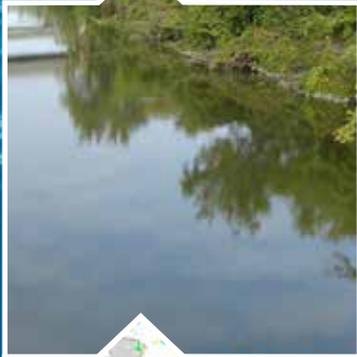
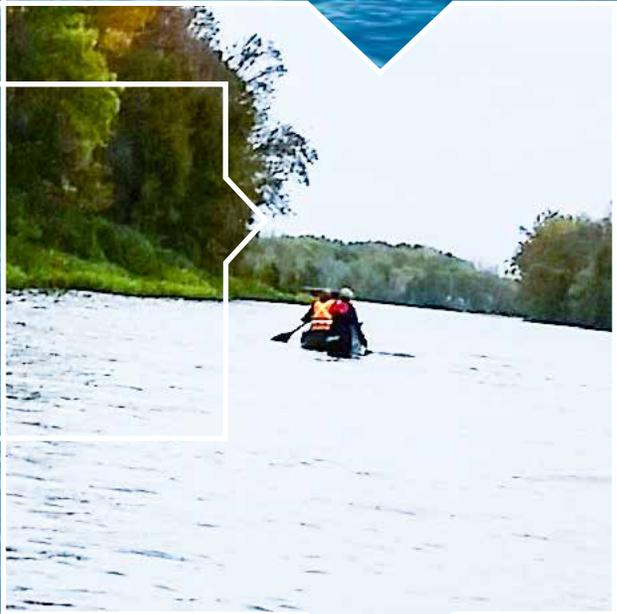
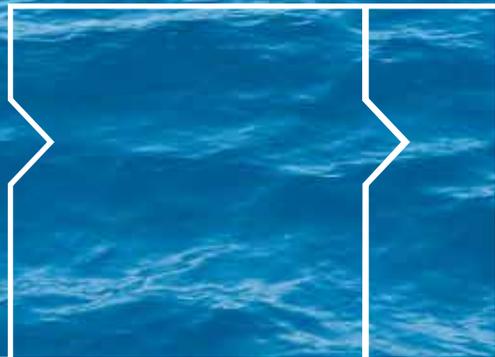




# Partners for Clean Streams

2015 Annual Report



HOW  
WE'RE  
CONNECTED





# Letter From Executive Director

As I reflect on the past year, it is amazing all that Partners for Clean Streams, and the surrounding community, has been able to accomplish. I am so grateful to have had the opportunity to lead this organization, including our community partners and volunteers, through another successful year of working towards cleaner, clearer, and safer waterways.

This year, we focused on how we are connected to water and how water is connected to us – water and people are codependents and we rely on one another. People rely on water for recreation, household use, industry, energy, and most importantly, human health. But water relies on us too, for protection, conservation, and ensuring that it's quality is sustained for future generations to come. As water issues continue to become more prevalent in news and science, we must also become hypersensitive to our relationship with local waterways, and how we are interacting with and caring for them.

At the core of why we do what we do and how we do it is encouraging each citizen to take ownership of their streams and rivers. That starts with loving and connecting to the rivers we all rely on in many ways. Because we at PCS understand the significance of our rivers, it is our responsibility to share that same love of water with our neighbors, families, and friends, in the hopes that they feel connected too.

2015 has been full of triumphs like getting new donors, starting new programs, reaching hundreds of people with our messages, and engaging over 1,000 volunteers. It took a huge amount of work and now we celebrate, relax, and recognize our efforts. We especially thank you, our Partners, for being part of this success!

We can't survive without water, and water cannot thrive without our protection and stewardship. Each and everyday, we ask that you take time to acknowledge all that water does for you and your loved ones, and hope that you feel the need to return the favor by becoming a Partner for Clean Streams.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kristina Patterson".

Kristina Patterson, Executive Director

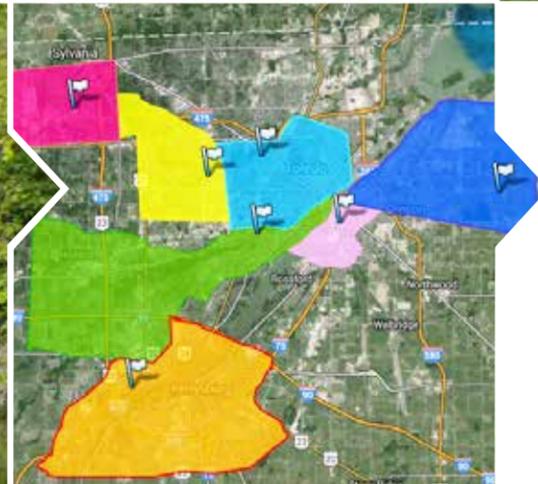
Partners for Clean Streams Inc. is striving for  
abundant open space and  
a high quality natural environment;  
adequate floodwater storage capacities and  
flourishing wildlife;  
stakeholders who take local ownership  
in their resources; and rivers, streams and  
lakes that are  
clean, clear and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



### Total Number of Participants and Sites In the Toledo & Surrounding Area

- UTMC Kickoff..... 108 volunteers
- International Park Kickoff..... 108 volunteers
- Johns Manville Kickoff..... 115 volunteers
- Oregon Municipal Kickoff..... 117 volunteers
- Olander Park Kickoff..... 89 volunteers
- University of Toledo Kickoff..... 246 volunteers
- Monroe St. UMC Kickoff..... 88 volunteers
- Three Meadows Kickoff..... 58 volunteers
- Appreciation Picnic..... 42 volunteers

**Total 971 volunteers**



# 19th Annual Clean Your Streams Day

Partners for Clean Streams, and our community partners, hosted the 19th Annual Clean Your Streams Day on Saturday September 19th, 2015. 971 volunteers from all across the Toledo area participated in our largest cleanup of the year. These dedicated volunteers removed 13,528 pounds of trash, including 61.5 tires, from our area waterways. Over the course of the three-hour cleanup, our volunteer groups cleaned 66 land sites and 2 water sites (68 total), along 34 miles of stream and riverbank.

Despite sprinkles of rain, volunteers took the initiative to get all the trash they could, including many unusual items. Here are just a few: 10 shopping carts, **97 baseballs**, coconuts, a power drill, a watch, a sled, a wheel barrel, hub caps, duck decoys, a Bible, a pack of bullets, and a wig.

How on earth did all these strange items end up in our rivers? While we can't say for sure, we do know that many everyday items fall out of trash cans, blow out of shopping carts, cars, or off picnic tables at outdoor gatherings. During heavy rain events, trash and other pollutants are carried to the nearest storm drain and unfortunately, directly into a stream or river untreated. Sometimes, trash or pollutants are dumped intentionally, and illegally, into storm drains as there is a misperception that whatever enters storm drains is treated. Trash in our waterways is a clear indicator of human impact on the environment and is entirely preventable.

