

Northern Ohio Watershed (NOW) Corps



2021-2022 Service Year Annual Report





2021-2022 Service Year:

Ashland Soil & Water Conservation District

NOWCorps Conservation Program Assistant

Chagrin River Watershed Partners

NOWCorps Watershed Steward

NOWCorps Education & Outreach Specialist

Cleveland Metroparks

NOWCorps Trails Assistant

NOWCorps Natural Resources Technician - East

NOWCorps Natural Resources Technician - Central

NOWCorps Naturalist Assistant

Cuyahoga Soil & Water Conservation District

NOWCorps Educator & Coordinator

NOWCorps Watershed Steward

Erie Soil & Water Conservation District

NOWCorps Conservation Program & Outreach Assistant

Holden Forests & Gardens

HF&G Trails Assistant

NOWCorps Conservation Specialist

Lake Soil & Water Conservation District

NOWCorps Outreach Specialist

Summit Soil & Water Conservation District

NOWCorps Outreach Specialist

The Nature Conservancy

NEOH CLEB/ Restoration Crew Member

The University of Akron Field Station

NOWCorps Field Station Assistant

Western Reserve Land Conservancy

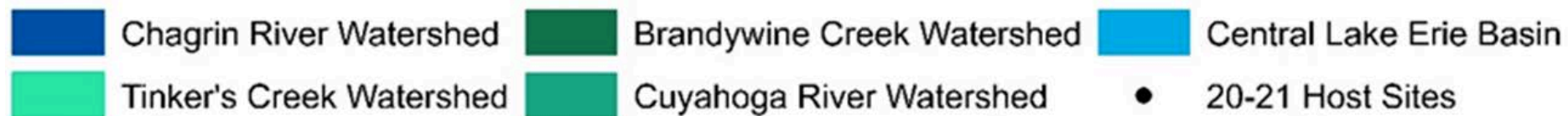
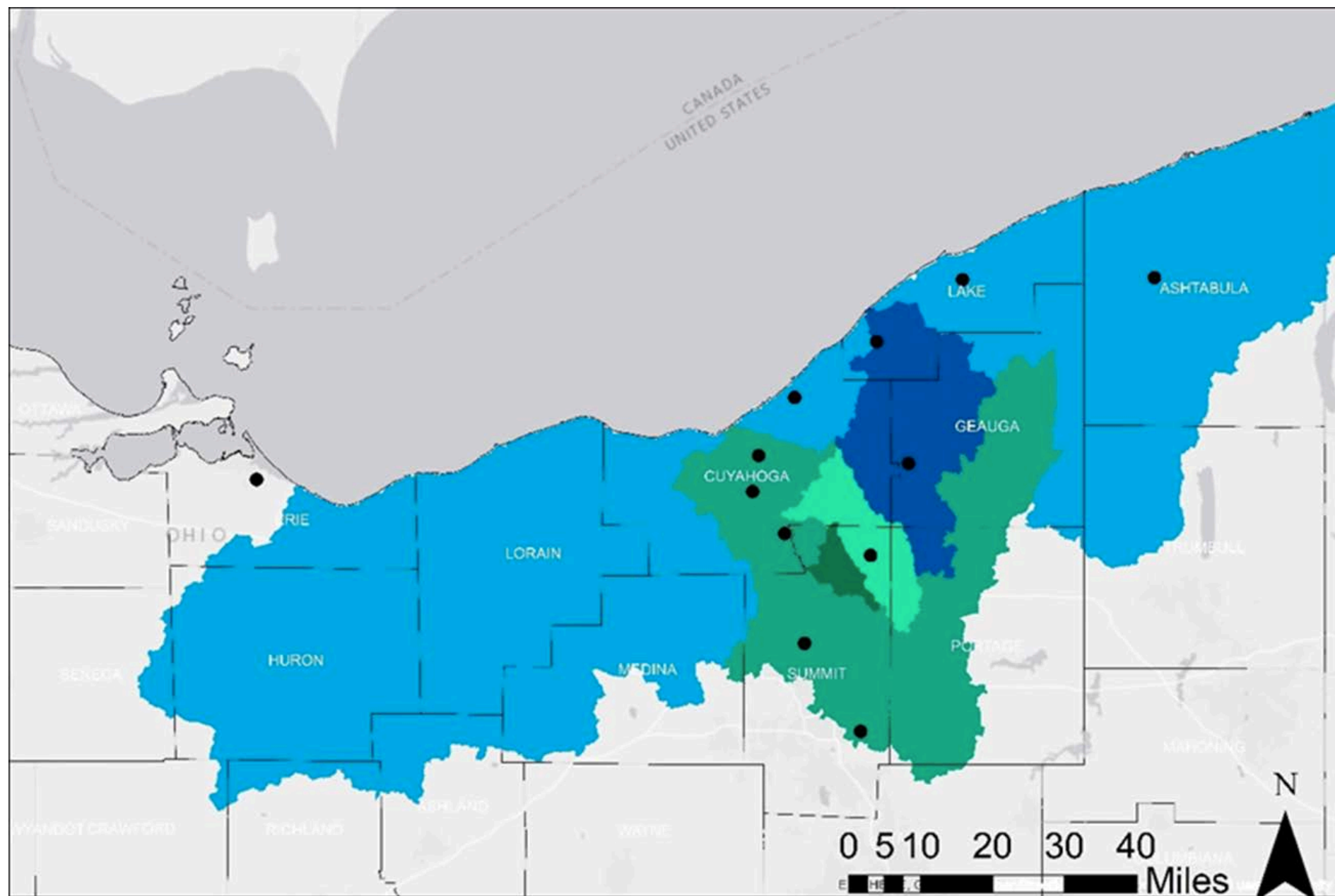
NOWCorps Land Steward

