



Patrick Lawrence, Ph.D.
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Get the Lead Out Still in Progress

It's not too late to sign up for Get the Lead Out. Our waterways are visited by fishermen from all over, and sometimes unwanted debris is left behind, including fishing line, bobbers, hooks, lures and lead weights. That debris can harm local wildlife and needs to be "fished" out. We're looking for teams of volunteers to help.

To sign up, call 419-874-0727.

Lend Us Your Green Thumb!

We will be collecting native plants and seeds from mid-August to mid-September for the Camp Miakonda project site.

Like to volunteer? To sign up, call 419-874-0727

Site Captains Needed for Clean Your Streams Day 2011

Clean Your Streams Day, Saturday, Sept. 17, 2011, is in the planning stages, and we need site captains for our seven kickoff locations. Site captains help find volunteers and coordinate the effort at each site — an important job requiring a dedicated volunteer. Is that you?

[Registration is now open! Register yourself or your group today.](#)

Get involved with your friends and family. Last year nearly 23,000 pounds of debris were cleaned from local waterways. Clean Your Streams is part of a worldwide volunteer movement called International Coastal Cleanup that works to capture litter before it ends up in the ocean.

[Click to learn more about the International Coastal Cleanup.](#)

Prizes and Supplies Needed: If any companies or organizations would like to donate prizes or supplies, we are looking for donations now.

Wish list:

- 25 boxes heavy-duty garbage bags
- 25 fanny packs or small shoulder packs (for first aid supplies in the field)
- Raffle prizes for volunteer appreciation, such as gift cards to eateries, gas stations, events, services
- Baskets of goodies would be greatly appreciated (and recognized!). Ask your favorite restaurant or promote your business

Please let our office know if you have anything to donate or find a willing business!

Clean Your Streams Day Can Change Your Life — And Your Major

Bryan Twitchell, currently an intern with Partners for Clean Streams, hadn't always planned to major in Environmental Sciences.

"I was planning to be a mechanical engineer, but the fire wasn't there," he said.

Bryan reflected on a moment at a Clean Your Streams Event and it informed his future; he enrolled at Cleveland State University in the environmental sciences program. He had been a volunteer with PCS for 10 years prior to this, but the real impact of the event didn't hit him for many years.

"I mainly went because it had become something of a tradition," he explained. But one event during a cleanup changed his mind. "The group I was leading found a tree fallen across the river, and we spent the entire event picking up garbage just from that spot. I began to realize that while what I was doing was certainly important, the garbage always came back, year after year. I started to feel a sense of ownership towards the areas I cleaned."

At first, the various classes preparing him to take on the world's pollution woes began to make him doubt the ability to change the trajectory of the planet.

"I realized that I was not going to be able to achieve my goal of restoring the local watersheds in my lifetime, and this realization hit me hard," Bryan said. By chance, Bryan spent some time in a Christian-Anarchist commune, and found new inspiration to strive for change. "While I didn't agree with many of their political beliefs, their ideals of focusing on the community around them rather than on their own comfort were ideals that I felt that I could get behind."

So, again this year, Bryan's face is one of the many seen on Clean Your Streams Day. Will yours be one as well?

If you have a similar story about CYS or another environmental moment that changed your life, share it on our [Facebook](#) page and maybe you'll see it in a future edition of this newsletter.

Like us? Do you really Like us?

If you are on Facebook, and have yet to [Like](#) our page, please do so. Additional tips and information, as well as news, videos and photos are posted weekly, if not more often. You can like the page by clicking the button below - it's just that easy.

If you already like us on [Facebook](#), please suggest us to your [Facebook](#) friends.

Water Saving Tip

Protect the splendid biodiversity of our area by placing native plants in your garden. Biodiversity (a variety of different species) is important to the health of the ecosystem. Diverse plant populations are less susceptible to devastation by disease and can support a wider range of wildlife, because they are best adapted to our local climate and soil types. For more information on selecting and caring for native plants, visit the [Partners for Clean Streams publications page](#).

Every drop in the bucket improves
water quality.

Can you donate even \$5 this month? We can track the amount
you give over the course of the year! [Donate now!](#)



P.O. Box 203 | Perrysburg, Ohio 43552 | Phone: 419-874-0727 | PartnersForCleanStreams.org



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