

All Together Now...



*Partners
for Clean
Streams*

2022 Annual Report

We made a difference, together.

After two years of virtual meetings and an emphasis on clean-on-your-own volunteering, how good it feels to be together again!

Building on last year's adaptations, the PCS team continued to promote Clean Your Streams 365 and our Remote Kickoff Week leading up to Clean Your Streams Day in 2022. However, we also began to return to larger gatherings for in-person programming, outreach, and education, very glad to be safely in shared space with our community again.

Compared to last year, we were able to offer more Get the Lead Out sessions, more Storm Drain Marking sessions, and many more staff-lead CYS 365 clean-ups. Clean Your Streams Day participation flourished with 173 more volunteers than last year. Across all our clean-up programs, PCS volunteers removed more than twice as much Northwest Ohio marine debris in 2022 than 2021, with our 2022 total weighing in at 26,348 pounds. What an incredible feat!

We also had a busy year supporting community projects and partnerships. These included educational outreach and clean-ups alongside the City of Toledo's Trash Trappers, offering stewardship opportunities for TPS students in the UT Lake Erie Center's "Floating Laboratory on Watershed Science" program, and kicking off our efforts coordinating volunteer water monitoring in our corner of the Western Lake Erie basin with "Community Water Action in Toledo." As we've done since our founding, we also continued our leadership of the Maumee AOC Advisory Committee and its work.

Our ability to adapt during a time of change are only possible through the generosity of our donors, volunteers, and community partners. I'm proud to share the results of our 2022 programs and projects from our year spent in community with you, our partners.



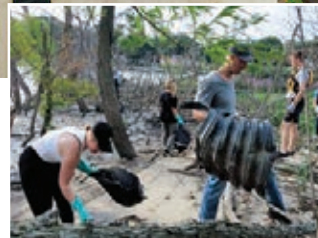
Total 2022 Impact

- PCS volunteers: 1,131
- Pounds of marine debris removed: 26,348
- Waterway clean-ups: 121
- River miles cleaned: 45
- Storm drains marked: 524
- Fishing line recycling bins in-use: 36
- Community tabling events: 10
- Educational presentations for youth and adults: 7



Clean Your Streams 365 Stats

- 53 clean-ups
- 406 volunteers
- 12,423 pounds of debris removed
- 14.6 river miles covered



Clean Your Streams 365

- As the name implies, this program runs all year! Volunteers choose a time and location to remove marine debris throughout NW Ohio waterways.
- Clean-ups can be PCS staff-led or clean-on-your-own. Participants track the items they remove as citizen scientists, using either data cards or the Clean Swell app, both developed by the Ocean Conservancy.
- Although most clean-ups are land-based, we also facilitated 2 paddle clean-ups this year with Metroparks Toledo where volunteers used canoes to reach otherwise inaccessible marine debris on the Maumee River.
- This year, just over ¾ of CYS 365 volunteers participated in staff-lead clean-ups, and we were able to focus our efforts on tackling waterway sites with the greatest need. All told, CYS 365 volunteers removed more than three times as many pounds of marine debris in 2022 compared to 2021.

2022 marked the 18th year of Get the Lead Out

- These PCS staff-led marine debris clean-ups focus on fishing line, lures, hooks, and lead sinkers in the Maumee River.
- Programs are held throughout the summer when Maumee River water levels are lower in order to access shoreline where fishing debris gets tangled.
- This year, the average GLO clean-up saw volunteers removing about 3 pounds of fishing line alone. At one GLO clean-up along with Maumee Towpath, volunteers removed ten full pounds of fishing line.
- Lures and lead sinkers can be mistaken for food by animals. Fishing debris removed during these programs reduces the risk of animal entanglement and injury.



Get the Lead Out Stats

- 6 clean-ups
- 73 volunteers
- 149 pounds removed (including both trash and fishing line)
- 1.35 river miles covered



26th Annual Clean Your Streams

- 62 sites cleaned
- 652 volunteers
- 13,595 pounds of debris removed
- 29.24 river miles covered



26th Annual Clean Your Streams

- On Saturday, September 24th, Partners for Clean Streams hosted our largest program focused on marine debris removal, awareness, and education. Our volunteer numbers continued to rebound from the past two years' interruptions. Clean Your Streams Day in 2022 had 173 more volunteers, plus half a ton more marine debris was removed than in 2021!
- We celebrated our 3rd year of hosting a Remote Kickoff during the week leading up to Clean Your Streams Day, where participants had the option to clean-on-their-own at a time and location of their choosing.
- Many thanks to the CYS planning team: Andrea Beard, Rick Bryan, Abigail Calmes, Marilyn DuFour, Ariya Fathi, Bob Neubert, Tim Niederkorn, Lauren Rush, Zach Shepler, and Jon Zabowski