NOWCorps Urban Projects Specialist

NOWCorps Communications, Outreach, & Marketing Specialist

NOWCorps Video Communications & Outreach Specialist

NOWCorps Community Forestry Specialist



EDUCATED

2,145 People
on eco-friendly practices

SERVED alongside

492 volunteers
over an accumulated
1,673 hours

PLANTED

3,611
trees

IMPROVED

99 acres of
land

TREATED

263 miles
of river and trail

REMOVED

543 bags*
of debris

REMOVED

707 bags*
of invasive vegetation

* We use standard 45-gallon sized trash bags

CREATED

45 programs
to enhance
Education &
Volunteer
Engagement

CONNECTED with over

663
community
members

AmeriCorps, a federal agency, brings people together to tackle the country's most pressing challenges, through national service and volunteering. AmeriCorps members and AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers serve with organizations dedicated to the improvement of communities. AmeriCorps helps make service to others a cornerstone of our national culture. Learn more at [AmeriCorps.gov](https://www.americorps.gov).

Our 2021-2022 service year ran from October 4, 2021, through September 30, 2022. Tinker's Creek Watershed Partners (TCWP) is proud of the impacts NOWCorps members have made on their communities and within their Host Site organizations.



AmeriCorps
Ohio

SERVED

31,270 hours



SERVE **OHIO**
Ohio Commission on Service and Volunteerism



Monthly Member Trainings/Service

November: Tree Planting at Erie Soil & Water Conservation District

December: Orientation Review and Great Story Discussion at Tinker's Creek Watershed Partners

January: Project Management – Planning for a joint day of service with Rural Action Corps

February: Volunteer Management with Cleveland Metroparks

March: Invasive Species 101 with Holden Forests & Gardens

April: Team Building & Member Compliance

May: Green Infrastructure Monitoring & Assessment with Cleveland Metroparks

June: Life After AmeriCorps – Panel discussions with AmeriCorps alumni

July: BioBlitz and Pond Maintenance at Crown Point Ecology Center with The University of Akron

August: Urban Tree Planting Prep and Invasive Removal with Western Reserve Land Conservancy

September: Member Annual Presentations

NOWCorps: A Year for Personal Growth

NOWCorps members are paired with supervisors at their host sites that provide mentorship as members navigate the world of environmental conservation. Additionally, members are encouraged to seek training opportunities based on their service year needs and career goals. Training programs are funded by a NOWCorps training stipend. 2021-22 members completed hundreds of hours of training, culminating in 42 certifications.

A few of our members' favorite trainings for 2021-22 were:

- Master Rain Gardener
- Tree Steward
- Ohio Certified Volunteer Naturalist (OCVN)
- Chainsaw Safety Awareness (CSAW)
- Primary Headwater Habitat (HHEI)
- Project WET
- Project WILD
- Project Learning Tree.



