

# Tinker's Creek Watershed Partners







# Letter from Our President

## Justin A. Czekaj, P.E.



As President of Tinker's Creek Watershed Partners (TCWP), it is my privilege to report on our accomplishments over the past year. In 2018 the organization experienced rapid growth and development. The number of grants, events, projects, and programs administered expanded dramatically and TCWP experienced our most successful year to date.

The most exciting news of 2018 was the establishment of our new office, located in the Hudac House behind Twinsburg City Hall. TCWP is grateful to the City of Twinsburg for leasing a building to the organization, which consists of office space and a conference room. This is a significant milestone for the group as it will allow for a centralized hub of all TCWP activities.

Tinker's Creek Watershed Partners staff grew in 2018. Kate Chapel, who served as the Watershed Coordinator, was promoted to Senior Project Manager. Her leadership and passion continue to drive our mission and promote our vision. Kristin Aldridge, who served as Assistant Watershed Coordinator, accepted a position at the University of Akron. We are thankful for all her contributions. To fill her role, TCWP hired two part-time Assistant Watershed Coordinators. Marisa Petherbridge is from Bainbridge Township and is currently pursuing her Masters in Marine Biology at Miami University. Tracie Zamiska is a resident of Kent and holds a Masters of Urban Planning from the State University of New York at Buffalo.

Harry Stark remains the Executive Director of TCWP. The continued expansion of services and staff is a testament to his dedication to the organization. Mr. Stark also oversees the nationally recognized Ohio Stormwater Conference. This conference has become the signature event in the field of stormwater management and water resources. The 2018 conference was held at Kalahari Convention Center in Sandusky, Ohio and set a new record with 953 attendees, 96 exhibitors and sponsors, and over 100 presenters.

I would personally like to extend our sincere appreciation to the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District, Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, Dominion Energy, ServeOhio, Native Plant Society of Northeast Ohio, and EarthEcho. The grant dollars provided by these organizations enables TCWP to provide key services to our member communities and complete projects within the watershed. Major projects such as the Hudson Tenbroeck Stream Restoration (\$191,500) and the Bedford Heights Service Department Project (\$249,139) are supported by these grant dollars.

Tinker's Creek Watershed Partners continues to provide community assistance and outreach to our member communities in the form of workshops and training opportunities that can be used to fulfill the requirements of the Ohio EPA NPDES permit. TCWP provides quality services to our member communities and we look forward to expanding them in the years ahead.

Tinker's Creek Watershed Partners remains one of the premier watershed organizations in the state. Our success is built on collaboration throughout the watershed and the surrounding regions. The Board of Directors and staff are dedicated to enhancing the community, business, and organizational partnerships that have been forged over the past thirteen years. We remain committed to growing the organization to protect and restore the Tinker's Creek watershed.

# THANK YOU !!!

Tinker's Creek Watershed Partners would like to thank the following partners for their support throughout 2018! These relationships are essential to help protect and restore the Tinker's Creek watershed.

## 2018 Board of Directors

Justin Czekaj, - President  
Ana Burns - Vice President  
Michael Liptak - Treasurer  
Maureen Wise - Secretary  
Sandy Barbic  
Kendrick Chittock  
Elizabeth Dobnikar  
Joshua Herchl  
Katherine Holmok  
Hope Jones  
Chad Reel  
Jim Rodstrom  
Jennifer Syx  
Charlie Uray  
Chris Vild

## Staff

Harry Stark, Jr. - Executive Director  
Kate Chapel- Senior Project Manager  
Marisa Petherbridge - Assistant  
Watershed Coordinator  
Tracie Zamiska - Assistant Watershed  
Coordinator

## Business Members

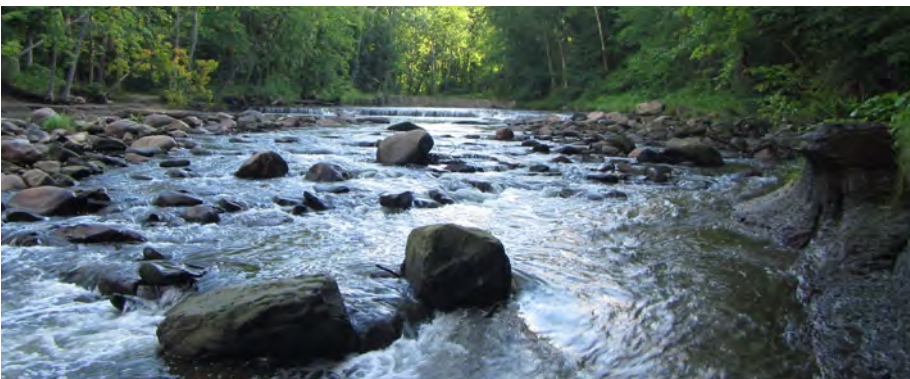
Davey Resource Group  
Environmental Design Group  
Environmental Remediation Contractor  
EnviroScience  
Environmental Resource Management  
Good Nature Organic Lawn Care  
Hop Tree Brewing  
Hull & Associates  
inSite Advisory Group, LLC  
Ohio Prairie Nursery  
OHM  
Partners Environmental Consulting, Inc.  
Robinson Lawn & Garden Center  
Starz Ballroom Twinsburg  
Stephen Hovancsek and Associates, Inc.  
The Shelly Company  
Western Reserve Cable TV Consortium