Youth Challenge Winners

Most Volunteers

- 1st Toledo Early College HS
- 2nd BSA Troop 66
- 3rd Whitmer Science and Environmental Club

Battle of the Bags (Most pounds per group)

- 1st Toledo Early College HS
- 2nd Toledo ZOOTEENS
- 3rd BSA Troop 66

Awesome Effort (Most pounds per person)

- 1st Toledo ZOOTEENS
- 2nd BSA Troop 66
- 3rd BSA Troop 62

Collegiate Challenge Winners

Most Volunteers

- 1st UT Environmental Law Society
- 2nd UT Engineering Council (UTEC) with Clean Water for the World
- 3rd UT Phi Sigma Rho

Battle of the Bags

- 1st UT Environmental Law Society
- 2nd BGSU Thompson Scholars
- 3rd UT Phi Sigma Rho

Awesome Effort

- 1st UT Environmental Law Society
- 2nd UT Engineering Council (UTEC) with Clean Water for the World
- 3rd UT Phi Sigma Rho

Clean Your Streams Day River Partners

Certification (30-49 volunteers)

- River Guardian
- First Solar, Inc.

Stream Protector (10-29 volunteers)

- Civil & Environmental Consultants
- Monroe St. United Methodist Church
- NSG Glass North America
- Ohio EPA Northwest District Office
- City of Toledo Division of Environmental Services
- Verdantas (formerly Hull and Associates)

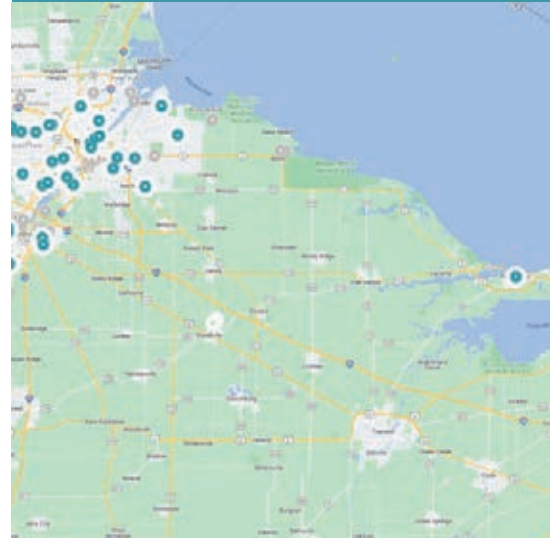
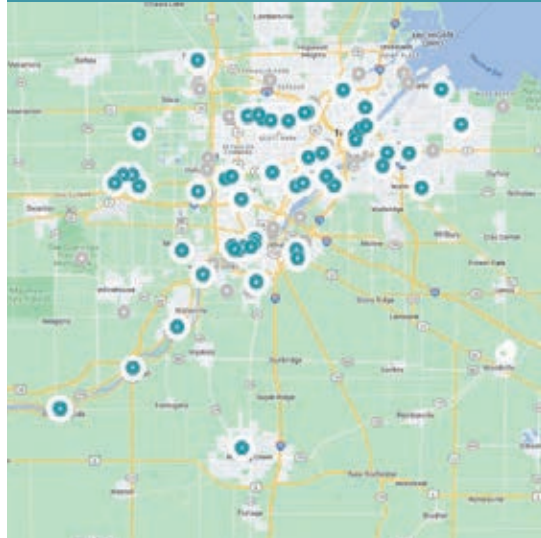
Creek Crusader (1-10 volunteers)

- Heritage Environmental Services
- Jones & Henry Engineers



Peculiar items found:

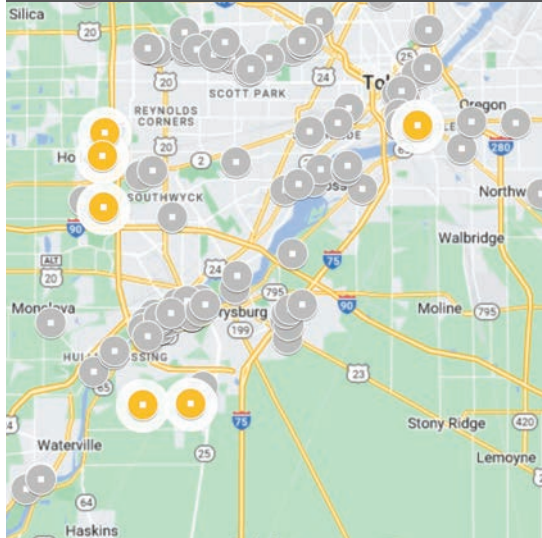
Crashed drone, toilet, rubber ducky with a rainbow unicorn mane, fire extinguisher, plastic succulent plants, air mattress, circular saw, kitchen playset, and five e-bikes





Storm Drain Marking Stats

- 6 locations
- 84 volunteers
- 548 drains marked
- 1,358 educational door tags distributed



Storm Drain Marking

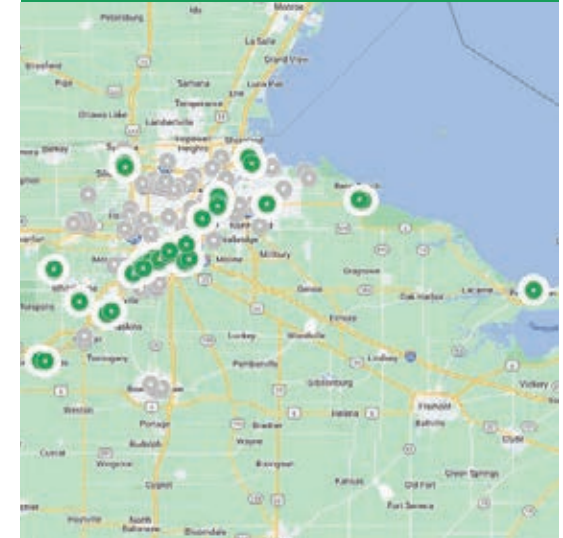
- Volunteers label storm drains with stenciled paint or medallions to prevent improper dumping and blocking drains.
- PCS provided supplies and staff support for 2 "Citizenship in the Community" Scout merit badge days of service.
- PCS also provided training and supplies for 4 storm drain marking projects with Toledo Public Schools and one project with Hull Prairie Intermediate School's environmental club.

Reel In and Recycle

- Fishing line recycling bins encourage anglers to responsibly recreate along our rivers.
- Regional partners install fishing line recycling bins, including Metroparks Toledo, Wood County Park District, the City of Toledo, the City of Perrysburg, and others.
- Volunteers have the option to sponsor a bin and/or adopt a bin by agreeing to clean and maintain it.
- Thank you to our new and returning fishing line recycling bin sponsors!



Total number of bins in use around Northwest Ohio: 36





Green Team Recycled

- 2 dumpsters of cardboard
- 7 rolling totes of glass bottles
- Dozens of bags of plastic bottles and plastic overwrap
- 5 gallon bucket of energy gel packs



Mercy Health Glass City Marathon Green Team

- This year, a big step to be especially proud of was replacing plastic cups with compostable cups at all water stops along the race course.
- PCS and Keep Toledo-Lucas County Beautiful serve as sustainability advisors for the Mercy Health Glass City Marathon and the Savage 5k, focused on diverting waste from landfills, preventing marine debris from entering the Ottawa River, coordinating recycling and composting, and making more sustainable choices during purchasing.
- This year, a big step to be especially proud of was replacing plastic cups with compostable cups at all water stops along the race course.

