

# Partners for Clean Streams

Highlights of our 2013 Success in the Maumee AOC

By Kris Patterson, Executive Director

Thank you, Davey Resource Group, for the wonderful breakfast!

### PCS and Maumee RAP Committee





- \* Formed in 2007 grew out of the Maumee RAP Program
- \* A separate 501(c)3 non-profit community organization
- \* Supports local and regional water quality improvements
- \* Maumee RAP Committee is nestled in PCS organization and works side-by-side with State and Federal RAP program

PCS 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 clear, clean and safe.

# 11th Annual Youth Patch Day Workshop

### Sunday, March 3, 2013

- \* 90 Children
- \* 13 adults
- \* 103 patches were given
- \* Topics included various water conservation subjects, such as water gardens, recycling, waste treatment, water cycle and agriculture
- \* Training for Storm Drain Marking
- Each participant received a bag of educational activities



# Storm Drain Marking

### Saturday, April 27, 2013

- \* In conjunction with Global Youth Service Day
- \* 369 catch basins were painted and 1,010 homes received educational door hangers throughout 8 jurisdictions with 95 participants
- \* Jurisdictions included Waterville, Oregon, Rossford, Northwood, Ottawa Hills, Holland, Genoa and Sylvania







### 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Get the Lead Out

- \* 39.7 pounds of lead were collected
- \* A total of 76 volunteers including Bass Pro Shop, Boy Scout Pack 43, Toledo ZooTeens, Ft. Meigs YMCA Leaders Club, YWCA TOPS
- \* In 7 private and 2 public outings, volunteers covered 3 miles of the banks of the Maumee River
- \* GLO was in local news encouraging volunteers to come out to the event





# 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Clean Your Streams Day

#### Saturday, September 21, 2013

- № 941 volunteers participated
- \* Removed 16,366 pounds of trash with 914 trash bags and 96.5 tires
- \* Cleaned at 57 sites, 33 miles of stream, and river banks in 3 watersheds
- \* Introduced #CYS 17 via Twitter
- \* Interesting & Unusual finds include: porcelain frog, hair weave, pink bike tire, sewing machine, shot gun shells, worm bait containers (40), sled, butter knife, child's swing, EKG pad, wedding veil, cash register, dream catcher, toilet float, hockey stick, light saber, dental retainer, suitcase and much more



Camp Miakonda and
Ottawa River Restoration Completion

\$1.35 Million GLRI grant from US EPA – Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI)

- \* Goals of restoration project:
  - \* Restore/enhance approx. 10 acres wetland & approx 30 acres of upland habitat
  - \* Reduce erosion in Ottawa River
  - \* Increase in-stream habitat for fish and macro invertebrates
  - \* Increase diversity of in-water habitat for Lake Sawyer, allowing fish to winter over and allowing more active use of Lake Sawyer by Scouts
  - Encourage educational use of wetland, lake, river, and upland habitat



## Adaptive Management at Camp Miakonda



Improving erosion control in Hartman Ditch with mini-Bendway Weirs and plantings



Post-project monitoring with EnviroScience



Filming Potomologist Dave Derrick with US ACE to educate others on methods



Planting native seed for Cub Scouts to grow and re-plant at Camp Miakonda

# Augmenting the Restoration



Restoration Site was used as educational resource for Cub Camps, high school class and professional development conferences

# New Wildlife Sightings



Yes! That's really a Bald Eagle! One of three (3!) sighted around camp now!