## 2018 Member Communities

Aurora  
Beachwood  
Bedford  
Bedford Heights  
Glenwillow  
Hudson  
Macedonia  
Maple Heights  
Northfield  
North Randall  
Oakwood  
Reminderville  
Solon  
Streetsboro  
Twinsburg  
Twinsburg Township  
Valley View  
Walton Hills  
Warrensville Heights

## Community Partnerships

Central Lake Erie Basin Collaborative  
Chagrin River Watershed Partners  
Chagrin Valley Engineering, Ltd.  
Cleveland Metroparks  
Cleveland Museum of Natural History  
Cuyahoga County Board of Health  
Cuyahoga Land Bank  
Cuyahoga River Restoration  
Cuyahoga Soil and Water Conservation District  
Geauga Soil and Water Conservation District  
NEO PIPE Council  
Ohio Chapter of the Sierra Club  
Ohio Prairie Nursery  
Ohio Stormwater Association  
Portage Soil and Water Conservation District  
Summit Metro Parks  
Summit Soil and Water Conservation District  
The Nature Conservancy  
West Creek Conservancy  
Western Reserve Land Conservancy



## Grant Providers

Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District (NEORSB)  
Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)  
Western Reserve Land Conservancy (WRLC)  
Dominion Energy  
EarthEcho  
ServeOhio  
Native Plant Society of Northeastern Ohio

# Welcome to our new home!

Tinker's Creek Watershed Partners has moved from our office in Twinsburg City Hall to the Hudac House, located behind Twinsburg City Hall. With the expansion of our staff and future growth opportunities, we are excited and grateful to have more space to house our equipment, work as a team, and host events.

We have a lot of plans for interpretive and educational features at the house. This past summer, volunteers through the Dominion Energy Charitable Foundation helped us improve the landscaping by supplying tools and plants.

With a grant from the Native Plant Society of Northeast Ohio, we will begin installation of the rain garden next spring.



## What We Offer Our Communities

Tinker's Creek Watershed Partners (TCWP) was initially formed as an alliance between the Tinker's Creek Land Conservancy and the Cuyahoga County Board of Health in 2005. TCWP has been an independent non-profit organization since 2006 providing assistance to local communities and creating partnerships to ensure the continued health of the Tinker's Creek watershed. Annual community memberships help us provide the following services to our member communities.

- ❖ Assistance to local governments and councils to understand and implement new MS4 permit requirements and updating regulations where appropriate.
- ❖ Assistance with community stormwater programs and stormwater control measure (SCM) practices.
- ❖ Training opportunities on watershed management practices for landowners, community professionals, and municipal workers to help communities meet MS4 permit requirements.
- ❖ Resource assistance for local governments on economic incentives of watershed management, conservation, pollution prevention, and other practices.
- ❖ Assistance in implementation of SCM practices that support onsite-based management practices, erosion and sediment control, riparian and wetland setbacks, and other improved local practices on new and redevelopment projects to address water quantity and quality issues.
- ❖ Assistance in the preservation and protection of open spaces that aid the community in watershed management, conservation, pollution prevention, and other practices.
- ❖ Zoning ordinance review and assistance to help ensure compliance on stormwater, riparian, and watershed issues.
- ❖ Grant writing assistance for stormwater, watershed, and green space protection.



# Grants Awarded in 2018

## ServeOhio AmeriCorps Planning Grant

ServeOhio has utilized planning grants as a strategy to bring new organizations into their AmeriCorps portfolio for over 20 years. TCWP was awarded a \$21,165 planning grant, spanning 8 months. The grant will allow us to augment existing staff in the development of the new program. Specifically, we will complete the following objectives during a planning grant funding period:

- Explore AmeriCorps program feasibility and design, including the development of a Logic Model and Theory of Change.
- Determine how the AmeriCorps Member service activity directly relates to our program objectives and how such service activity will transpire.
- Build organizational capacity to administer the program, including building the required human resource and legal components.



