2020, our staff worked remotely to reorganize our programs to emphasize stream cleanups...

... through individual and small groups. PCS now encourages individuals to track their waterway debris removal impact through an Ocean Conservancy app called Clean Swell.

Re-worked Programs –

- We focused on encouraging do-it yourself cleanups, and providing clean-up kits for volunteers as needed while our staff worked remotely.
- We reached out to organizations that need services hours and publicized the individualized programs.

Strategized for Future Events –

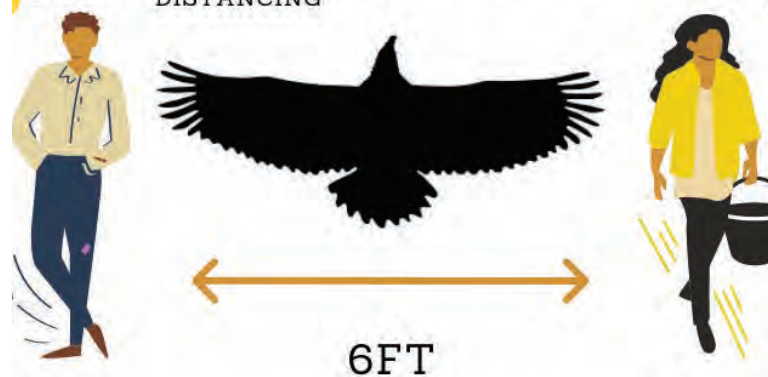
- Sandpiper cruise was cancelled for 2020 but looking forward to a modified version in 2021.
- No Patch Day held this year but we are re-thinking about how to do Patch Day virtually.
- Canoemobile was postponed. We are hoping to bringing it back in 2022 or 2023.
- Mercy Health Glass City Marathon was cancelled but we did work on planning behind the scenes. We are working on transitioning our role to Keep Toledo Lucas County Beautiful.

Increased Virtual Outreach –

- No festivals or educational booths meant more outreach on social media, virtual presentations, and on the website.

Stay at least one Bald Eagle Wingspan away on trails and when picking up trash

MAUMEE RIVER INSPIRED SOCIAL DISTANCING



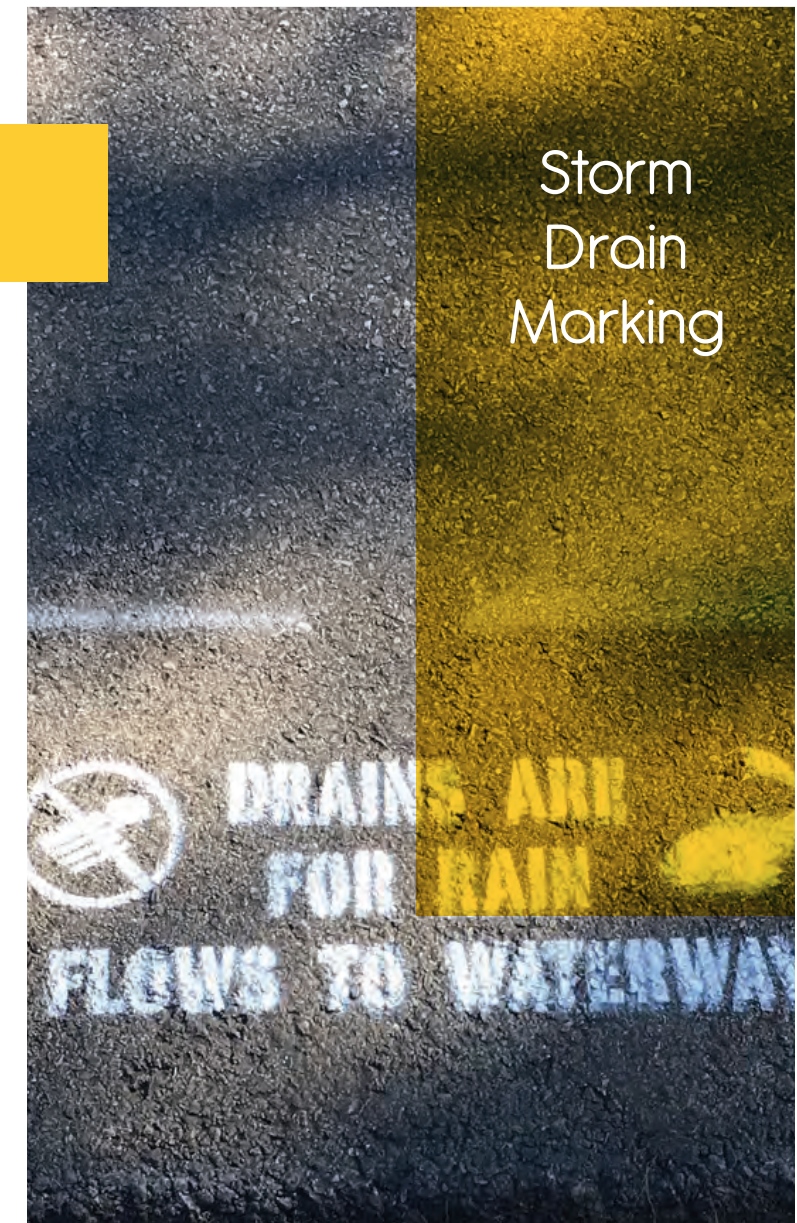
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Storm drains flow untreated into our waterways.

