



**WHAT
CAN
YOU DO?**

*Partners
for Clean
Streams*

2016 Annual Report

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

Join our Board of Directors! Our members serve two-year terms and are elected at the Annual General Meeting each November. The Board holds meetings every other month throughout the year, during which they discuss decisions regarding the organization and goals. The Board also volunteers at various outreach events and programs. If interested, contact our office at (419) 874-0727.



Year after year, it amazes me all that Partners for Clean Streams is able to accomplish. This year especially, I believe we all grew as individuals, as an organization, and as a community. We hired two new staff, acquired grants to continue strengthening our programs, and fortified connections with new and existing community partners. I am so grateful to have had the opportunity to lead this organization through another successful year of working towards cleaner, clearer, and safer waterways.

In 2016, we focused on giving back to our waterways – through our annual programs, volunteers, memberships, and donations. After all, water is life. Without it, we cannot survive. We are fortunate to live within the watershed of the largest bodies of freshwater on Earth. However, we cannot take it for granted. Our relationship with water is a two-way street; it is reciprocal. PCS encourages everyone to be stewards of their water resource. To do this, we must first recognize our inherent connection to them. Next, we learn how to protect our rivers, streams, and lakes so that their quality maintains and improves into the future. We, at PCS, strive to help community members become stewards, so that our passion and motivation to protect local rivers is spread deeper into the community.

2016 was an exciting year for us. We worked with over 1,300 volunteers across our annual programs, not to mention the thousands of people we reached through our website, social media, and outreach events. We established new partnerships, received grants, attended River Rally, and celebrated 20 years of Clean Your Streams. We especially thank you, our Partners, for contributing to this success!

While reading through the following pages, ask yourself, what can I do for my waterways? I hope this annual report inspires you to do something positive for our local rivers, streams, and lakes and to ultimately, become a Partner for Clean Streams.

Sincerely,

Kristina Patterson, Executive Director



PCS Patch Workshop

The 7 Stations focused on different aspects of our water resource, such as:

- The connection between rivers and trees
- Lake Erie algae
- The water cycle

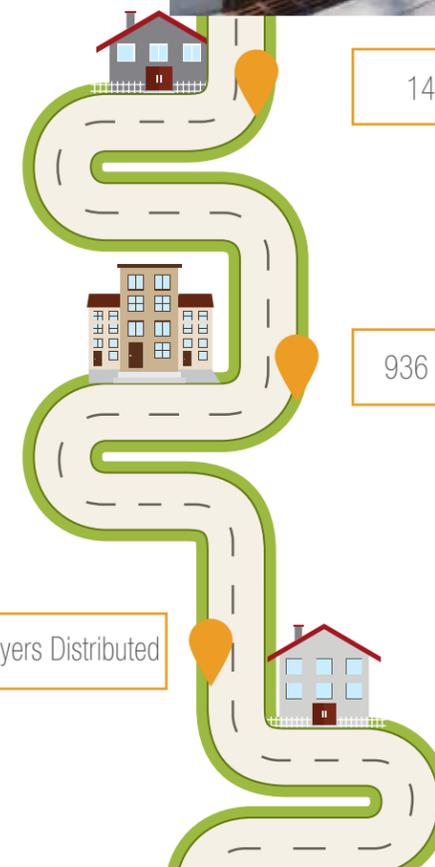


Thank you and congratulations to the 69 youth who participated in the 14th Annual Partnering for Clean Streams Youth Patch Day Workshop on Sunday, March 6th. Seven groups of energetic children from kindergarten through fifth grade earned the blue and white embroidered Partnering for Clean Streams patch by participating in our unique water education stations. Professionals from across northwest Ohio exposed the participants to different aspects of our water resource, such as the importance of storm drains, the connection between trees and rivers, the algae of Lake Erie, and the movement of different particles through the water cycle. More importantly, each station empowered the youth to become active stewards of our local environment with ways they can make a difference in the water quality of northwest Ohio's rivers and beyond. Many who participated in the Workshop are already excited to come back next year. One parent said, "The kids had a great time, I'll bring more next year!" A favorite activity of many participants was the "Lake in a Bag" station where kids built their own miniature lake and learned what causes algae blooms. However, a majority of the participants and parents said they enjoyed all the stations. We, as PCS, would like to extend a big thank you to all our participants and especially, our presenters and those involved in the planning process.