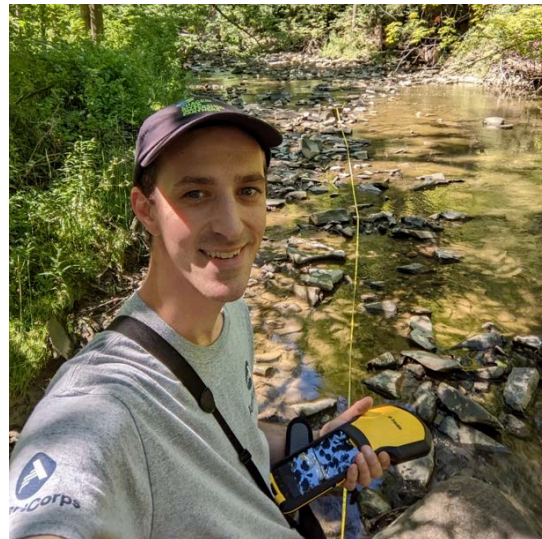


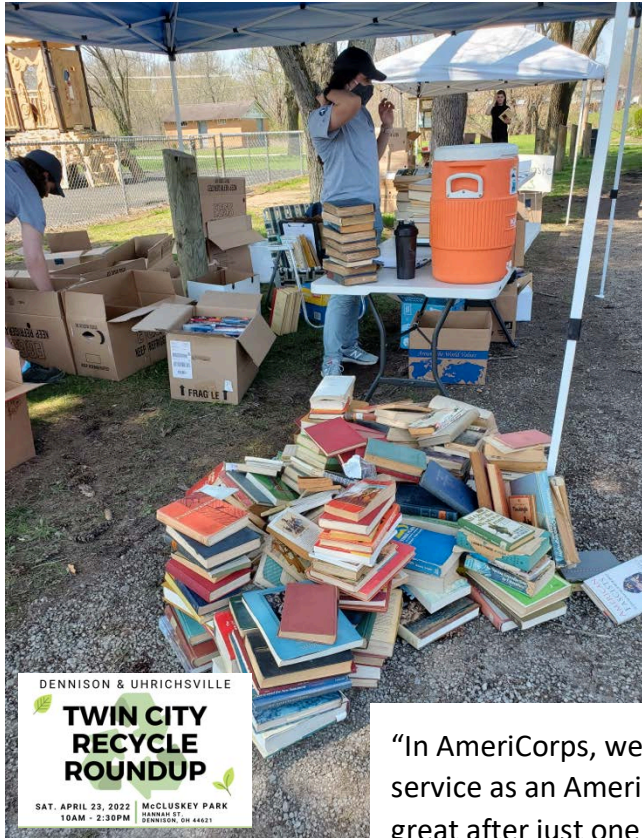
“At the beginning of my service, I had very limited knowledge of trees and forest dynamics. By the end of quarter one, I could identify major tree species and invasive plants of Northeast Ohio, plant a tree, distinguish healthy from unhealthy forests, operate tools that I hadn't before, and learned other skills that I will carry with me throughout my career.”

“For two weeks during the month of June 2022, I had the great opportunity to attend and complete the Ohio Certified Volunteer Naturalist course offered at The Wilderness Center in Stark County. I have known about this program for years and was so excited to complete this training because I have always loved nature and am passionate about protecting our environment and wildlife. My end goal after finishing my AmeriCorps service year is to become a park ranger/interpretive guide with a park system or nature center, so this was a step toward achieving that goal.”