Storm Drain Marking helps educate residents in our community about the purpose and proper maintenance of storm drains. Our Storm Drain Marking program supports proper maintenance of local storm drains through marking them with the slogan “Drains are for rain – flows to waterways” coupled with educational outreach to homeowners. The program was re-vamped in 2020 to include loaning a kit so small groups or families can do on their own.

- 1 Girl Scout Troop participated in SDM in 2020
- 15 new medallions on drains in areas around the City of Toledo

Storm Drain Marking



16th Annual Get the Lead Out



Get the Lead Out is our cleanup program focused on removing the fishing line.

Get the Lead Out is our cleanup program focused on removing the fishing line lead and lures that get left behind after the spring walleye and white bass runs along the Maumee River. Volunteers remove fishing debris to prevent wildlife entanglement and enhance the aesthetics of our beautiful Maumee River. Fishing lines can remain in the ecosystem for hundreds of years, so our efforts are vital to keep our rivers healthy. All fishing line is cleaned and sent to Berkley Conservation Institute, which recycles it and re-purposes it into spawning habitat for fish.

4 Events this summer:

- o 17 volunteers
- o 131 pounds of trash
- o 2.75 miles along the Maumee River cleaned
- o 2 cleanups were sponsored by Bass Pro Shops

Fishing Line Recycling Bins encourage anglers to responsibly recreate along our rivers.

These bins are placed along fishing "hotspots" to promote proper disposal of fishing line. PCS and volunteers maintain and clean the line throughout the year. We are always looking for individuals and organizations who are willing to adopt, host, and/or sponsor a bin!

- o 15 BSA Scouts built more bins pre-pandemic
- o Added new signage
- o Several bins were sponsored by Bass Pro Shops and Cabela's Outdoor Fund
- o One individual collects fishing line/trash every month in Oak Opening Metropark and another collects it in Point Place

Fishing Line Recycling Bins



CYS
365

CYS 365 is a customizable,
flexible stream cleanup
in-a-box.

Clean Your Streams 365 is an individualized clean-up program that targets specific sites with marine debris issues. Volunteers and groups choose their location and schedule their own small-scale Clean Your Streams (CYS) Day anytime throughout the year. PCS facilitates the cleanup and provides supplies and data cards to track marine debris.

On Land Totals:

- o 27 clean-ups
- o 68 volunteers
- o 1,000 pounds of trash
- o 21.69 miles cleaned

3 Citizenship in the Community Merit Badge Workshops

- o 19 clean-ups
- o 51 volunteers
- o 893.46 pounds of trash
- o 29.21 miles cleaned

Paddle Edition:

- o 3 events
- o 2 organizations
 - Toledo Metroparks
 - Northwest Ohio River Runners
- o 26 volunteers
- o 1,150 pounds removed



CYS24

Clean Your Streams Day has grown from a handful of volunteers to a community tradition of service and conservation.



PCS is proud of the impact this program has had on beautifying our community and uniting a diverse volunteer base into one singular goal: removing as much trash as possible! We are so grateful to our planning team that believed in this program, and to the volunteers who made it possible, even during a pandemic. The volunteers show year after year that they are willing to work for clean water and join us for the largest stream cleanup in Northwest Ohio.

This year, volunteers did a cleanup anytime from September 18th to September 27th and were offered two options for participating in Clean Your Streams 24. A virtual do-it-yourself option where volunteers could submit a clean-up by using the Clean Swell App anytime during the week of September 18th to September 27th and submit photos by email or through social media. Our safe distanced in-person option was similar to usual years but updated with safety precautions approved by the Lucas County Health Department. Sadly, no picnic was offered, but in person volunteers still received t-shirts, re-usable water bottles and bags, and educational materials.