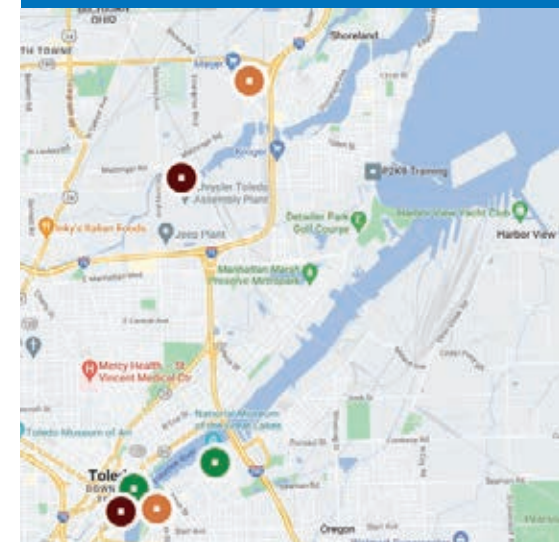
Projects & Partnership Highlights

City of Toledo Trash Free Waters

- Beginning in 2021, the City of Toledo led "Trash Trappers" through the EPA's Trash Free Waters grant to install trash capture devices in area waterways. PCS is one of several community organizations providing education and hosting volunteer clean-ups to raise awareness about these devices.
- In 2021, PCS staff researched and designed 7 educational postcards to teach about trash trapping devices in our waterways. This year, we focused on distributing our educational materials throughout the community.
- PCS staff also facilitated 12 marine debris clean-ups in the Trash Trappers' focus areas and helped on two educational outreach pop-up meetings.
- Installed trash trap devices change seasonally and year-to-year.

Types of Trash Traps

- Sea Bin
- Brute Bin
- Net & Boom



Projects & Partnership Highlights

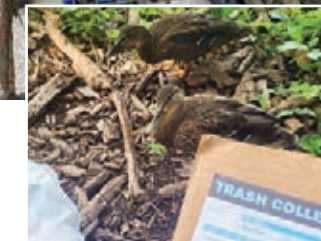
- Partnered with UT, Lucas SWCD and the City of Toledo
- Training and supplies 2 SDM programs with teachers
- Kits loaned for 5 CYS365 clean-ups



Maumee River Floating Laboratory on Watershed Science

F.L.O.W.S

- This year, PCS staff provided training and supplies for teachers to lead two storm drain marking workshops, plus five Clean Your Streams 365 clean-ups.
- This program is better known as Maumee River F.L.O.W.S.!
- In 2021, University of Toledo's Lake Erie Center was awarded a NOAA Bay Watershed Education and Training grant for projects related to outdoor, hands-on environmental science.
- Teachers accepted into the program received special training on Maumee River geography, ecology, and water sampling at a summer workshop and on a special science cruise aboard the Sandpiper tour boat.
- PCS and partner organizations provided staff support for science cruises on the Sandpiper. Students had the opportunity to test water chemistry, as well as water biology, sampling river sediment for macroinvertebrates and the water column for zooplankton. PCS staff talked about microplastics and marine debris.



Partners for Clean Streams

Other ways to give:

- **Kroger Community Rewards** – Sign up for Kroger Community Rewards with your Kroger Plus Card and choose PCS (#WE625)
- **Northwest Ohio Community Shares** – Ask your employer about participating in this program, where a small portion of your paycheck goes to support local non-profits and you can designate PCS.
- **Thrivent** – PCS is a recognized charity by Thrivent. You can direct dividends and/or directed donations to PCS. Can we help you with an idea for a Thrivent Action Team?

Projects & Partnership Highlights

Public Education Stats

- Public tabling events: 10
- Youth/classroom presentations: 3
- Adult/continuing education presentations: 4



Community Water Action in Toledo (CWAT)

- This multi-agency program focuses on streamlining volunteer water quality monitoring in western Lake Erie. Participating organizations will share equipment, training resources, and align sampling protocols.
- Facilitated by PCS, other local partners include Metroparks Toledo, TMACOG, the Toledo Zoo, and Rotary Club of Toledo. Cleveland Water Alliance has provided local partners with additional sampling equipment and guidance. CWAT is Northwest Ohio’s hub for a Lake Erie region-wide effort of the Lake Erie Volunteer Science Network, led by Cleveland Water Alliance.
- Volunteer water sampling begins next year in 2023!

Public Education and Outreach

- From EcoFest in early April, to being the Toledo Night Market’s featured nonprofit in August, to Sturgeon Fest in October, PCS participated in 10 tabling events in 2022.
- PCS staff also gave 3 youth classroom presentations and 4 adult-audience presentations on water stewardship.
- PCS shared education around marine debris, water quality, sustainable water use, and shared updates and events from our many community partners on social media throughout the year.

Facilitating organization for the Maumee Area of Concern

Since 2007, PCS has been designated by the state as the local facilitating organization for the Maumee Area of Concern (AOC) and coordinates the Maumee Area of Concern Advisory Committee (MAAC).

The U.S.-Canada Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement defines AOCs as “geographic areas [...] where significant impairment of beneficial uses has occurred as a result of human activities at the local level.” In short, an AOC is a place that has experienced environmental harm, and where many agencies and local partners are stepping in to help!

