

# 27TH ANNUAL CLEAN YOUR STREAMS SEPTEMBER 30, 2023



Partners  
for  
Clean  
Streams

— 27 years of —  
clean your  
streams

Photos: A. Beard, M. DeSanto, H. Goucher, Z. Hayes, G. Liegel, J. MacKenzie, Ohio EPA, R. Nissen, PCS Staff, UT Environmental Law Society



## 27th Annual Clean Your Streams

Partners for Clean Streams (PCS) and community partners hosted the 27th Annual Clean Your Streams Day on Saturday, September 30, 2023. For the fourth year, volunteers also had the option to participate in a Remote Kickoff, cleaning a waterway site at a time and location of their choosing.

Across both the in-person and remote kickoffs, 723 volunteers removed 14,957 pounds of trash from 70 sites along 37 river miles of Northwest Ohio's rivers, streams, creeks, and ditches.

## What is Clean Your Streams?

Clean Your Streams (CYS) is a watershed cleanup program where volunteers remove trash and record citizen science data on the items they collect. CYS is the largest cleanup in Ohio that contributes marine debris data to the International Coastal Cleanup (ICC) database. Volunteers impact watersheds across our region, including the Ottawa River, Swan Creek, Maumee River, and Maumee Bay tributaries. Over the past 27 years of CYS, more than 16,250 volunteers have removed over 397,600 pounds of marine debris.

## CYS 27 Sponsors

**Grant Funder:** Greater Toledo Community Foundation Sisters of St. Francis Donor Advised Fund

**Community Partner:** O-I Charities Foundation

**Underwriters:** The Andersons, Arcadis, City of Oregon, City of Toledo Environmental Services, First Solar, Jones & Henry Engineers, Kwest Group, Lucas County Storm Water Utility, NSG Glass North America, OmniSource, University of Toledo

**Contributors:** Civil & Environmental Consultants, Heritage Environmental Services, Lowes, Rotary Club of Perrysburg, Tetra Tech, Verdantas

**Supporters:** The Mannik & Smith Group, Monroe St. UMC, Oak Openings Region Conservancy



## Results by Kickoff

	Volunteers	Sites	Pounds of marine debris
Remote Kickoff.....	179	19	3,359
Side Cut Metropark Kickoff.....	163	17	3,221
Toledo Early College Kickoff.....	100	2	1,005
Oregon Kickoff.....	84	7	1,534
Glass City Metropark Kickoff.....	48	4	1,062
Monroe St. UMC Kickoff.....	37	5	2,358
Perrysburg Kickoff.....	35	6	926
University of Toledo Kickoff.....	32	3	1,020
Secor Metropark Kickoff.....	31	7	472
Volunteer appreciation picnic.....	14	-	-
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>723</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>14,957</b>

## Strange Items Found

Message in a bottle, turtle-shaped sandbox, hot tub cover, bar stool, bowling ball, coffee table, plastic Christmas tree, inner tube full of bricks, pile of 8 sofa cushions

## Challenge Awards

### Youth Challenge Awards

#### Most Volunteers

- 1 Toledo Early College HS
- 2 Northwood BSA Pack 244
- 3 BSA Troop 66

#### Awesome Effort

- 1 Whitmer Sci. and Enviro. Club
- 2 BSA Troop 66
- 3 BSA Pack 214

#### Battle of the Bags

- 1 Toledo Early College HS
- 2 BSA Troop 66
- 3 Toledo ZOOTEens

### Participating Collegiate Groups

BGSU Campus Beautification  
UT Clean Water for the World  
UT Engineering Leadership Institute  
UT Environmental Law Society  
UT National Society of Black Engineers  
UT Phi Sigma Rho  
UT Women's Lacrosse

### River Partner Certification

#### River Guardian (30-49 volunteers)

The Andersons, Inc.

#### Stream Protector (10-29 volunteers)

Civil & Environmental Consultants  
First Solar, Inc.  
Heritage Environmental Services  
NSG Glass North America  
Ohio EPA  
Toledo Department of Public Utilities  
Toledo FFA  
Verdantas

#### Creek Crusader (1-9 volunteers)

Arcadis  
Fort Industry Chapter - DotAR  
Lowes  
Racing for Recovery  
U.S. Coast Guard  
Vacation Daze with Cassie

#### Special Shoutout: Tire Champions

Toledo ZOOTEens, for removing 33 tires!

## About Partners for Clean Streams

PCS is a Northwest Ohio-based nonprofit working with local and state governments, schools, civic organizations, and other community groups to deliver a wide range of programs, projects, and outreach efforts to keep our water clear, clean, and safe. To learn more, visit us at [PartnersForCleanStreams.org](http://PartnersForCleanStreams.org) and follow @PCSMaumee on social media.