176 Clean Swell do-it-yourself volunteers

255 Safe distanced in-person participants

Summary:

- o 16,957.11 pounds of marine debris removed
- o 116 tires
- o 79 sites cleaned
- o 33,629 items removed
- o 431 people total

Peculiar Items found:

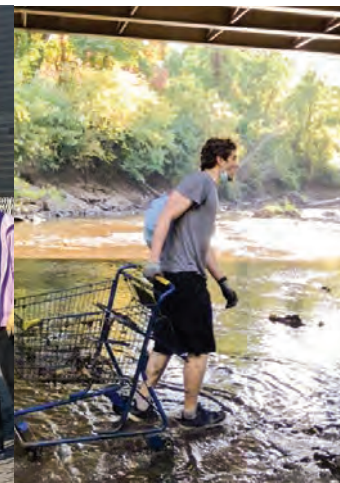
Plastic fingers, a play kitchen, a wine bottle with a mylar balloon attached, a stop sign, a toilet, and a cigarette butt disposal stand

Plastics were the top find

5 of the Top 10 items are all plastic:

- 1) Food Wrappers: 4,654
- 2) Plastic pieces: 3,560
- 3) Cigarette butts: 2,887
- 4) Plastic bottles: 2,800
- 5) Grocery and other plastic bags: 2,398

This data is pretty on par with the global averages. Food wrappers are the number one marine debris item collected globally now.



CYS24

Clean Your Streams Challenge Award Winners

Most Marine Debris Collected

General:

Side Cut Kick-off, Peter May Ditch

Collegiate:

University of Toledo Engineers without Borders

Youth:

Troop 62

Most Teams per Organization

Toledo FFA

Honorable Mention:

Ottawa Hills National Honor Society

Most Organization Spirit

Toledo ZooTeens

Most Cigarette Butts Found

Toledo Environmental Services

Most Creative Team Photo

Public: Jenkins and Huber Middlegrounds Team

Youth: Whitmer Science and Environmental Club

Ninja Photo Contest (Most Safety Gear on)

We wanted to recognize those CYS 24 volunteers that maximized safety for the others in their groups by wearing masks and transforming into waterway ninjas for the day.

Public:

Trout Unlimited Fallen Timbers Chapter

Collegiate:

UT Engineers without Borders

Youth:

Toledo School for the Arts; Whitmer Science and Environmental Club

CYS Planning Team:

Marilyn DuFour, Tim Niederkorn, Randy Nissen, Rick Bryan, Kristin Jenkins, Andrea Beard, Don Nelson, Lauren Rush, Bob Neubert, Ariya Fathi and Kevin Laughlin

*Thank you for removing
trash from our waterways!
Especially in a year when we
had to re-think everything,
except our mission.*

Total Stats since 1997:
360,882 pounds removed
14,407 volunteers



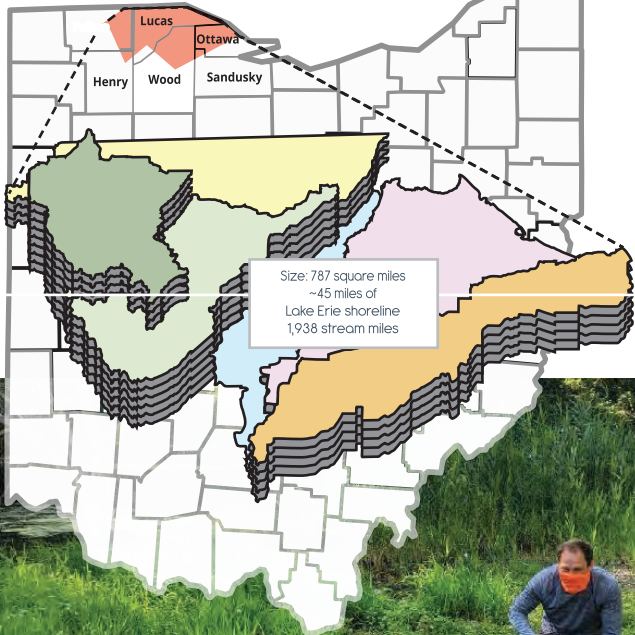
Maumee Area Of Concern Advisory Committee [MAAC]

Facilitating Organization



PCS is the local facilitating organization for the Maumee Area of Concern (AOC) and coordinates the MAAC. The MAAC works through partnerships and planning to find and develop fundable projects that lead to removing Beneficial Use Impairments (BUIs) within the Maumee Area of Concern. The MAAC facilitates partnership-building and collaboration in watershed planning and project development. It also assists partners with implementations of projects and raises awareness of AOC issues within the community. PCS specifically addresses BUI 11 (Degradation of Aesthetics) by leading small and large-scale cleanups to remove marine debris.