## ServeOhio Make A Difference Day Volunteer Day Grant

Make A Difference Day is the largest national day of volunteering to meet community needs. TCWP received a grant for \$1,000 and partnered with Cleveland Metroparks to help transition the recently acquired Astorhurst Golf Course to a passive recreation area. Volunteers helped remove shade structures, tee posts, split rail fencing, cleaned up debris, and dug post holes and set posts for receptacles. Make A Difference Day, which takes place on the fourth Saturday in October, is held in partnership with Points of Light and corporate sponsors.



## Native Plant Society of Northeastern Ohio Annual Grant

TCWP received a \$500 grant from the Native Plant Society of Northeastern Ohio. TCWP plans to use the grant to purchase plants for the new rain garden that will be installed at our new office behind Twinsburg City Hall. We will also have an interpretive educational component to our rain garden and plan to hold workshops about native plants and rain gardens.

## Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District (NEORS) Service Agreement

NEORS has entered into a contract with TCWP in the amount of \$40,000 to support stormwater and water quality efforts in the watershed communities. A portion of this service agreement will provide funding TCWP staff and other contracted positions that help TCWP serve our communities. This service agreement will also help fund educational outreach to public officials and collaboration efforts to conserve important land parcels.



### **Dominion Energy Watershed Mini Grant**

TCWP received a generous \$2,500 grant to purchase supplies needed to continue monitoring the water quality of Tinker's Creek watershed. On October 3, Dominion Energy and Western Reserve Land Conservancy awarded \$37,500 in grant funding to 17 Ohio watershed groups. The Watershed Mini Grant Award Ceremony and Healthy Watershed Summit took place at the Land Conservancy's Conservation Center. Dominion Energy and Western Reserve Land Conservancy launched the Watershed Mini Grant Program in 2015 to serve organizations working to protect and improve land around rivers, lakes, and streams throughout Ohio. Since the program's inception in 2015, more than \$142,000 has been awarded to 38 different watershed groups across the state.

### **EarthEcho Water Quality Test Kits**

EarthEcho International, the environmental education and youth leadership organization founded by explorer and environmental advocate Philippe Cousteau Jr., is helping support the efforts of Tinker's Creek Watershed Partners (TCWP) to empower the next generation of water scientists and stewards with a donation of water quality test kits through the EarthEcho Water Challenge. These test kits will enable young people working with TCWP to sample the waters of the Tinker's Creek watershed for a core set of water quality parameters including temperature, pH (acidity), turbidity (clarity) and dissolved oxygen (DO).



### **Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Grant from Ohio EPA**

Tinker's Creek Watershed Partners (TCWP) was awarded a \$191,500 Great Lakes Restoration grant from the Ohio and U.S. EPA for the Hudson Tenbroeck Stream Restoration Project in the City of Hudson. Funds will be used to restore instream habitat to a historically channelized portion of Tinker's Creek, plant native species along its banks, remove invasive species, and restore natural flow.



### **Nonpoint Source Implementation Program from Ohio EPA**

Funding through the Ohio and U.S. EPA was provided in the amount of \$149,139 for the Bedford Heights Stream and Floodplain Restoration at the Bus Garage. A \$80,000 local match from the Bedford City School District was also provided. The grant will address water quality issues identified in this section of the watershed including sedimentation, organic enrichment, nutrient enrichment, toxicity, and habitat alteration. In addition, the project will stabilize the stream channel, provide erosion control, and reestablish the riparian plant community. Design of this project is underway and construction scheduled to begin in 2019.





# Engaging Communities

## Mayors' Breakfast

Tinker's Creek Watershed Partners held its annual Mayors' Breakfast to meet with community leaders within the watershed. At this event, we updated our mayors and other city leaders on the work of TCWP, identified watershed issues to focus on in the future, and learned what challenges our communities face in keeping our waters healthy. Congressman David Joyce attended and provided an update on work at the Federal level.



## Stream Clean Ups in Solon, Twinsburg, and Warrensville Heights

TCWP participated in many stream clean up events. Stream clean ups let communities see first-hand what pollution and litter do to our waterways.

Volunteers leave with knowledge about storm drains, plastics, and how run off effects the health of our watershed. Through one of our stream clean ups this year we identified an illicit discharge and alerted the local health department to our findings.