Beneficial use impairments, or BUIs, are specific types of environmental harm. Some example BUIs include “loss of fish and wildlife habitat,” “beach closings,” and “eutrophication or undesirable algae.” Amendments to the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement lists 14 types of BUIs.

A major milestone achieved in 2022 was the removal of BUI 1, Restrictions on Fish and Wildlife Consumption. This brings the Maumee AOC’s BUIs down to 8 of our previous 10 BUIs.

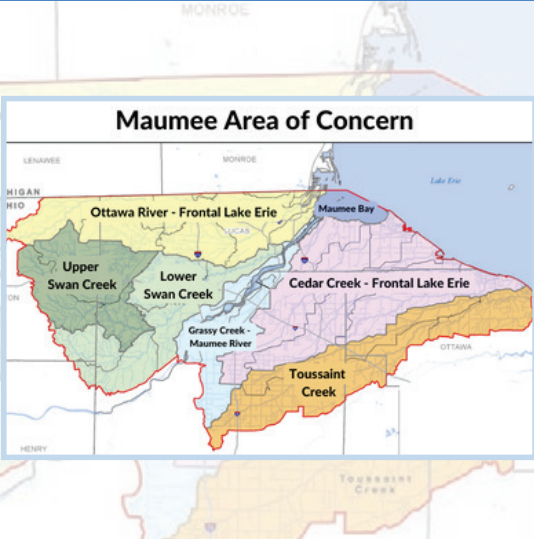
The MAAC works through partnerships and planning to find and develop fundable projects that lead to removing BUIs from the Maumee AOC. The MAAC also assists partners with project implementation and raises awareness of AOC issues within the community.

We support the MAAC as the state-designated Facilitating Organization.

Additionally, PCS’s marine debris removal and prevention programs help address BUI 11, Degradation of Aesthetics. Clean Your Streams grew out of the need to address this BUI.



- Removal of BUI 1, Restrictions on Fish and Wildlife Consumption
- Maumee AOC now has 8 of the 14 BUIs



2022 Donors



Grant Support

- Anonymous Foundation
- Greater Toledo Community Foundation
- NOAA Bay Watershed Education and Training (BWET), through UT subaward
- Ohio EPA Areas of Concern Support, Great Lakes Restoration Initiative
- Ocean Conservancy's #TeamSeas initiative
- Country Garden Club of Perrysburg
- Sisters of St. Francis Donor Advised Fund through the Greater Toledo Community Foundation
- US EPA Trash Free Waters, through City of Toledo subaward

\$5000 and Above

- Lucas County Storm Water Utility
- O-I Charities Foundation

\$2,500-\$4,999

- BP
- First Solar
- University of Toledo

\$1,000-\$2,500

- Bass Pro Shops and Cabela's Outdoor Fund
- City of Oregon
- City of Toledo
- Kwest Group
- Northwest Ohio Community Shares
- NSG Glass North America
- OmniSource
- Toledo RoadRunners Club

\$500-\$999

- The Andersons, Inc.
- Civil and Environmental Consultants, Inc.
- Fallen Timbers Chapter, Trout Unlimited
- First Energy Foundation
- Heritage Environmental Services
- Tetra Tech, Inc.
- Verdantas (formerly Hull and Associates)

\$250 - \$499

- Oak Openings Region Conservancy
- Mannik & Smith Group, Inc.
- Monroe Street United Methodist Church

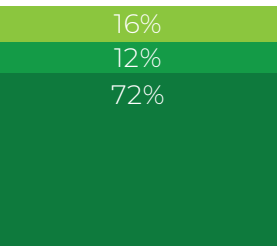
In-Kind

- City of Perrysburg
- Metroparks Toledo

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. 100% of our Board members make a financial contribution each year.