# Restoring Habitat in the Maumee AOC with the Maumee Corps

- \* \$800,000 Grant through NOAA to revitalize the area's economy and improve natural habitat areas
- \* Project partners include The Metroparks of the Toledo Area, The Nature Conservancy, The University of Toledo, The Olander Park System, and NOAA
- \* 29 employed full-time and seasonal/ part time jobs
- \* Addressed over 1,400 acres of invasive plant species treatment & removal, native planting, and preparing for prescribed burning
- \* Work started in early 2013 and continued into late fall of 2013, will resume in spring of 2014

## Maumee Corps Interns

8 PCS interns spent the summer improving the Ottawa River at The University of Toledo, The Olander Park System, and Camp Miakonda





## Maumee Corps









Invasive species removal at University of Toledo and Camp Miakonda

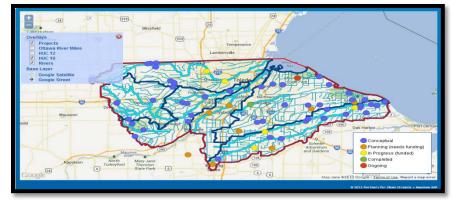
## Maumee Corps in 2014

- \* Continue with seasonal and part time employees at The Nature Conservancy and The Metroparks of the Toledo Area to complete prescribed burns, invasive species removal, and more habitat restoration
- \* These restoration projects help restore the globally rare habitat in the Oak Openings Region and other areas in the Swan Creek and Ottawa River watersheds



# Data Management and Delisting System (DMDS)

- Received OEPA grant to compile restoration projects within the Maumee AOC into an online data management system
  - \* Invaluable tool in determining Beneficial Use Impairments and restoration project needs for the Maumee AOC
- \* Working with contractor Davey Resource Group
  - Project Management Team: OEPA, PCS, TMACOG, UT
- First of its kind in all of the Great Lakes Region



### Where is PCS headed in 2014?

- **Great Lakes Restoration Initiative** 
  - \* Continue Maumee Corps grant, under NOAA, to restore various smaller habitat projects in AOC and put people to work with Maumee Corps
  - \* Continue working with Boy Scouts on outreach, education, and signage at Miakonda
- **\* Continue Community Outreach and Education Programs** 
  - \* Use \$17,000 grant from the Toledo Community Foundation to improve stream cleanup programs
  - \* Youth Patch Workshop, Get the Lead Out, Storm Drain Marking, and Clean Your Streams Day!
  - \* Fundraising to increase individual giving
  - \* Increase Social Media and refresh our current website to increase user interaction
  - \* Implement our WaterGrass database to improve communication with partners & members

#### \* Maumee RAP

- Working with Ohio EPA RAP Coordinator and active Maumee RAP partners to refresh and update watershed plan for region (a.k.a. DMDS)
- \* Continue hosting Summits, maintaining fiscal accountability, and building committee input

# Partner Award

PCS Annual Award for Environmental Stewardship & Involvement By Dr. Patrick Lawrence

### Clean Streams Partner Award

Clean Streams Partner Award was created by the Partners for Clean Streams Board of Directors in 2007 to honor individuals and/or organizations in our community that have, through their efforts, worked to improve our rivers and streams.

Previous recipients have included:

2007 - Sue Horvath

2008 - John Jaeger

2009 - Marilyn DuFour

2010 - Tom Henry

2011 - Steve Pollick & Matt Horvat

2012 - Terry Shankland



### THIS YEAR'S AWARD IS PRESENTED TO ...

### Cherie Blair

Cherie Blair has been the Maumee Remedial Action Plan Coordinator for Ohio EPA since 1996. She was the first Maumee RAP Coordinator in the watershed, working in the district office for Ohio EPA and living in the Area of Concern. Prior to that she worked at the Ohio Lake Erie Commission and helped start the Coastweeks program and the Lake Erie license plate program. She received her undergraduate degree from Adrian College but her passion for water began as a child. Cherie grew up on Lake Erie, literally, commuting between Marblehead and Kelley's Island.

With her passion for the area and for water, she continuously goes above and beyond the basic fundamentals of her job by volunteering time in evenings and weekends. She tirelessly works to disseminate information to help groups plan strategically and to leverage more resources for improving water quality in the region. She has become a central pivot point in the work being done by the many partners including businesses, government and non-profit agencies working toward clean, clear and safe waters.

Cherie is receiving the Clean Streams Partner Award because of her countless hours and dedication for the work she does with Partners for Clean Streams and for the Maumee AOC, which goes way beyond her job description as Maumee RAP Coordinator for Ohio EPA.