The Clean Your Streams program could not have been a success this year without our generous partners and donors. A special thanks goes to Deets BBO, Charles Boyk Law, and GreenSweep for sponsoring lunch at the Appreciation Picnic.

Also, thank you to our major sponsors: First Solar, Johnson Controls, City of Toledo, Perstorp, University of Toledo, BP Husky Refining, Lucas County Storm Water Utility, and BCSN. To see the full list of donors, check out our sponsor page on our website at [www.PartnersforCleanStreams.org/events/cys](http://www.PartnersforCleanStreams.org/events/cys).

For those who volunteered with us this year on Clean Your Streams Day, PCS and your waterways thank you. To make your impact even greater, donate to ensure events like this continue and are sustainable in the future. We hope that one day, we will not need a Clean Your Streams Day because there will no longer be trash in our waterways. Until then, become a Partner for clean streams and donate, or volunteer your time, to support our efforts within the community. To donate, please go to our website at [www.PartnersforCleanStreams.org/donate](http://www.PartnersforCleanStreams.org/donate).

## More Unusual Finds

- |                 |                    |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| Phone Charger   | Bible              |
| Shower Head     | Baby Doll          |
| Plastic Hose    | Rubber Ducky       |
| Disc Brake      | Child Booster Seat |
| Waterproof Bag  | Engraved Brick     |
| No Parking Sign | Gardening Tools    |
| Gas Can         | Toy Boat           |
| Flashlight      | Bbq Sauce          |
| Baby Bathtub    | And Much More.     |
| Chandelier      |                    |
| Sippy Cup       |                    |
| Rearview Mirror |                    |

**68 Sites  
34 Miles**

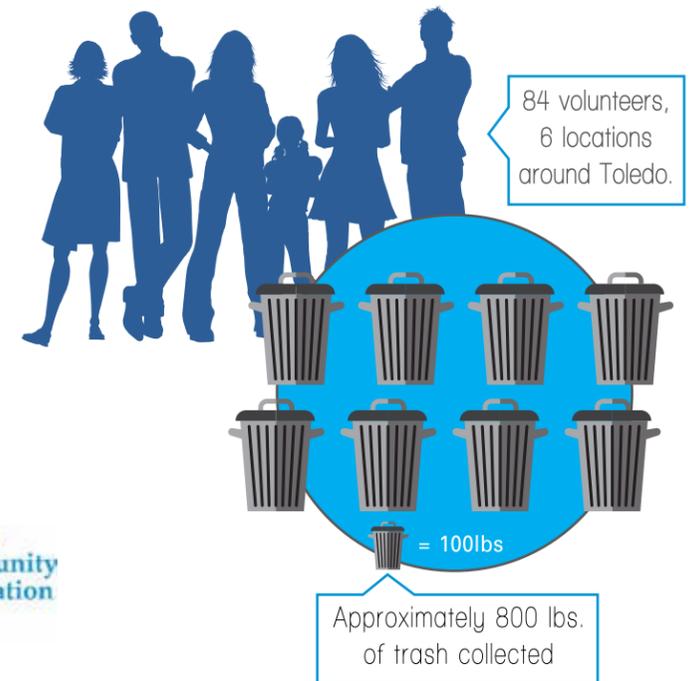




# Clean Your Streams 365

Clean Your Streams 365 provides community members the opportunity to clean their waterways whenever, and as often as, they'd like. We welcome groups of any size, age, or ability level to participate in this program. Volunteer groups sign up for either a one-time cleanup at a specific site or they choose to adopt a site to clean repeatedly on their own schedule. We hope that groups will adopt priority areas that need frequent cleaning throughout the year, and if not we suggest the one-time groups choose to clean those priority areas. Upon registration, volunteers are assigned a location depending on ability, preference, and cleanup needs. We loan out a cleanup kit to each group and this includes all supplies like gloves, trash bags, maps, data cards, and a first aid kit. In 2015, we had 84 volunteers do Clean Your Streams 365 cleanups in 6 different locations in the Toledo area. In total, they collected approximately 800 pounds of trash that would have otherwise kept traveling downstream. CYS 365 presented these volunteers with a great opportunity to not only directly improve the water quality of our

waterways but also develop skills such as teamwork and the value of community service. We encourage community members to not only participate in the annual Clean Your Streams Day, but to do something everyday that benefits our community and the water we depend on. Clean Your Streams 365 is one way they can do just that!





# Getting Lead Out & People Into Rivers

After the spring fishing fever had subsided, our Get the Lead Out volunteers headed to the riverbanks in search of derelict lead sinkers and fishing line. Fishing line is detrimental to wildlife and to the natural aesthetics of our area. For the 11th summer, a total of 35 volunteers from The Sierra Club, Toledo Zoo Teens, and Friends of Side Cut participated in our annual Get the Lead Out program. In four outings, these volunteers covered two miles of the banks of the Maumee River and collected approx-

imately 15 pounds of lead and line, along with other trash. We are always looking for more sponsors for Get the Lead Out to ensure that this program will continue to have a positive impact on our waterways, both for wildlife and people who enjoy them recreationally.

Since 2005 when GLO started, over 270lbs of lead have been collected and recycled.



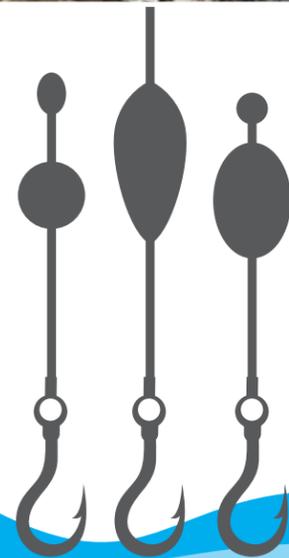
## Collecting & Recycling Fishing Line is Good for Everyone

In 2014, Partners for Clean Streams received funding to build and install Fishing Line Recycling Bins along the Maumee River, Ottawa River, and the shores of Lake Erie to provide anglers a receptacle for leftover, broken, or unwanted fishing line. This year marked the inaugural season for the bins to be out and available for public use. Discarded fishing line has become a serious issue in our waterways, threatening wildlife and people who enjoy the rivers. Fishing line, lasting at least 600 years in nature, often entangles fish, birds, and other wildlife as well as degrades the aesthetic quality of an area. Fourteen new bins were installed around the Toledo area, in addition to the bins already installed in the Metroparks. The bins were put in high-traffic fishing areas, aiming to reduce the amount of line discarded, or unintentionally left behind, in our rivers, lakes, and streams.

aforementioned partners, property owners, volunteers, and other organizations all worked together to host and maintain the bins. We asked volunteers to help us maintain the bins, by collecting and sorting through the items inside, recording what was collected in amount and type, and returning the materials back to our office. The collected fishing line eventually made its way to Berkley Conservation where it was recycled into different products, such as park benches and fish habitat structures. The lead collected was reused and melted into new lead sinkers by partner, ZAP Lures. Throughout the spring, summer, and fall of 2015, the Fishing Line Recycling Bins collected almost nine bins-worth of fishing line!