## Eleventh Annual Ohio Stormwater Conference

The Ohio Stormwater Conference is hosted by TCWP and the Ohio Stormwater Association to provide a forum for sharing technical and policy information on the management of stormwater.

TCWP has hosted the conference since 2008 and has received support from the Ohio Stormwater Association to help bring the event to a larger audience. The conference is held in different cities around the state, has grown each year, and is now ranked as one of the largest regional stormwater conferences in the nation.

The 2018 Conference was held in Sandusky, Ohio, on May 9-11. The Conference had a record-setting 953 attendees, 96 exhibitors and sponsors, and over 100 presenters. The 2019 conference will be held at the Sharonville Convention Center in Sharonville, Ohio.



## Tree Plantings and Invasive Vegetation Removal

Every year TCWP staff organizes tree plantings and invasive vegetation removal throughout our member communities. This year we participated in tree plantings in Bedford, Twinsburg, and Oakwood Village. We also participated in invasive garlic mustard removal in Bedford and Glenwillow.

## Balance & Brews at Hop Tree Brewing

We joined forces with Balance & Brews and Hop Tree to hold a fundraising yoga class in the brewery! We enjoyed a yoga flow followed by post practice brews and food!

## Drinkers for Tinker's

We held our second annual Drinkers for Tinker's fundraiser at Hop Tree Brewing in Hudson, Ohio. Every attendee became a member of Tinker's Creek Watershed Partners, and all were able to enjoy Hop Tree brewed beer and amazing food. TCWP raffled off sponsor baskets, had many games with prizes, and a video was created for the event (on our Facebook page!).

All proceeds will be used to further our mission of restoring water quality and habitats in the Tinker's Creek watershed

through community partnerships.







### Watershed Festival Twinsburg

TCWP and the City of Twinsburg hosted a clean up day and watershed festival. Residents helped clean up parts of their community and learned more about how stormwater flushes trash to our creek. Attendees also received a free tree courtesy of Davey Resource Group!

### Presentations

One of the services we provide to our member communities is tailored presentations relating to storm water management and water quality. Kate Chapel, Senior Project Manager, visited several of our member communities this year to present *What is a Watershed?*, *Native Plants: Gardening with a Purpose*, *Lawn Care and Household Cleaners*, and other presentations to garden clubs discussing gardening for storm water management, erosion control, and microclimates. These presentations help residents learn more about the watershed while engaging them in a personal and thoughtful way so they can truly understand their individual impact.

### Make A Difference Day at Astorhurst Park

We collaborated with the Cleveland Metroparks to help transition Astorhurst Country Club to a passive recreation area.

We removed posts, shade structures, water structures, split rail fencing, flags, and debris from the park. We also dug holes and placed posts for mitt mutt stations, which also hold trash cans and recycling bins. Even though we didn't have as large of a turn out due to rain and cold temperatures, we were able to complete all of the items on Metroparks' wish list. Currently there is only a staff of four who are responsible for this transition among other duties and other park maintenance for several other parks. We completed over two weeks' worth of work during our MADD volunteer day, which gives the staff a head start on the park transition and helps them focus energy on other items on their list.

## Engaging Communities



### Rain Barrel Workshops in Macedonia, Bedford Heights, and Streetsboro

Tinker's Creek Watershed Partners partnered with three communities to teach residents how to install their own rain barrel and how they as individuals impact the environment through stormwater runoff. Each attendee was provided with a rain barrel, downspout diverter, and spigot, and were shown how easy it is to assemble. Each rain barrel is expected to collect just over half a gallon of roof runoff for every one inch of rainfall. This water can be used for watering gardens and will filter through the ground water and into the nearest water body. This helps lessen the impact of pollution on our watershed and also lets beautiful plants grow! Rachel Webb from Northeast Ohio Sewer District (NEORS) was in attendance to provide information about residential stormwater fee and credit.

### Stream Quality Monitoring Program

2018 was the pilot year for our Stream Quality Monitoring Program! This program teaches volunteers how to properly monitor a stream in the Tinker's Creek watershed, show what conditions to look for that are cause for concern, and who to contact with questions and data. The data are compiled and logged into Tinker's Creek Watershed Partners website to

monitor the health of the creek and to find sites for future restoration projects. Through this program we were able to address pollutant issues, educate our volunteers, and connect with city leadership. As we move into 2019, we will expand our program, monitor new sites, and have volunteers adopt sites by conducting monthly monitoring. If you're interested in participating in this worthwhile program please contact Kate at [kchapel@tinkercreekwatershed.org](mailto:kchapel@tinkercreekwatershed.org).