69 PATCHES WERE AWARDED



 = 5 Patches Awarded



146 Volunteers

936 Drains Marked

1,716 Flyers Distributed

Thank you to our volunteers who made a difference!

On April 16th and in conjunction with Global Youth Service Day, 88 volunteers painted Drains are for Rain, Flows to Waterway near storm drains across 5 jurisdictions including Oregon, Northwood, Washington Township, Waterville, and Sylvania. 304 Storm Drains were painted and 1,063 homes received educational door hangers.

Bob Neubert, the 2015 River Partner recipient, led Storm Drain Marking events two additional times in the summer with 58 volunteers from local Boy Scout troops. Collectively, they marked 632 drains marked and distributed 653 flyers.

Become educated about your local watershed. In order to protect something, we must first understand what it is we are protecting. Talk to local water quality experts, attend public meetings, participate in outreach programs (like Patch Day!), and simply get outdoors to explore the beautiful streams, rivers, and lakes we have here.

If you wouldn't drink it, don't dump it! Only rainwater is supposed to enter storm drains. Be aware of where the closest storm drain is to your house and pick up any trash or leaf debris that you see nearby. You can also become a sponsor for Storm Drain Marking to help us buy supplies, such as spray paint, stencils, and safety vests.



If you are an angler, properly dispose of leftover or broken line after your outing and collect any derelict line you see while on the river. Doing so will prevent possible injury or death to animals living in or around the river, as fishing line often entangles or is accidentally consumed by wildlife.

Like PCS on Twitter and Instagram to learn about our upcoming Get the Lead Out! events this summer! @PCSMaumee

Get the Lead Out!

Cleaning fishing line, lead, & garbage from the Maumee River

Throughout the Summer 2016
Volunteers joined us from various groups, including Boy Scouts, Toledo ZooTeens, and other concerned members of the community. In 7 outings, volunteers walked and collected fishing line, hooks, lead sinkers, and trash along several miles of the Maumee River.

- | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 3 Public Outings at Orleans Park & Side Cut Metropark | 4 Toledo ZooTeen Outings |
| 1.5 miles cleaned | 32 Volunteers |
| 31 volunteers | 5 buckets/bags of line |
| 4 bags of line | 8 hours of work |
| 8.5 bags of trash | 4 miles cleaned |
| 5.5 hours worked | |

TOTAL FOR SUMMER 2016





20 bins were installed around the Toledo area in fishing "hot spots" to reduce the amount of line discarded, or abandoned inappropriately, into waterways. Local companies are invited to sponsor bins and the educational sign will host the company's name and logo. Bins can also be "adopted" by a group to collect and record line in our database.

The line is recycled by Berkley Conservation Institute, while the lead is reused by Zap Lures.



NEW LOCATIONS IN 2016

THE NATIONAL GREAT LAKES MUSEUM & THE PORT CLINTON MARINA

2016 SPONSORS

HULL & ASSOCIATES

FIRST ENERGY

SHANKLAND'S CATERING



In October 2016, PCS was awarded a \$2,500 grant to build more bins in 2017 from Dominion and Western Reserve Land Conservancy. If interested in hosting one of these new bins, please contact our office!



IN 2016, WE HAD 125 VOLUNTEERS PARTICIPATE IN 10 CYS 365 CLEANUPS, OUR BIGGEST YEAR YET!

THEY REMOVED (APRIL TO NOVEMBER):

- 1,930 POUNDS
- 111 BAGS OF TRASH
- 8 TIRES
- 4.5 RIVER MILES CLEANED

Cleanup sites included the University of Toledo Law School, Wildwood Preserve, Orleans Park, Providence Park, Kroger in Sylvania, Flying J truck stop, St. Francis DeSales School campus, and the Holiday Inn French Quarter in Perrysburg.

Through CYS 365, groups can schedule a "one-time" cleanup at a site or they can "adopt" a site to clean on their own regular schedule. This program targets sites that need frequent or intense cleaning (more than once a year). Also, cleanup kits are loaned to groups and this includes gloves, bags, first aid kits, maps, data sheets, and more.



Fishing line remains in the environment for at least 600 years, if left alone. That's a long time! Shorten fishing line's lifespan by collecting derelict line that you see while walking along the river or lake. Be wary of possible hooks and lures still attached! Properly dispose of it in a sealed trash bin or turn it into PCS and we'll make sure it gets recycled! You can also sponsor-a-bin and your organization's logo is placed on the signage above the bin. Or Adopt-a-bin and be responsible for monitoring, emptying, and recording the fishing line collected during the fishing season.