We also sought sponsors for our bins, which guaranteed their logo on the signage next to the bin and recognition in our annual report. This year's sponsors included Toledo Edison, Hull & Associates, and Shankland's Catering. We hope to grow this program even more in 2016.

We did not act alone for this project as there were many partners involved including Metroparks of the Toledo Area, The City of Toledo, The City of Perrysburg, The City of Maumee, ZAP Lures, Bass Pro Shops, and Berkley Conservation. The



35 Volunteers  
15lbs of Lead Collected

2 Miles Of River Covered



9 Bins-Worth of Fishing Line Collected.





# PCS Patch Workshop



## Storm Drain Marking April 18th, 2015



## Patch Day March 8th, 2015

### Connecting Youth to our Waterways through Education



On Sunday, March 8th, 70 patches were given to youth participants at the 13th Annual Partnering for Clean Streams Youth Patch Day Workshop. The workshop focused on water conservation subjects and how everything is better in balance. Water quality professionals from around the area taught the participants how to be active stewards of our water resources through hands-on activities and learning stations. Topics for the various stations included the significance of rain gardens, why it's important to protect storm drains, wastewater treatment, soil health, water and worms, watersheds, the water cycle, fishing, and agriculture. Participants played in dirt and discovered various water-loving insects, made their own fishing line recycling bin, learned about

agricultural runoff, painted a protective storm drain message, and explored how water is treated so it is safe for us to drink. The workshop highlighted how we are all part of a larger balancing act between nature and people. Too much or too little of something, like water, nutrients, pollution, insects, or other animals can disrupt that delicate balance. Many participants of the workshop were excited to come back next year. One parent commented "the kids loved it!" and another recalled, "There was a lot of information that the kids would not have otherwise come across."

70 Youth  
Attended &  
70 Patches  
Awarded



= 5



## Marking Storm Drains, Protecting Drinking Water

In conjunction with Global Youth Service Day on April 18th, 166 youth volunteers painted "Drains are for Rain, Flows to Waterway" near 652 storm drains in eight jurisdictions across the Toledo area and handed out 1,575 informational flyers to residents in those areas. Some of the participating jurisdictions included Waterville, Oregon, Rossford, Ottawa Hills, and Sylvania. Our young volunteers reminded citizens that storm drains lead straight to the nearest ditch, creek, or waterway without being treated. To help us all remember, a good rule of thumb about what should go down a storm drain is "If you wouldn't drink it, don't pour it!"

166  
Volunteers

652  
Drains  
Marked

1,575  
Door  
Hangers

8 Jurisdictions Across Toledo



## Macroinvertebrate Testing

We often lead, or provide, school groups, and scouts with the necessary equipment to conduct water quality testing by examining macroinvertebrates in the water. The following is a quote from a Toledo-area teacher that borrowed our test kits: "Thank you to PCS for letting Maumee Valley Country Day School use their sampling kits. Using such high-grade equipment let us get great samples and it was much easier using a full kit then using a mixture of other equipment. It gave our students a chance to experience Swan Creek in a positive, hands-on way. The ID cards helped the students see exactly what kinds of macroinvertebrates live in the rivers and what they could expect to find."

## Water Quality Boat Cruise

On Sunday August 2nd, 48 passengers joined Partners for Clean Streams and Lucas Soil and Water Conservation District for a fun and educational afternoon cruising the Maumee River on the Sandpiper, a 100-passenger cruise vessel. On this expedition along the Mighty Maumee, residents of the greater Toledo area learned various facts about the river including economic importance, water treatment, water conservation, agricultural influence, and its water quality issues. This day also marked the one year anniversary of the Water Crisis and while we discussed the issues related to algal blooms, this cruise acted as a broader educational opportunity for Toledo residents to learn about water quality challenges, solutions, and what they can do personally for the rivers. There were a variety of local professionals along for the ride, providing unique perspectives on the water quality issues in the greater Toledo area.

Passengers enjoyed trivia about Lake Erie and participated in educational activities, while soaking up plenty of sunshine on the boat deck. After the cruise, passengers stayed to examine the water test results taken straight from the Maumee River. They then discussed the impacts of the different factors such as turbidity, nutrient loads, and more. This special event received coverage on WTVG Channel 13 and a great article published in The Toledo Blade. We received many compliments and were even asked to have another cruise like it in 2016. PCS would like to thank everybody who participated.



Maumee River – its watershed is the largest drainage basin in the Great Lakes watershed, 6,600 sq. miles.

- Begins at the confluence of the St. Marys and St. Joseph rivers in Fort Wayne, IN
- 137 miles in length, traveling northeastward from Fort Wayne, IN to its mouth in Toledo, OH at Maumee Bay and into Lake Erie
- More than 3,900 miles of streams flow into Maumee River
- The upper 43 miles of the Maumee are designated as a State Scenic River
- The Miami and Erie Canal ran parallel to the Maumee River – the lower portion of the river is used for shipping and other industry today
- Was designated as an Area of Concern within the Great Lakes in 1985 due to degraded water quality in the river
- Approximately 70% of land use within watershed is agricultural
- The Maumee River is the largest source of suspended sediment to Lake Erie
- # of public access sites = 48

Sources: ODNR Lake Erie Public Access Guide Book – Rivers Edition; ODNR Lake Erie Public Access Guide Book – Coast Edition; ODNR Ohio Coastal Atlas – 2nd Edition

# Myths Busted



## Myth #1

### You can't touch the water in the Maumee River.

Yes, you can touch the water in the Maumee River. We have many times! There are no ongoing contact advisories in the Maumee River. However, there are contact advisories in the lower Ottawa River, from E. 475 to Lake Erie, due to previously contaminated sediments. For more information about contact advisories, visit [www.epa.state.oh.us/dsw/fishadvisory/index.aspx](http://www.epa.state.oh.us/dsw/fishadvisory/index.aspx).



## Myth #4

### There are no water recreation opportunities here in Toledo.

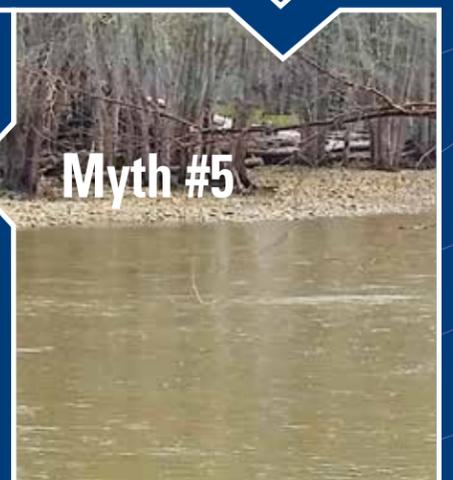
Actually, we do have water recreation opportunities in Toledo – you just have to know where to look! The Metroparks of the Toledo Area offer a lot of water recreation opportunities, such as kayaking, canoeing, standup paddle boarding, and fishing. Three Metroparks now have boat launches, Side Cut, Wiregrass, and Farnsworth, where you can launch your own boat or other watercraft. Don't have a kayak or canoe? Don't worry, you can rent one at River Lures in Grand Rapids and coming in 2016, at Farnsworth Metropark! For more information, check out Metroparks website at [www.MetroparksToledo.com](http://www.MetroparksToledo.com). Other boat and kayak launches in Toledo can be found on Swan Creek near the Downtown Farmers Market, Cullen Park, Orleans Park, and Maumee Bay State Park.