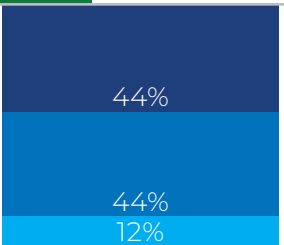
Income - \$299,486

Grants - \$215,403
Reserves - \$37,300
Donations/Sponsorships - \$46,783



Expenses - \$247,199

Personnel - \$107,763
Contractual - \$108,899
Operations/Supplies - \$30,537

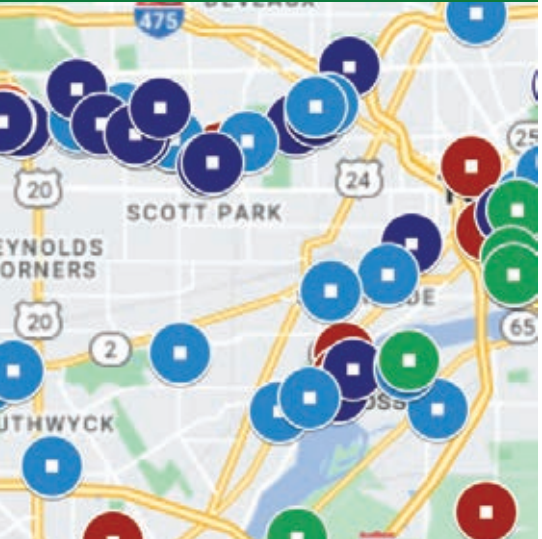


We are proud to continue prudently managing resources, successfully funding our programs and projects through both long-standing grant support and new grants in 2022, including support of the Sisters of St. Francis Donor Advised Fund, and the Greater Toledo Community Foundation's grant funding for Community Water Action in Toledo. Some grant funds received in 2022 will be used in 2023. As of December 31, PCS had \$107,715 in cash balances, with about 70% of that restricted for grants that continue into 2023. PCS is also the fiscal agent for the Maumee RAP Supplemental Environmental Project restricted fund that has \$18,382.

Using in-kind resources, we lower our expenses so that individual donations and sponsorships stretch even farther. We continue to secure small grants, including \$5,500 from the Ocean Conservancy's Project #TeamSeas project supporting 2022 clean-ups, and to diversify our funding through donations, sponsorships, and building relationships with other organizations.



Using in-kind resources, we lower our expenses so that individual donations and sponsorships stretch even farther.





PCS Annual Award

Since 2007, we have recognized many dedicated individuals working hard to keep our waters clear, clean, and safe.

Environmental Stewardship and Involvement Award

This award was created by the PCS Board of Directors in 2007 to honor exceptional individuals and/or organizations in our community that work to improve our rivers and streams.

This year, the Board of Directors selected Jeffery MacKenzie!



Mr. Jeff MacKenzie has been a teacher with Washington Local schools since 1998. In 2009, he was named the Lucas Soil and Water Conservation District Educator of the Year. During his time at Whitmer, Jeff also worked part time for 13 years as a naturalist and interpretive guide at Metroparks Toledo. Currently, Jeff also works part time for the Toledo Zoo, where he has been employed for the past 12 years. At the Zoo he works at overnight programs for scouts and other groups, as well as animal handling demos and behind the scene tours. Jeff is working with the Toledo Zoo's Project Prairie to install prairies at Whitmer High School (the first high school to collaborate on this project) as well as ALL of the elementary schools in Washington Local Schools. Jeff will be working this summer to develop high school curriculum not only for his use at Whitmer, but also for other high schools to use as they become a part of Project Prairie in the future.

Jeff has been a Clean Your Streams group leader since 2002, participating in countless CYS Day and CYS 365 clean-ups. He began bringing students to CYS as an FFA advisor while teaching an environmental systems career class, and continued as the advisor to the Whitmer Science and Environmental Club. Over the years, Jeff's students consistently place in CYS Youth Challenge Competitions.

Over the years, Jeff has displayed incredible willingness to support Partners for Clean Streams in whatever way we ask: trying out new equipment or a new app or being available with his students for a National Geographic photographer or documentary videographer, and much more. It is with great pride that we recognize and congratulate Jeff MacKenzie.

Past Winners

- 2007 – Sue Horvath
- 2008 – John Jaeger
- 2009 – Marilyn DuFour
- 2010 – Tom Henry
- 2011 – Steve Pollick & Matt Horvat
- 2012 – Terry Shankland
- 2013 – Cherie Blair
- 2014 – Kurt Erichsen
- 2015 – Bob Neubert
- 2016 – Todd Crail
- 2017 – Dr. Patrick Lawrence
- 2018 – Bill Davis
- 2019 – Denise Fonner & Joan King
- 2020 – Randy Nissen
- 2021 – Jamie Kochensparger

2022
Winner
Jeffery MacKenzie





Individual Membership

\$15 – student/senior
 \$25 – individual
 \$35 – family
 \$50 – contributor
 \$100 – conservator
 \$250+ – preservationist

Organizational Membership

\$100 – patron
 \$200 – sustaining
 \$350 – supporter
 \$500 – contributor
 \$1000 – conservator
 \$2500+ – preservationist

Support PCS!