Maumee AOC Metrics



Coming together from a distance to educate and facilitate change

- o 4 Virtual Presentations
- o Virtual movie showing for the Maumee Area of Concern
- o 3 Virtual Scout workshops with stream clean-up service hours
- o 250 thank you bags, with educational material, for Clean Your Streams

Education & Outreach Programs



2020 Donors



Grants

Anonymous Foundation
Greater Toledo Community Foundation
NOAA
Ohio EPA – AOC Support Grant
The Nature Conservancy

\$5000 and Above

O-I Charities Foundation

\$2,501 – \$4,999

Northwest Ohio Community Shares
Lucas County Storm Water Utility

\$1,000 – \$2,500

City of Oregon
City of Toledo
First Solar
Kwest Group

\$500 – \$999

Bass Pro Shops and Cabela's Outdoor Fund
Boy Scouts of America – Erie Shores Council
Civil and Environmental Consultants, Inc.
Fallen Timbers Trout Unlimited
Hull & Associates, Inc.
Metroparks of the Toledo Area
Tetra Tech, Inc.

\$250 – \$499

Andersons, Inc.
Community Foundation for SEMI
Johns Manville
Mannik & Smith Group, Inc. (The)
Monroe St United Methodist Church
OmniSource

In-Kind

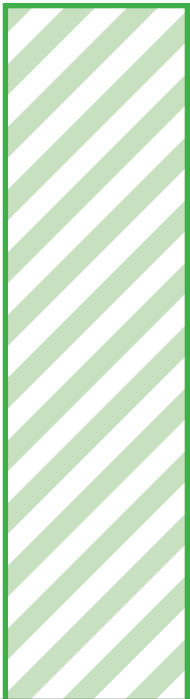
Bridgestone's Tires4ward Program
Republic Services

To protect privacy, we choose not to list individual donations, but we are grateful to all the people who support our mission of clean, clear, and safe water. Your generosity shows us that our community cares about water quality and we will use your gifts considerately to ensure that we can make the most impact with them.

Where the water levels are falling this year.

Income:

\$177,337



Maumee RAP (restricted):

\$18,385



PCS Savings:

\$41,065



Expenses:

\$156,654

Financials



Clean Streams Partner Award

Randy Nissen



“ I’m very happy to be involved
with CYS & hope it will continue.
Many of my students would do it
even if they don’t have to”

- o Involved in CYS since 2010 with Toledo Public Schools
- o Teacher for 35 years. Retired now & still involved!
- o Has gotten hundreds of students involved.

Thank you for the connection to Earnest Brew Works –
also a great donor & supplied gallons of hand sanitizer to
keep everyone healthy this year!

Together or apart, working
to make a difference.

Board of Directors

Bob Neubert (President) – Lucas County Engineer’s Office
Andrew Curran (Vice President) – Boy Scouts of America
Joan King (Treasurer) – Citizen
Kyle Spicer (Secretary) – Citizen
Denise Fonner – Citizen
Chris Smalley – Metroparks of the Toledo Area
Bill Hoefflin – Wood County Park District
Bill Buri – Pexco Packaging

PCS Staff

Kris Patterson – Executive Director
Dan LaCerva – Program Coordinator
Cassandra Prchlik – Outreach & Communications
Amanda Kovach – Watershed Coordinator

Board of Directors – PCS Staff





How to Support PCS

It's your environment, make a positive impact.

Become a Partner of PCS

Receive monthly e-newsletter
Special invitations to events
Information about our programs

partnersforcleanstreams.org/membership

Volunteer with PCS

- o Storm Drain Marking
- o Get the Lead Out
- o CYS 365
- o Clean Your Streams Day
- o Educational Outreach Opportunities

partnersforcleanstreams.org/volunteer

Donate to PCS

Your financial contribution supports us in our mission of securing clean, clear, and safe water in our community

partnersforcleanstreams.org/give

How to Give

o Kroger Community Rewards

Sign up for Kroger Community Rewards with your Kroger Plus Card and choose PCS (#WE625)

o AmazonSmile

Can be linked to PCS with your Amazon Account

o Northwest Ohio Community Shares

Ask your employer about participating in this program, where a small portion of your paycheck goes directly to support local non-profits, such as PCS!

o NEW: Are you a Thrivent customer?

You can direct dividends and/or directed donations to us. We're a recognized charity by Thrivent. Can we help you with an idea for a Thrivent Action Team?

Through it all, we were there.
Diverted & determined!

Partners for Clean Streams Inc. is striving for abundant open space and a high quality natural environment; adequate floodwater storage capacities and flourishing wildlife; stakeholders who take local ownership in their resources; and rivers, streams and lakes that are clean, clear and safe.

Photo Credits:

Dawn Fenicle

Kristin Jenkins

Denise Fonner

Rick Bryan

Jeff McKenzie

Leah Mokri

Troop 200

Kimberly Overmyer-Preston

UT Engineers Without Borders

Fallen Timbers Trout Unlimited


Andrea Bach

PCS Staff

Drive Creative Marketing


U.S. EPA-ORD



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