**No progress has been made to make our waterways better.** Progress has been made to make our waterways better. The evidence is in the fact that we can now recreate and enjoy them whereas they were sometimes too polluted to do so in the past. Organizations like The Environmental Protection Agency, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, and Partners for Clean Streams have worked hard to make the rivers, streams, and lakes healthier for wildlife and people. The Ottawa River is much better than it is used to be, and the Maumee River has improved as well. There is still work to be done, but the progress already made cannot go unnoticed.



## Myth #2

**The river is muddy and unclear so it must be dirty and not safe.** The Maumee River is fed by a very large drainage basin, so large that the state of Delaware could fit within it twice (6,608 sq. miles)! With a large drainage basin comes a lot of sediment, or soil runoff from urban, industrial, and agricultural lands. So much so that the Maumee River is the largest contributor of sediment to Lake Erie. The suspended, or floating, sediments are responsible for the muddy, brown appearance in some parts of the Maumee River. Muddy water is not un-safe.



## Myth #5



## Myth #3

### You can't eat the fish from the Maumee River.

Yes, you can eat fish that are caught in the Maumee River. However, regulations regarding the resident fish of the Maumee River still exist (this excludes migratory fish such as Walleye and White Bass). The Ohio Department of Health recommends no more than 1 meal a week include fish caught in any Ohio waterway. In the Maumee River, from Perrysburg to Interstate 75, the consumption advisories are on Channel Catfish (1 fish every 2 months), Freshwater Drum (1 fish every month), Smallmouth Bass (1 fish every month), Smallmouth Buffalo (1 fish every month), Common Carp, (1 fish every month), and Flathead Catfish (1 fish every month). The Ottawa River is more restrictive regarding fish consumption, and all fish species caught from Auburn Ave. to the mouth in Lake Erie should not be eaten. Learn more about fish consumption advisories at [www.epa.state.oh.us/dsw/fishadvisory/index.aspx](http://www.epa.state.oh.us/dsw/fishadvisory/index.aspx).



## Myth #6

**You can't drink the water.** In some regards this myth is true. You shouldn't drink the water straight from the rivers, streams, and lakes because of microorganisms and naturally occurring bacteria in the water. However, Lake Erie and its tributaries are our water source so we do drink the water, but not until after it has been treated at one of the water treatment plants. There are occasional water advisories issued so tune in to your local municipality but for most of the year, the treated water is safe drinking water.



Ottawa River – a short tributary that empties into north Maumee Bay of Lake Erie, just over the border into Michigan

- 20-miles in length, mostly through Lucas County
- Forms at the confluence of Ten Mile and N. Ten Mile Creek in Sylvania
- Watershed is 220.9 square miles
- The Upper Ottawa River is within Oak Openings Region
- The Lower Ottawa River has been degraded by industrial land nearby – industrial runoff, sewage overflows, urban runoff, and the slow flow of the river caused ecological and water quality issues (fish and swim advisories)
- The hope is to lift all fish and swim advisories for the Ottawa River by 2030
- # of public access sites = 8

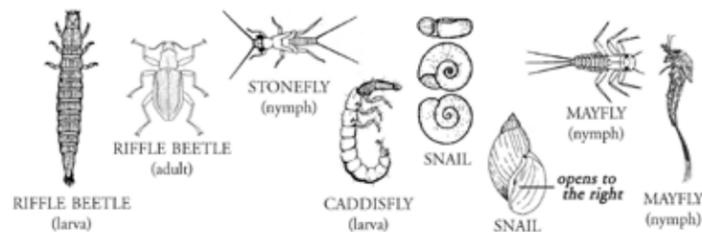


## Camp Miakonda

In 2011, Partners for Clean Streams received a \$1.35 Million GLRI grant from US EPA and the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI). The goals of restoration project were to restore/enhance approximately 10 acres wetland and 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; and encourage educational use of wetland, lake, river, and upland habitat.

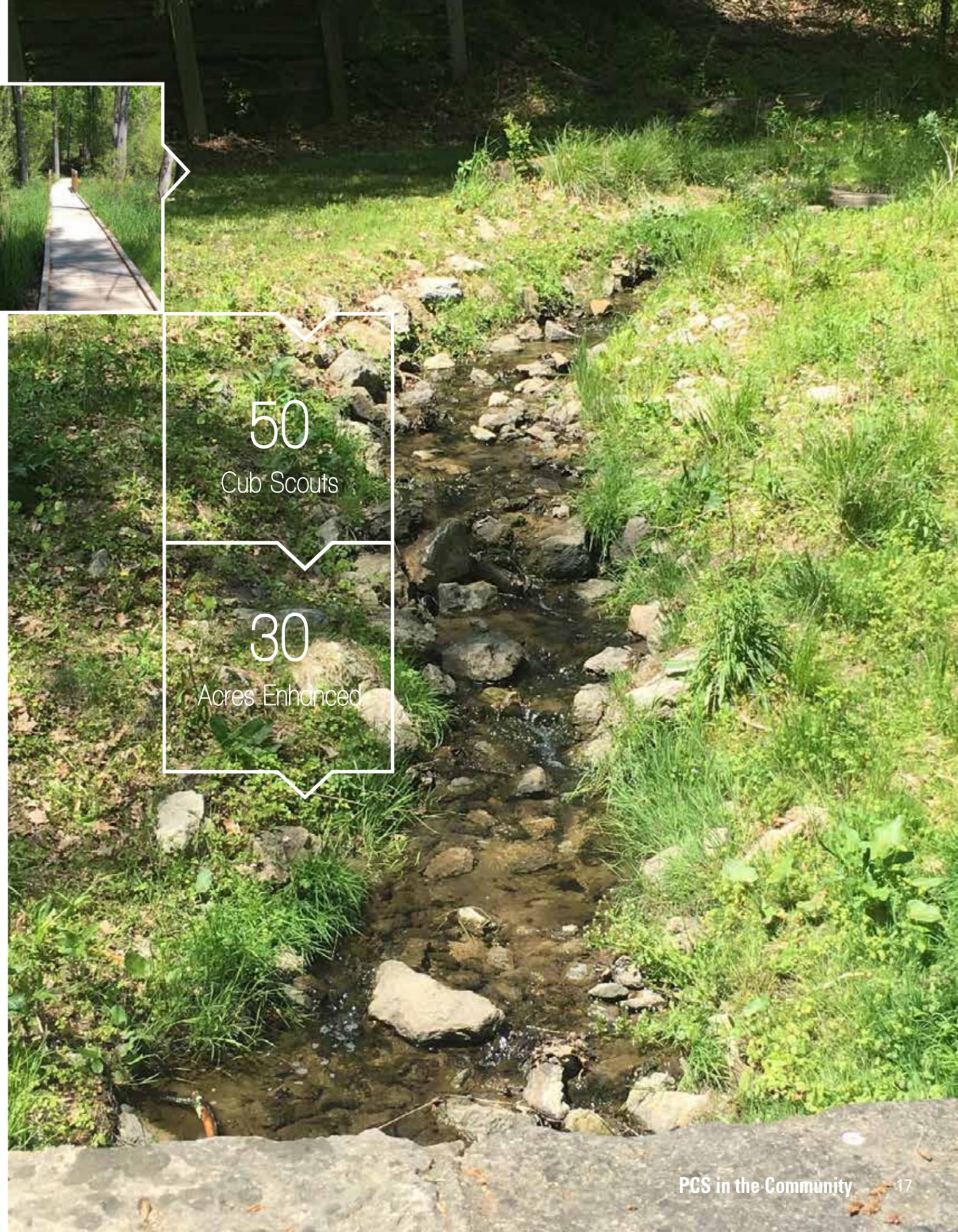
In the summer of 2015, 400-500 kids received an introduction to the restoration project, why we did it, and the different aquatic ecosystems at Camp Miakonda including the wetlands, lake, and Ottawa River. Fifty Boy Scouts used macroinvertebrate test kits to explore the waterways at Camp Miakonda. They were able to observe the metamorphosis in different insects and frogs. As a result of the macroinvertebrate testing, Boy Scouts received their Into the Wild badge.