### **Tree Plantings and Invasive Removal**

Every year TCWP staff organizes tree plantings and invasive vegetation removals throughout our member communities. This year we participated in tree plantings in Bedford, Twinsburg, and Oakwood Village. We also participated in invasive garlic mustard removals in Bedford and Glenwillow.



### **Ethics and Engineering Professional Development Workshop**

Tinker's Creek Watershed Partners hosted an Ethics and Engineering workshop to offer engineers six CEUs including two ethics CEUs on September 14, 2018, at the Bertram Inn in Aurora, Ohio.

The day included presentations from:

- Ohio Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Surveyors
- Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District
- Frost Brown Todd
- McMahon DeGulis LLP
- Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

## **Engaging Communities**

safety, road salt poses a unique challenge to both our waterways and communities. This workshop provided a forum for information, resources, and successes to be shared. The free workshop assisted Phase 2 communities in meeting their requirement and was open to anyone interested in examining the impacts of traditional road salting and potential strategies and alternatives to reduce salt's burden to our ecosystems and budgets. Uniquely designed as a peer to peer program, speakers from various Northeastern Ohio communities discussed different methods, experiences, and challenges of salt management. It helped many communities meet MCM 1 (Public Education) and MCM 6 (Pollution Prevention and Good Housekeeping) requirements.

### **Sensible Salting Seminar**

Through our membership in NEOPIPE, TCWP participated in hosting a Sensible Salting Seminar. Two seminars were held this fall. Though critical to our



### **Partners Picnic**

Our volunteers, members, and community partners are the foundation of our organization! This summer we hosted the Partners Picnic as a thank you to these amazing people. Thank you to everyone who gives their time to help our organization serve our communities to protect the watershed. We had a great time seeing familiar faces and engaging new members. Thank you to each of you who help us serve the watershed!