Keep a grocery bag in your car to throw your trash into while out running errands. Once full, properly dispose of bag in a garbage bin.

Sign up for a Clean Your Streams 365 cleanup. We provide the supplies and training, you pick the date, general location, and provide volunteers. It's that easy! Check out our website for more information: www.PartnersforCleanStreams.org/events



Community Outreach

Throughout 2016, PCS was out in the community at many outreach events. In total, we were present at 16 public events hosted by other local organizations in the Toledo area. Some of these organizations and businesses include Bass Pro Shops, Bowling Green State University, The Toledo Hospital, The Toledo Zoo, Ohio Department of Natural Resources, and Boy Scouts of America. During these events, PCS staff and Board Members spoke with hundreds of community members about our programs, ways they can get involved, and what they can do at home to protect our waterways. We also focused a lot of our outreach, especially when interacting with children, on marine debris. We are grateful to all of our Partners in the community who invited us to these events as it boosts our presence in the greater Toledo area.



Water Quality Boat Cruise

For this year's Water Quality Boat Cruise, 78 passengers traveled up and down the Maumee River on the Sandpiper Boat for two hours, all the while listening and learning from local water quality experts. Discussion topics included basic information about water quality, non-point and point source pollution, harmful algal blooms, our drinking water, and the Toledo Water Crisis that happened two years ago. Passengers also enjoyed a trivia game, featuring questions about our local waterways. The Maumee Area of Concern Advisory Committee (MAAC) sponsored the event. Thank you to the additional partners of the cruise: Lucas Soil & Water Conservation District, The Sandpiper, City of Toledo, and to our media partners, The Toledo Blade and WTVG Channel 13 ABC.



Greening the Mercy Health Glass City Marathon

APPROXIMATELY 4,595 POUNDS OF TRASH WAS DIVERTED FROM THE LANDFILL

In 2016, PCS was selected as an official charity partner for the 40th Annual Mercy Health Glass City Marathon, a Boston Marathon-qualifying race that is hosted in our hometown. Through this designation, runners, spectators, volunteers, and anyone else could donate to PCS through the Marathon's website and essentially, "Run for the Rivers!" After all, runners cross several waterways, such as the Ottawa River, over the course of the race and depend on water to rehydrate and replenish while running. Water is inherently connected to the marathon and we hope that our partnership will support and further demonstrate that notion.

In addition to being an official charity of the Marathon, we also partnered with the planning committee to help "green" the race. For the first year of this process, our goals were to reduce waste and divert as much waste as possible from the landfill. We focused our efforts mostly at water stops along the course, the finish line, and the post-race celebration on the

University of Toledo's main campus. In total, we diverted approximately **4,595 pounds** from the landfill. That included over **1,500 pounds** of compost-able material, such as food waste, pizza boxes, paper plates, and napkins; **800 pounds** of cardboard and **100 pounds** of plastic bottles and cups to be recycled; **360 pounds** of water cups to be sent to TerraCycle (a company that re-purposes pre- and post-consumer waste, like used wax-coated cups, into new materials). Possibly the most exciting moment of the day was when we realized one of the two 30-yard dumpsters requested for the normal amount of waste from the Marathon, sat empty and unnecessary. We also recycled glass bottles, plastic overwrap, heat sheets, and Terracycled Gu Packs. We are already excited for next year's Marathon, to continue making progress towards a greener race that benefits our waterways and our communities.



Tree Training Workshop

In July, PCS co-presented a Tree Training Intensive Workshop with Cuyahoga River Restoration, with funding from the Tree Fund. The workshop was intended for Tree Commissions, mayors and local government officials, urban managers, students, and community members who want to protect, preserve, and grow a healthy tree canopy. The workshop connected storm water management practices to trees. Participants also took home a workbook containing useful resources and best practices to grow and sustain a healthy tree canopy. Thank you to our partners for this Workshop: The Tree Fund, Metroparks of the Toledo Area, Davey Resources, Ohio Department of Natural Resources, and Cuyahoga River Restoration.