50 Boy Scouts used macroinvertebrate test kits to explore the waterways at Camp Miakonda.



50  
Cub Scouts

30  
Acres Enhanced



Sources: ODNR Lake Erie Public Access Guide Book – Rivers Edition; ODNR Lake Erie Public Access Guide Book – Coast Edition; ODNR Ohio Coastal Atlas – 2nd Edition



3,720  
Plants Introduced

95  
Acres Treated

47  
Acres Restored

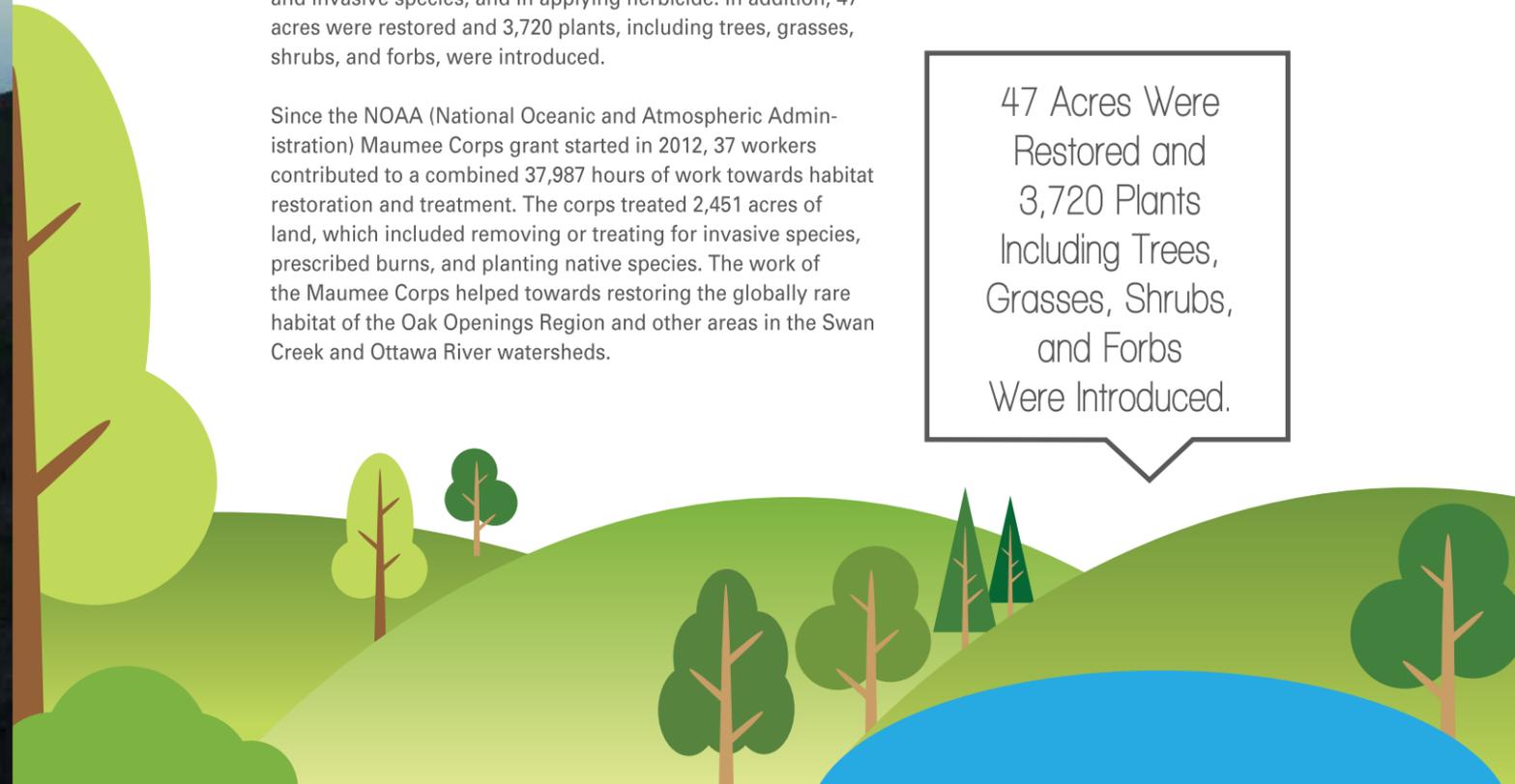
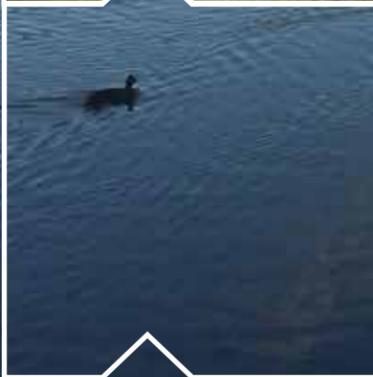
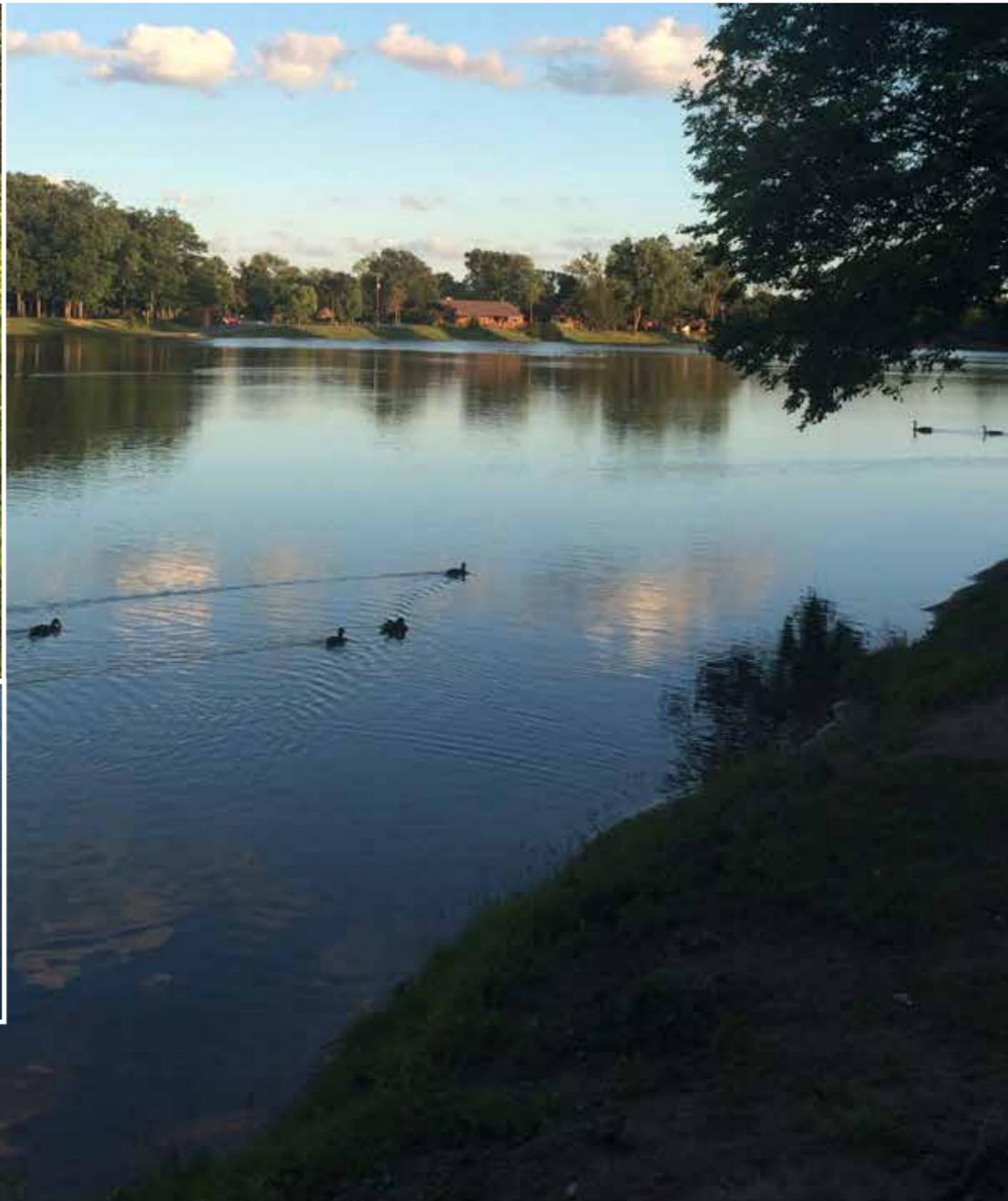