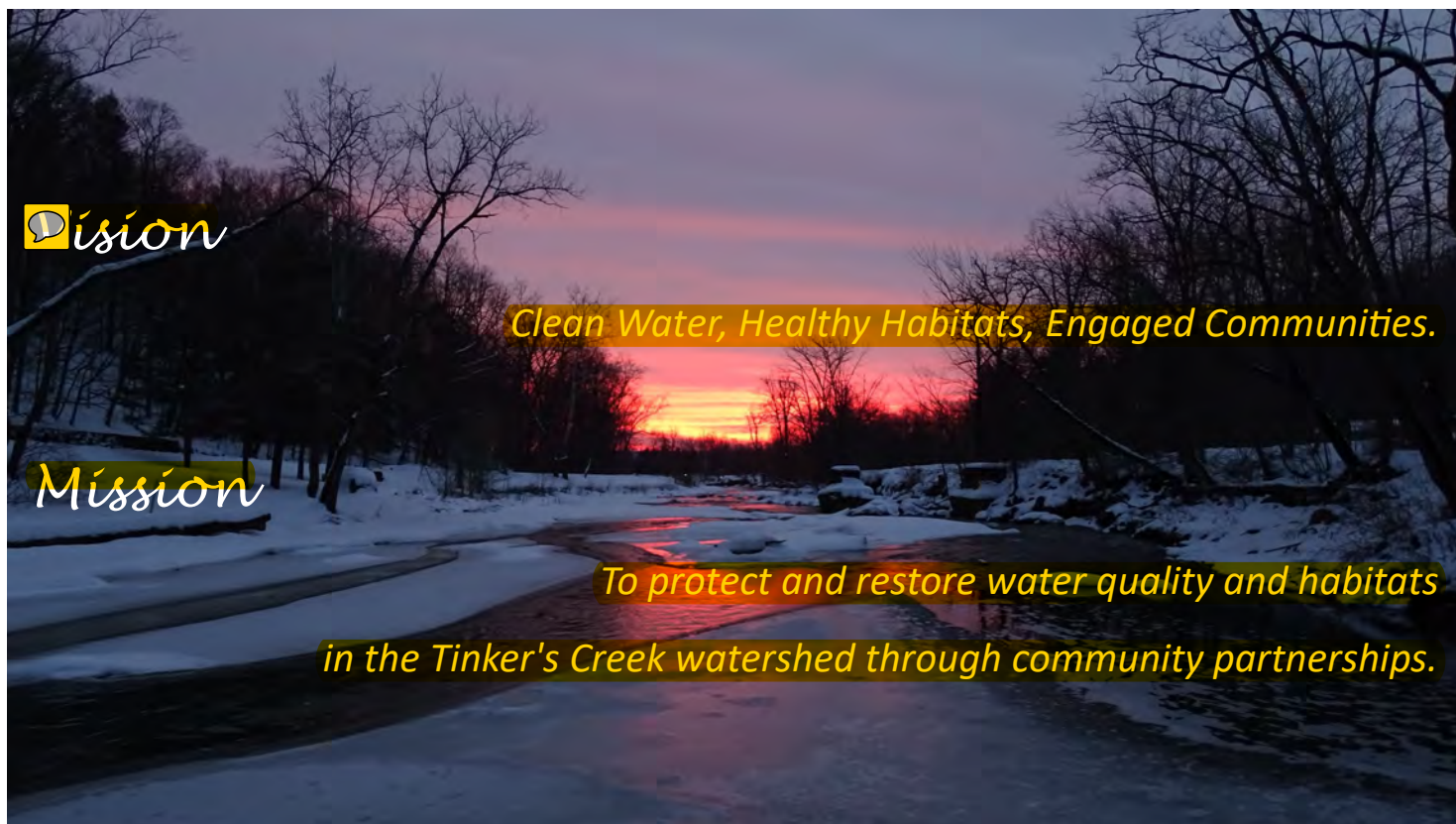


### **Minimum Control Measure (MCM) 6, Pollution Prevention and Good Housekeeping Training**

TCWP provides training sessions to municipal workers on MCM 6, Pollution Prevention and Good Housekeeping as required by Ohio EPA's Stormwater Permits for municipalities. This training focuses on best management practices (BMPs) that are important to municipal operations such as good housekeeping, spill response, materials storage and handling, landscape maintenance, and street maintenance. Employees working in fleet maintenance, garages, parks, recreation facilities, street maintenance, and other departments all benefited from this training. All Member Communities have the opportunity to take advantage of these training sessions. The communities of Beachwood and Streetsboro participated in these events.

### **Newsletters, Articles, and Social Media**

The TCWP newsletter is produced quarterly and distributed to over 730 individuals, increasing our reach from 600 individuals in 2017. Articles on specific topics in watershed protection were shared with communities for publication and distribution to their residents. Some of the topics covered in 2018 included planting trees for stormwater, general stormwater information, sensible salting practices for homes and communities, the importance of protecting riparian areas, rain gardens, rain barrels and cisterns, the importance of protecting green space, and the importance of planting native species. The TCWP website contains technical reports, maps, educational materials, and links to watershed partners. TCWP also communicated with the public through Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram, updating our followers about events and information occurring throughout the watershed and beyond. We have made continued efforts to expand our online presence and encourage you to follow us on Facebook and Instagram to stay up to date on all of our activities and outreach!



# Projects and Ongoing Initiatives

## Hudson Tenbroeck Stream Restoration

TCWP was awarded a \$191,500 Great Lakes Restoration grant from the Ohio EPA and U.S. EPA. Funds will be used to restore in-stream habitat to a historically channelized portion of Tinker's Creek.

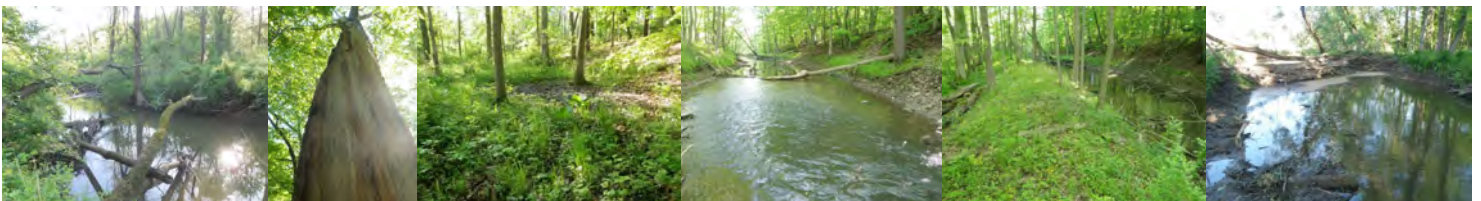
Fourteen wetlands and four streams, one being Tinker's Creek, were found within the study area. The wetlands are moderate to high quality and include areas of emergent, scrub/shrub, and forested plant communities. All of the wetlands fall into the Ohio Rapid Assessment Method (ORAM) Category 2 or 3 ranges and are abutting or adjacent to streams and/or in the floodplain of Tinker's Creek.