Get Involved

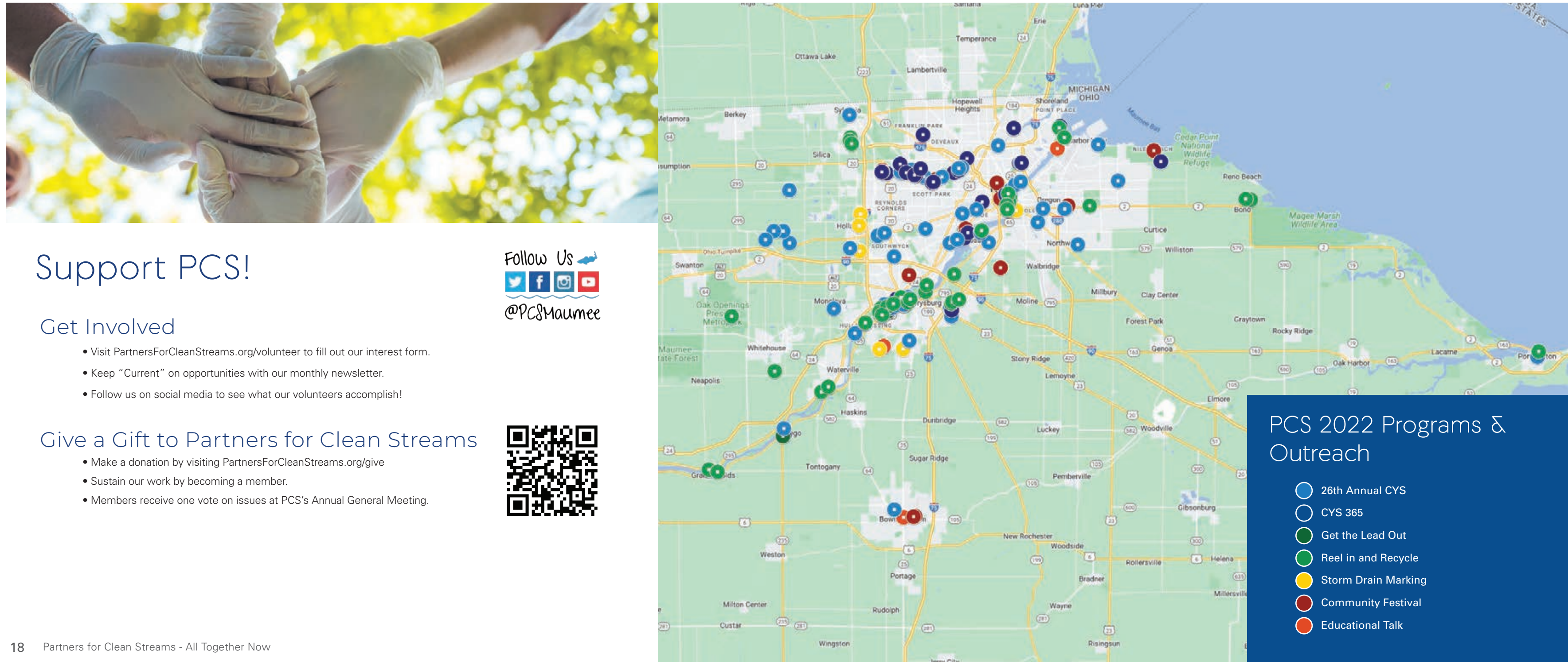
- Visit PartnersForCleanStreams.org/volunteer to fill out our interest form.
- Keep “Current” on opportunities with our monthly newsletter.
- Follow us on social media to see what our volunteers accomplish!

Give a Gift to Partners for Clean Streams

- Make a donation by visiting PartnersForCleanStreams.org/give
- Sustain our work by becoming a member.
- Members receive one vote on issues at PCS’s Annual General Meeting.

Follow Us

 @PCSMaumee





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Andrew Curran - Vice President
Joan King - Treasurer
Randy Nissen - Secretary
Amy Boros - Member
Bill Buri - Member
Marilyn DuFour - Member
Denise Fonner - Member
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Liv Simkins Bullock - Program Coordinator
Katarina Kieffer - Water Monitoring Coordinator Intern
Kayla Kirkpatrick - Program Intern

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