## Maumee Corps Finished in 2015

Two PCS field staff worked at Olander Park and The University of Toledo throughout the summer season of 2015. During this season, 95 acres were treated through the removal of leaf matter and invasive species, and in applying herbicide. In addition, 47 acres were restored and 3,720 plants, including trees, grasses, shrubs, and forbs, were introduced.

Since the NOAA (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration) Maumee Corps grant started in 2012, 37 workers contributed to a combined 37,987 hours of work towards habitat restoration and treatment. The corps treated 2,451 acres of land, which included removing or treating for invasive species, prescribed burns, and planting native species. The work of the Maumee Corps helped towards restoring the globally rare habitat of the Oak Openings Region and other areas in the Swan Creek and Ottawa River watersheds.

47 Acres Were Restored and 3,720 Plants Including Trees, Grasses, Shrubs, and Forbs Were Introduced.





# Clean Streams Partner Award

Bob Neubert has been with the Lucas County Engineer's Office since 1999 and works in the Drainage Department, handling drainage related issues in all 11 Townships in the County. He received his Associates Degree in Civil Engineering from Owens Community College. He is a Certified Floodplain Manager, Engineering Technician and Surveying Technician. He has been on the Clean Your Streams planning team since 2004, leading volunteers in removing trash from our rivers. Bob has been involved in improving water quality both professionally as an employee of the County, and personally, as a Boy Scout Leader.