The riparian corridor, in general, is one very positive aspect for the project site as the streambanks are well vegetated creating a desirable shaded condition. While much of the stream is channelized, the mature forested areas surrounding the stream preclude significant channel relocation or levy spoil pile removal, and the project will focus largely on improving habitat within the existing channel and within the wetlands and riparian corridor. The goal is to avoid the ecological bruising associated with substantial earthmoving efforts, to stretch the available funding as far as possible for the benefit of the stream and wetlands corridor, and to set the foundation for continued long-term uplift of the stream by giving it a low impact restoration nudge. Performance metric goals for Reach 3 include increasing the QHEI score from 54.5 to 60 or above and increasing IBI scores from 26 to 34 or above. Additional project goals include improving the riparian corridor and wetlands ecological integrity by invasive vegetation removal. During the project team's site visit, common reed (*Phragmites australis*) and multiflora rose (*Rosa multi lora*) were identified as primary invasive species requiring treatment; however, smaller populations of invasive buckthorn were also identified.

This site also serves as excellent habitat with good connectivity to other natural areas for two species of bats: the federally endangered Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*) and the federally threatened northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*).

The project approach will focus on a targeted, low impact strategy to enhance the existing conditions. To achieve the habitat and biological uplift we anticipate, we will employ targeted alterations of the existing conditions by using woody habitat and root wads, restored riffles, and channel constrictions.





## Future Projects and Programs

### Bedford Heights Service Department Project

This project was part of a subgroup of projects funded by the AOC Grant that were not initially within the WAP. The perennial unnamed tributary to Tinker's Creek is located east of Interstate 271 and north of Solon Road. The tributary drains into another larger tributary that drains to the main stem of Tinker's Creek just south of Solon Road, downstream of stream mile 8. The project starts approximately 320 linear feet (along the channel) from the confluence of this tributary with Tinker's Creek extending approximately 720 linear feet east along the existing stream channel. The Bedford Heights Waste Water Treatment Plant outfall discharges to this tributary north of Solon Road. The tributary drains approximately 442.4 acres and has approximately 17.4% impervious surfaces (USGS Streamstats). About 150 linear feet of this stream has extremely steep slopes which will require slope stabilization and reforestation. In this area, the stream has historically flooded properties, further exacerbating sediment transport, habitat degradation, and oil/grease runoff from the flooded bus garage.

In-stream rock structures will be installed to provide habitat and stabilize the stream channel. Toe rock armoring with live whip plantings and erosion control matting anchored with live whips will stabilize and vegetate the streambanks and corridor while providing increased in-stream habitat. The existing concrete v-notch weir will be removed and replaced with a vortex rock weir, which will allow fish passage. Plantings include native trees and shrubs, live whips, and perennials through seeding. This variety will provide a swift and diverse reestablishment of the riparian plant community while reducing sedimentation.

This project will significantly reduce sediment and nutrient input into Tinker's Creek by installing a 1.2-acre floodplain wetland with a depth of 6 to 18 inches of permeant pool. Based on the U.S. EPA Region 5 model, the restoration will remove an estimated 341.2 pounds/year of total nitrogen, 160.8 pounds/year of total phosphorus and 71.2 tons/year of sediment.

### AmeriCorps Planning Grant

Tinker's Creek Watershed Partners was awarded a \$21,165 grant from ServeOhio for an AmeriCorps Planning Grant for 2019. The grant will facilitate the creation of an AmeriCorps Member program for Tinker's Creek Watershed Partners and members of NEOPIPE to build capacity and expand services. We hope to launch the AmeriCorps Program in Fall 2019.

### WebinarSeries and Workshops

2019 will bring several new opportunities for education, outreach and professional education credits. TCWP is planning a webinar training series for municipalities, watershed residents, and volunteers. The webinar and in-person trainings will include opportunities for continuing education. TCWP staff are also being trained as Master Rain Gardeners to host workshops about rain gardens and to empower residents to install their own.