Total Volunteers for Each Kickoff:

Oregon.....	100
Olander.....	173
Johns Manville.....	77
Perrysburg.....	47
International Park.....	135
UT Medical College.....	78
Monroe St. UMC.....	115
UT.....	222
Picnic.....	13



— 20 years of —
clean your streams

- 960 volunteers participated - despite the rain!
- Removed 26,136 pounds of trash, including 730 bags of trash and 311 tires
- Cleaned 67 sites, covering 31.1 miles of riverbank

In the week leading up to Clean Your Streams, the weather forecast was less than ideal. But the rain didn't stop our volunteers from cleaning! Thanks to all 960 of them, we completed the 20th year of Clean Your Streams! The PCS staff and CYS planning team are incredibly happy with the results of the 20th Annual Clean Your Streams Day, which would have been unreachable without the hard work and support of everyone involved. As a part of Ocean Conservancy's International Coastal Cleanup, 960 volunteers left from 8 different kickoff locations and spread out to 67 cleanup sites across the greater Toledo area. During the three-hour cleanup, volunteers removed trash from 31.1 miles of stream bank along Swan Creek, the Ottawa River, the Maumee River, and other creeks and ditches flowing into Maumee Bay and Lake Erie. 26,136 pounds of trash was collected, including 730 bags, 311 tires, and many other large pieces of garbage. The list of trash items found was long and interesting, as always. Volunteers found the typical items such as plastic water bottles, food wrappers, and grocery bags. Other, more unique, items found include a baby stroller, \$20 bill, skateboard, several mattresses, a car exhaust pipe, a hot tub lid, and a drawer full of socks. We even encouraged volunteers to participate in the CYS 20 "Trash-ure Hunt" to see if they could find some of the most bizarre items found over the last 20 years.

Once volunteers were done pulling trash out of the rivers, we celebrated cleaner, clearer, and safer waters at the Appreciation Picnic at the Lucas County Fairgrounds. There, volunteers were thanked with a hot lunch, CYS t-shirt, educational activities from partnering organizations (Metroparks of the Toledo Area, OSU Stone Lab, Toledo Waterways Initiative, and Lucas Soil & Water Conservation District), door prizes, raffle prizes, music and entertainment courtesy of Denny Schaffer and Q105.5, and the awarding of CYS challenge winners. Everyone who volunteered for the 20th Clean Your Streams Day is a Partner for clean streams and we are so grateful for their support. Whether you participated individually or with a group, business, or organization, your involvement is essential for cleaner rivers now and in the future. Thank you again to our extremely supportive donors, especially Toledo Waterways Initiative, Mannik & Smith Group, and Kwest Group, for going above and beyond their previous contributions for this year's celebration of 20 years of CYS.

Unusual Finds: Hair comb, golf balls, \$20 bill, shopping carts, 3 baby strollers, bowling pin, exercise ball, film reel, Christmas ornaments, TI-83 calculator, drawer of socks, mattresses, rubber raft, mail box, "sidewalk closed" sign, car radio, horse reins, traffic cone, football helmet, tape measure, motor oil can, 67 baseballs, skate board, shotgun shell, dog bowl, hot tub lid, 3 fishing poles