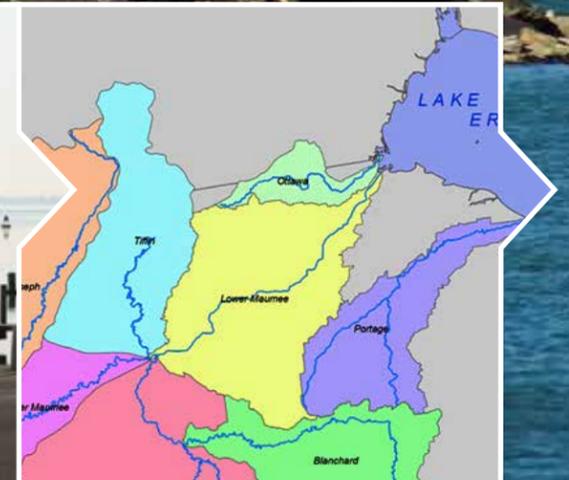
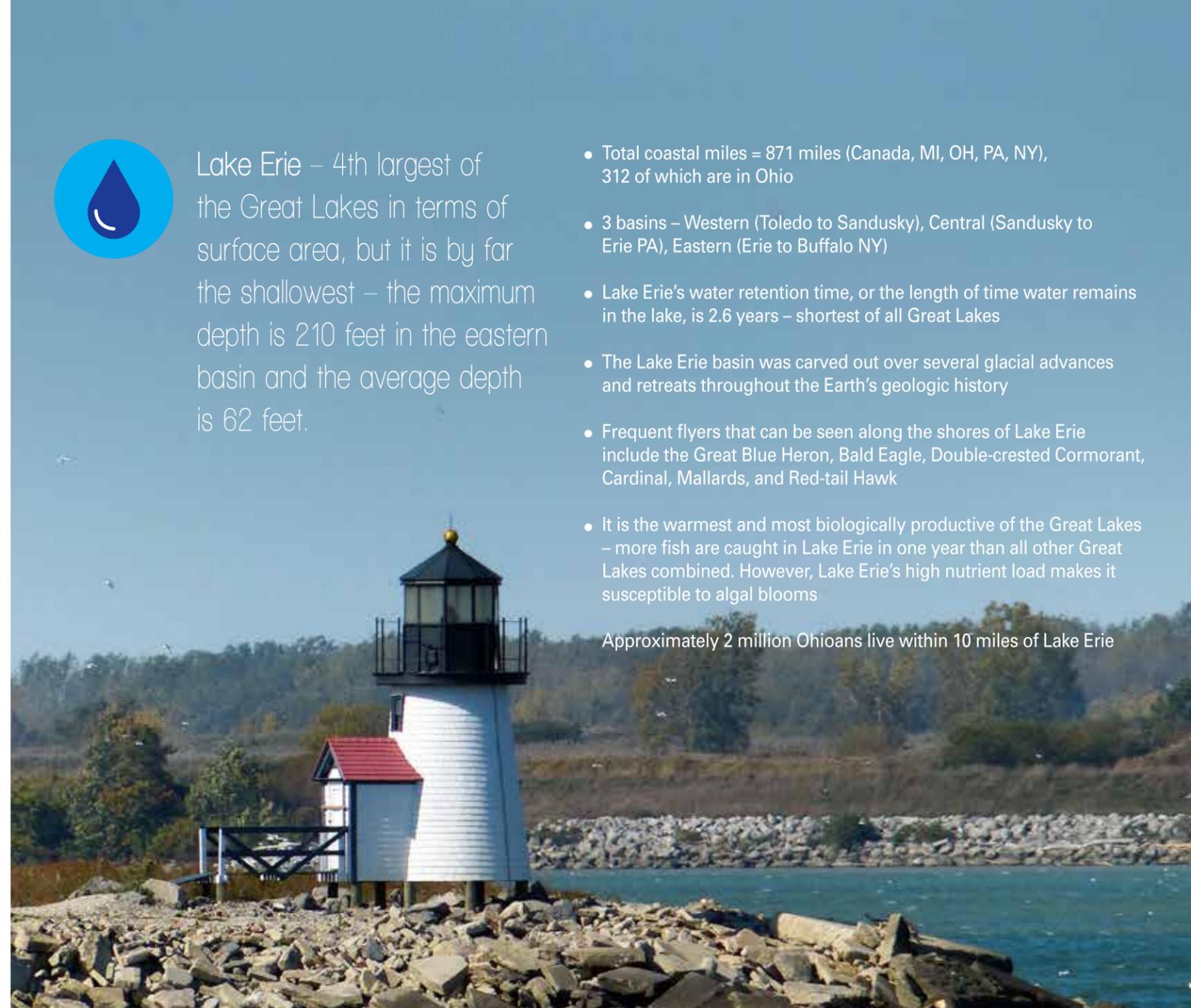
As a very active volunteer leader for the last 12 years in Boy Scouts, he has involved "his boys" in Clean Your Streams, from the morning set up to the last of the clean up at the picnic. He has also organized a large workshop on water quality for Boy Scouts across the region, leading 180 scouts in Storm Drain Marking. He is always ready to offer up his help and pitch in on all the "behind the scenes" work it takes to effectively engage hundreds of kids in hands on learning about improving water quality. For those reasons, the Board selected Bob as the 2015 recipient of the Clean Streams Partner Award. He currently lives in South Toledo with his wife Tami of 22 years, their two children and his dog, Milo.



Lake Erie – 4th largest of the Great Lakes in terms of surface area, but it is by far the shallowest – the maximum depth is 210 feet in the eastern basin and the average depth is 62 feet.

- Total coastal miles = 871 miles (Canada, MI, OH, PA, NY), 312 of which are in Ohio
- 3 basins – Western (Toledo to Sandusky), Central (Sandusky to Erie PA), Eastern (Erie to Buffalo NY)
- Lake Erie's water retention time, or the length of time water remains in the lake, is 2.6 years – shortest of all Great Lakes
- The Lake Erie basin was carved out over several glacial advances and retreats throughout the Earth's geologic history
- Frequent flyers that can be seen along the shores of Lake Erie include the Great Blue Heron, Bald Eagle, Double-crested Cormorant, Cardinal, Mallards, and Red-tail Hawk
- It is the warmest and most biologically productive of the Great Lakes – more fish are caught in Lake Erie in one year than all other Great Lakes combined. However, Lake Erie's high nutrient load makes it susceptible to algal blooms

Approximately 2 million Ohioans live within 10 miles of Lake Erie



Sources: ODNR Lake Erie Public Access Guide Book – Rivers Edition; ODNR Lake Erie Public Access Guide Book – Coast Edition; ODNR Ohio Coastal Atlas – 2nd Edition

"We are dedicated to the waters of the Toledo region.  
But it is dollars donated by people like you  
that make our work possible."



## Donors from 2015



BP - Husky Refining LLC



**\$2500 or more**  
BP-Husky Refining LLC  
Perstorp Polyols  
The University of Toledo  
(Ottawa River Commission &  
Office of the President)  
Toledo Community Foundation

**\$1000 to \$2499**  
City of Toledo  
EnviroScience Inc.  
GreenSweep  
First Solar  
Johnson Controls, Inc.  
Lucas Co. Storm Water Utility

**\$500 to \$999**  
Anonymous  
C & W Tank Cleaning  
City of Oregon  
Davey Resource Group  
ERG Environmental Services  
Hull & Associates, Inc.  
Johns-Manville  
Kwest Group  
The Andersons  
The Mannik & Smith Group, Inc.  
Tetra Tech, Inc.  
Toledo Waterways Initiative (through Hart Inc.)  
YB Management

**\$250 to \$499**  
Jones and Henry Engineers  
Monroe St. United Methodist Church  
The University of Toledo

**Less than \$250**  
Anonymous  
Charles Boyk Law  
VFW Charities

**Significant In Kind**  
Bridgestone's Tire4Ward Program  
Buckeye Cable Sports Network (BCSN)  
City of Toledo  
Deets BBQ (and Charles Boyk Law)  
Lucas Co. Agricultural Society  
Metroparks of the Toledo Area  
Ohio EPA  
The Olander Park System  
Waste Management

Major Funders include: Ohio EPA, US EPA Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Toledo Community Foundation, Ohio EPA Litter Grant (Recycle Ohio), National Marine Sanctuary Foundation Grant

We are proud to call many local businesses our Partners. These businesses have stepped up to become integral parts in caring for the communities' pride and joy, our local rivers. Each of these businesses knows how their partnership allows us to fulfill our mission of protecting our rivers. And we deeply thank them for their dedication and support.