# Tinker's Creek Watershed Map

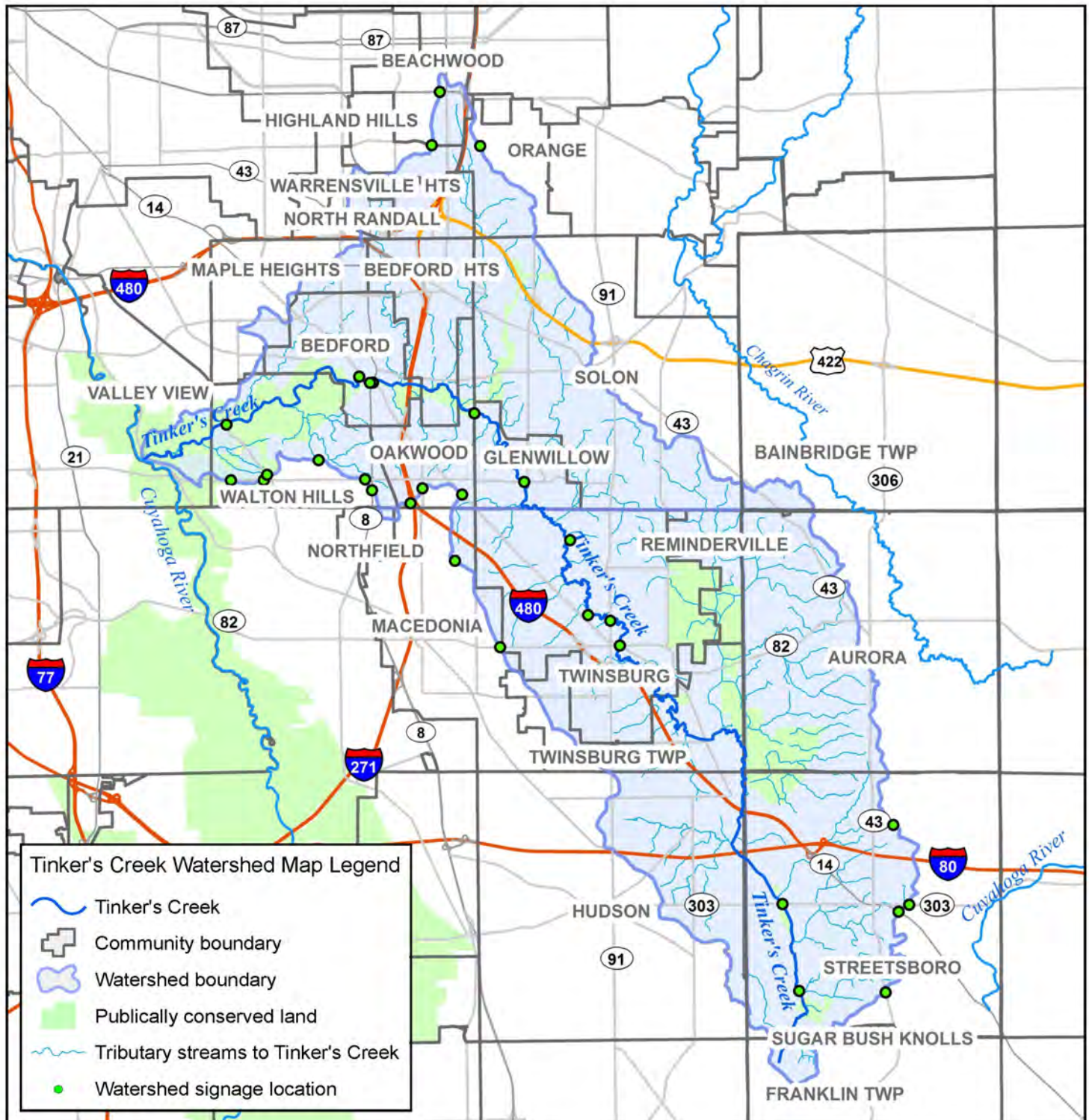
**Tinker's Creek Watershed (TCW) Spans 4 Counties and 24 Communities!**

13 Cuyahoga County communities = 41.7% of TCW is in this county

6 Summit County communities = 30.6% of TCW is in this county

4 Portage County communities = 27.2% of TCW is in this county

1 Geauga County community = 0.6% of TCW is in this county









Tinker's Creek Watershed Partners (TCWP) is a non-profit, 501(c)(3) watershed organization officially established in 2006. Our mission is to protect and restore water quality and habitats of the Tinker's Creek watershed through community partnerships. The Tinker's Creek watershed drains 96.4 square miles and is the largest tributary to the Cuyahoga River. The watershed area spans 24 communities in Cuyahoga, Summit, Portage, and Geauga counties.

TCWP is governed by 15 dedicated volunteer Board of Directors who bring a variety of expertise in the fields of stormwater management, environmental education, engineering, natural resources conservation, planning, and economic development. TCWP is guided in their efforts to protect and restore the watershed and educate the public by three Ohio and U.S. EPA endorsed nonpoint source implementation strategic plans (NPS-IS Plans). Each plan encompasses a subset of the Tinker's Creek watershed. They can be found under the Information tab of our website. The group's mission, along with the NPS-IS plans, shaped the goals of TCWP.



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