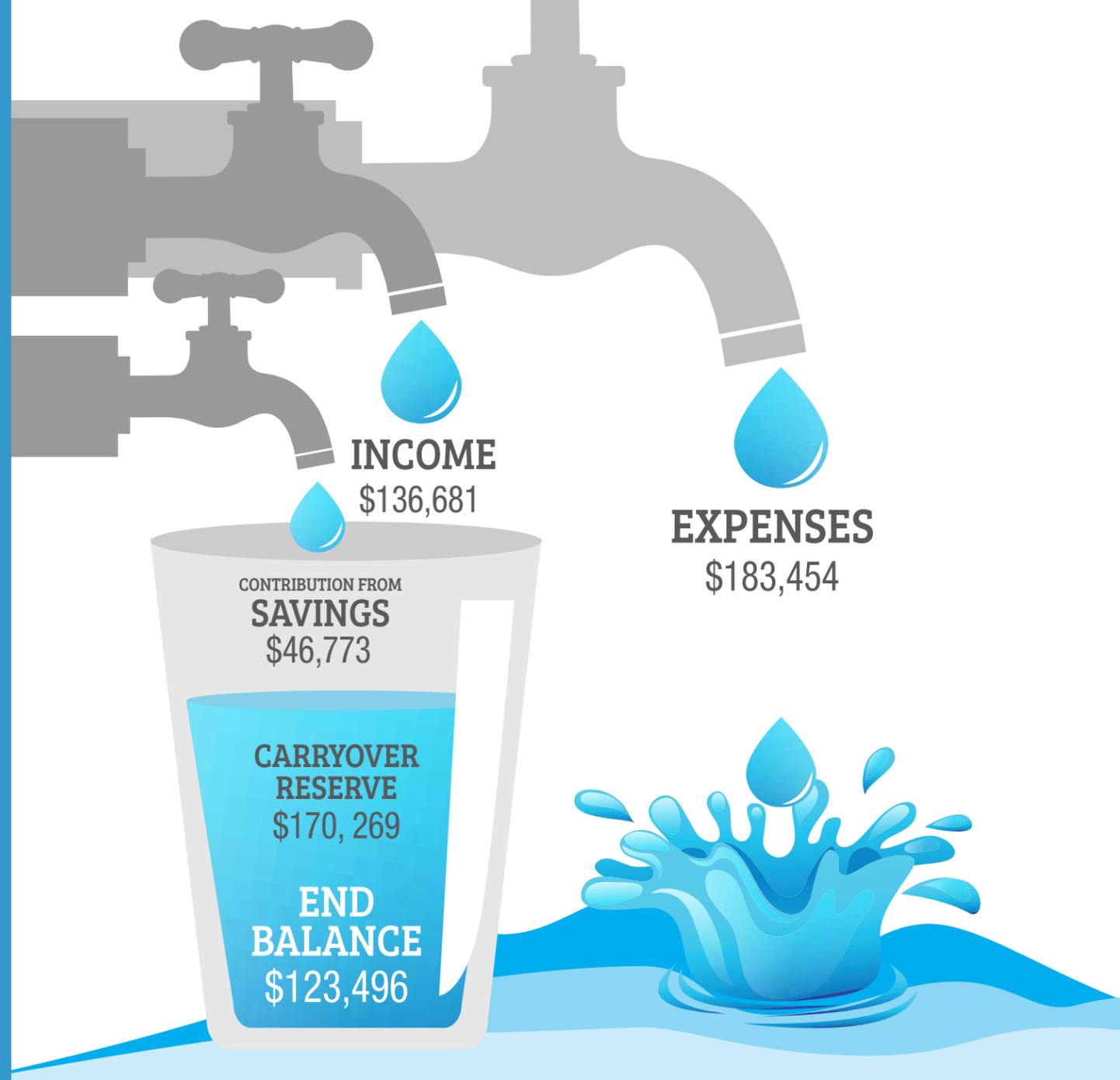


Thank you to all the Partners who have joined in the journey of Clean Your Streams over the past 20 years.

Your support has contributed to the success of this cleanup and the impact it has had on the thousands of volunteers that have participated since 1997. As a special celebration for the 20th year, the planning team selected 20 Champions to recognize for their varied, and vital support of Clean Your Streams.

- University of Toledo Habitat for Humanity
- University of Toledo Society for Environmental Education
- Toledo Early College High School
- American Society for Civil Engineers
- BP Husky Refining LLC
- Waste Management
- Toledo ZooTeens
- Whitmer Science and Environmental Club
- Toledo Campus Ministry
- Girl Scouts of Western Ohio
- Perstorp Polyols
- Ohio Environmental Protection Agency
- The University of Toledo
- City of Oregon
- Hull & Associates
- Shankland's Catering
- Lucas County Engineers
- Monroe St. United Methodist Church
- Boy Scouts of America – Erie Shores Council
- City of Toledo – Divisions of Environmental Services; Parks and Recreation





These Businesses Have Stepped Up To Become Integral Parts In Caring For The Communities' Pride And Joy, Our Local Rivers.



We are proud to call many local businesses our Partners. 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.