## MEMBERSHIP BREAKDOWN

Individual		Organization	
\$15	Student/ Senior	\$100	Patron
\$25	Individual	\$250	Sustaining
\$35	Family	\$350	Support
\$50	Contributor*	\$500	Contributor*
\$100	Conservator*	\$1,000	Conservator*
\$250+	Preservationist *	\$2,500+	Preservationist*

To become a Partner, visit,  
[www.PartnersforCleanStreams.org/membership](http://www.PartnersforCleanStreams.org/membership)

### Community Partner - \$5000 and above

Your organization or business can support all of our programs throughout the year. You are demonstrating that your business is dedicated to the community and to maintaining a healthy environment. With your support, we are able to provide high impact volunteer cleanups and public education events for conserving our waterways. In addition to other member benefits Community Partners also receive:

- Prominent logo recognition on our website, seen by thousands of interested citizens.
- Prominent logo recognition on all event promotional materials, such as hundred of t-shirts and thousands of flyers and posters

## MEMBER BENEFITS

- Prominent logo recognition on our website and promotional & event materials.
- Support stays local making a direct investment in clear, clean & water in Northwest Ohio.
- One vote on issues at our annual general meeting.
- Receive E-notices of events & monthly E-newsletters.

\*Members at these levels or above will be granted voting privileges to select the Board of Directors annually. All donations are tax-deductible as allowed by law.



# FINANCIAL REPORT

PCS continues to wisely manage our financial resources. We are building a track record of clean audits, with the 2014 audit once again showing no issues or management recommendations. We also closed out a large federal grant, from NOAA, and continued working on two grants from Ohio EPA (under their Great Lakes Restoration Initiative funding from US EPA) on leadership and support for the Maumee Area of Concern, especially in facilitating the Maumee AOC Advisory Committee and their activities.

This year we needed to use some of our reserve fund as we ended some grant funding, awaited reimbursement from some grants, and have a gap until future funding is secured. However, the careful and prudent years of savings allowed us to weather this downturn without impacts to our programs. We have been pursuing diverse funding opportunities for next year.

Our unrestricted funding continues to slowly grow and is so valued as it allows us to grow and expand programs, such as CYS365 and Get the Lead Out with new fishing line recycling bins, so that we can provide an even bigger impact in the community. Our participation in Northwest Ohio Community Shares allows many employees to give through simple payroll deduction and support clear, clean, and safe water in their local community. Many companies also offer matching funds when their employees give to charities, which would amplify the individual giving that we receive. There are many ways to support us financial that allow you to directly impact the water quality here where we all live, work, and play. PCS is grateful for those members, businesses, and grantors and foundations that have been able to continue supporting us as we work to improve water quality and healthier watersheds to improve the overall quality of life for our families and communities.

**Maumee RAP account (restricted) as of December 31, 2015 = \$35,795**

\*Most personnel costs are covered by grants. The amount is shown separately to illustrate the low internal operational costs that PCS maintains.

The contents and views, including any opinions, findings, conclusions or recommendations, contained in this publication are those of the authors and have not been subject to any U.S. EPA, NOAA, or Ohio EPA administrative review and may not necessarily reflect the views of any Agency, and no official endorsement should be inferred. No grant funds were used to pay for the production or printing of this annual report.



## Income

Government Grants and Foundations  
\$171,611

Carryover Reserve (unrestricted)  
\$133,550

Donations & Program Income (unrestricted)  
\$36,051

**Total Income  
\$207,662**

## Expenses

Personnel  
\$134,708\*

Programs, Grant Restricted  
\$100,373

General Admin & Overhead Costs  
\$23,939

Programs (outside of grants)  
\$8,550

**Total Expense  
\$267,570**



# BCSN Connects PCS to People, We Connect People to Water

We are very excited, and proud, to have a growing partnership with Buckeye Cable Sports Network (BCSN) as a media partner. This year, BCSN helped us strengthen our presence in Toledo's media and among community members. With their help, we were able to reach thousands of Toledo residents that we might not have been able to reach before. In return, BCSN is recognized as a significant donor and their logo is advertised on our t-shirts, posters, website, and more.

## Board of Directors

**Patrick Lawrence, PhD** - President, Board of Directors  
Professor & Chair, University of Toledo – Dept. of Geography and Planning

**Tim Schetter, PhD** - Vice President & Secretary, Board of Directors  
Director of Natural Resources, Metroparks of the Toledo Area

**Colleen Dooley** - Treasurer, Board of Directors  
Attorney, Private Practice

**Phillip Blosser** - Board Member  
Market Development Manager, Perstorp Polyols

**Andrew Curran** - Board Member  
Assistant Scout Executive, Boy Scouts of America

**Denise Fonner** - Board Member  
Private Citizen

**Shawn Reinhart** - Board Member  
Environmental Manager, Johns Manville

**Terry Shankland** - Board Member  
CEO, Shankland's Catering

**Kyle Spicer** - Board Member  
Private Citizen

## PCS Staff

**Kristina Patterson** -  
Executive Director

**Paige Sloma** -  
Program Assistant

**Ava Slotnick** -  
Outreach Coordinator

# Show Your Care: 10 Ways to Reduce Our Impact

### 1. Cover It!

Secure your trash or recycle bins with a lid and make sure trash bags are securely tied. Otherwise, exposed trash can be picked up by the wind and blown into the nearest ditch, stream, or river.



### 2. Water As Needed!

Watering your garden can be costly, on water supply and your wallet. When plants need a drink, water them deeply and on an as needed basis, encouraging longer root development. Also, watering in the morning or late evening is best to avoid evaporation.



### 3. Bag It!

Use reusable bags, instead of plastic bags, when shopping. Plastic bags are extremely light and can be carried by the wind into waterways, where they take up to 20 years to disintegrate!



### 10. Fertilize Mindfully!

Before applying fertilizer to your grass, have your soil tested to see how much phosphorous, nitrogen, and potassium is needed for a healthy lawn. Excess fertilizer will runoff lawns during rain events and enter storm drains, which lead to the nearest waterway untreated.



### 4. Connect with your Rivers!

Appreciating our water resource is essential to understanding how we are impacting the system. Walk alongside, kayak, fish, or simply sit and observe – revel in the river's beauty and recognize that this resource is finite and needs to be taken care of.



### 9. Bottle It!

Drink tap water in a reusable bottle when on the go. Plastic, one-time use water bottles are among the top items found on river cleanups.



### 5. Leave No Trace!

Whenever in a park or other natural space, take all trash and belongings with you as you leave.



### 8. Butt Out!

Use an ashtray so cigarette butts don't reach the waterways – do not just throw them out the car window! Approximately 5,600 cigarette butts were found during this year's Clean Your Streams Day.



### 7. Turn it off!

When shaving, brushing your teeth, or washing your face, turn off the faucet and reduce the amount of water used.



### 6. Buy in Bulk!

Buy in bulk whenever possible. Bulk items use less plastic packaging, which is good for everyone – less plastic in stores and homes means less plastic that ends up in the environment.





BP - Husky Refining LLC

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for  
Clean  
Streams

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P.O. Box 203  
Perrysburg, OH 43552

122 W. Front St. Suite C  
Perrysburg, Oh 43551  
Phone/Fax 419-874-0727

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& the Partners for Clean Streams Staff