Major Funders (Grants): American Rivers (pass through from Mott Foundation); Dominion (through Western Reserve Land Conservancy), Ohio EPA; O-I Charities Foundation; National Fish and Wildlife Foundation; Toledo Community Foundation; various individual donations through Northwest Ohio Community Shares	\$5,000 & Above	\$500 to \$999	\$250 to \$499
	O-I Charities Foundation Perstorp Polyols The University of Toledo (Ottawa River Commission & Office of the President)	City of Oregon Davey Resource Group EnviroScience Inc. ERG Environmental Services Hull & Associates, Inc. Johns-Manville North Branch Boys Tetra Tech, Inc.	Jones & Henry Engineers, Ltd. Monroe St. United Methodist Church The Mannik & Smith Group, Inc. TTL Associates, Inc.
	\$2,500 to \$4,999		Significant In Kind
	BP – Husky Refining LLC First Solar Toledo Roadrunners		Bridgestone's Tires4Ward Program Lucas Co. Agricultural Society Metroparks of the Toledo Area Q105.5 FM The Olander Park System Waste Management
	\$1,000 to \$2,499		
	Algonquin Fund City of Toledo Johnson Controls, Inc. Kwest Group Lucas Co. Storm Water Utility Seneca Fund Toledo Waterways Initiative	To protect privacy, we choose not to list individual donations but our sincere thank you goes out to each and every one of those donors as well. From the kids who bring us a handful of change to the businesses that put out a Change for Change bucket in the lunchroom, and all those \$5 to \$500 gifts throughout the year, your generosity is greatly appreciated! You show us that individuals want clear, clean, and safe water and care about our community and we will use your gifts carefully.	

What can you do?

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle! Many of us recycle, but we must not forget about the other two, very important "R's" – Reduce and Reuse. If we reduce consumption, by buying in bulk and using less single-use products, there is less trash to potentially end up in our waterways. If we reuse, like refilling a reusable water bottle or repurposing old furniture, then there is less waste to potentially end up in our waterways.

Make a one-time donation or become a member to ensure our programs, like Clean Your Streams, are possible for years to come. To donate or become a member, please visit our website at www.PartnersforCleanStreams.org.

MEMBERSHIP BREAKDOWN

Individual

- \$15 Student/ Senior
- \$25 Individual
- \$35 Family
- \$50 Contributor*
- \$100 Conservator*
- \$250+ Preservationist *

Organization

- \$100 Patron
- \$250 Sustaining
- \$350 Support
- \$500 Contributor*
- \$1,000 Conservator*
- \$2,500+ Preservationist*

To become a Partner, visit, 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 and 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.



Todd Crail

Todd Crail is a current lecturer and long-time researcher at the University of Toledo in the Department of Environmental Sciences. He is an expert on mussels, fish, and the unique ecology of our region. He has worked with thousands of students and community members during his career, helping them become as enthusiastic about local ecology and water as he is. Todd exemplifies and lives out the PCS mission each and every day. He is a vocal and dedicated environmentalist, a passionate teacher, and a true gem in our local community.

Board of Directors

- Patrick Lawrence, Ph.D.:** President
- Andrew Curran:** Vice President
- Colleen Dooley:** Treasurer
- Phil Blosser:** Secretary
- Denise Fonner:** Board Member
- Shawn Reinhart:** Board Member
- Terry Shankland:** Board Member
- Chris Smalley:** Board Member
- Kyle Spicer:** Board Member

Staff

- Kris Patterson,** Executive Director
- Ava Foster,** Outreach Coordinator
- Mike Mathis,** Program Coordinator
- Jessica Batanian,** Communications Specialist



What You Can Do

Use this checklist as a reminder of what you can do to make a difference. Tear it out, post it on your refrigerator, in the car or your work. Incorporating these small steps into your habits will add up.

- 
Cover it!
 Secure your trash using a trash can with a lid and make sure your bag is securely tied shut.
- 
Bag it!
 Use reusable bags when shopping, not just at grocery stores but when buying clothes, shoes, hardware or anything else that requires a bag.
- 
Bottle it!
 Drink tap water in a reusable bottle when on the go.
- 
Reuse it!
 Use reusable mugs, tableware (when away from home), packing material and gift wrap whenever possible.
- 
Butt Out!
 Use an ashtray so cigarette butts don't reach waterways.
- 
Remove it!
 Remove all tackle from waterways and use Fishing Line Recycling Bins along the river.
- 
Leave No Trace!
 Whenever in a park or other natural space, take all of your trash and belongings with you as you leave.

Here are a few tips you can use to get started.

1. Reduce your use of straws by saying "no thanks" at restaurants or bring your own reusable straw when you travel.
2. Use reusable water bottles, coffee mugs, eating utensils and pack your lunch in reusable containers. Bring along your own toiletries, rather than buying new or using a hotel's disposable ones.
3. Buy things made from recycled materials. You will be supporting the recycling industry making it profitable to recycle items.
4. Buy in bulk whenever possible. You will use less plastic packaging over time.
5. Put a recycling container out at work and make sure the items get to a recycling center often.



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.



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