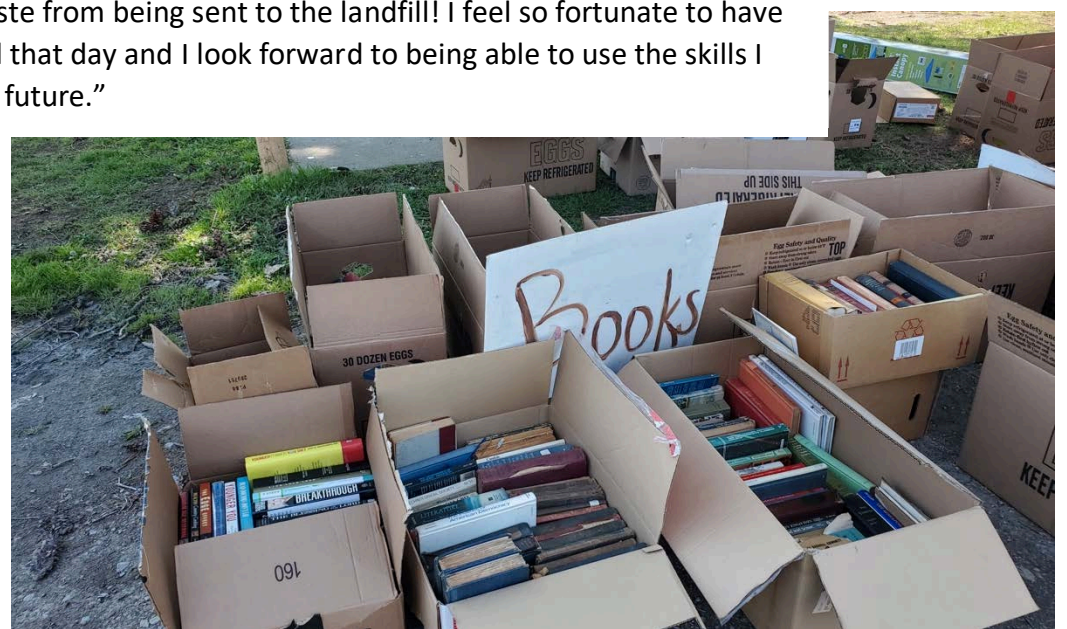
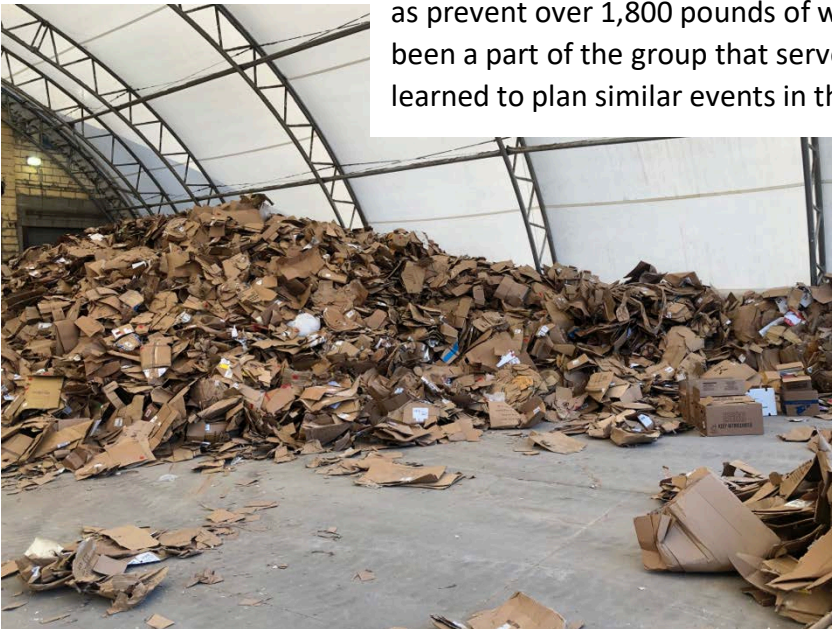
“Seeing all the students get so excited over everything was really encouraging to me that I am in the right field for myself, and I want to keep encouraging this curiosity to the students that I meet.”

“My time this quarter has really helped me determine the future of my career path. This service year has been engaging and inspiring and has made me want to pursue a career in water resource management. I have become very interested in stream science and plan to use my Segal Education Award to boost my knowledge and skills in this field.”





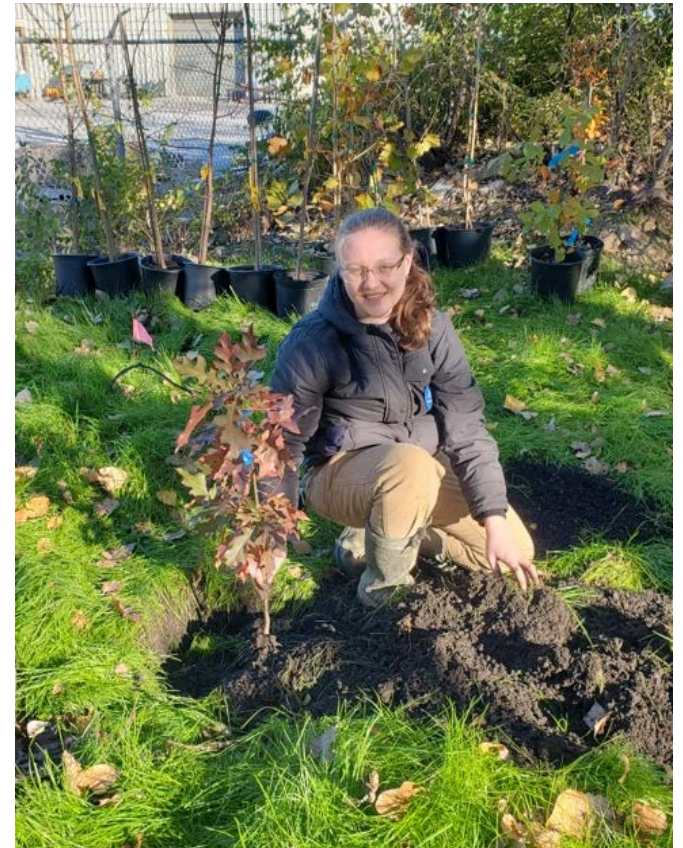
"In AmeriCorps, we often hear about getting things done. While I get a lot done in my day-to-day service as an AmeriCorps member, rarely am I able to be a part of an event where the impact is so great after just one day. We were able to provide a service to an underserved community as well as prevent over 1,800 pounds of waste from being sent to the landfill! I feel so fortunate to have been a part of the group that served that day and I look forward to being able to use the skills I learned to plan similar events in the future."



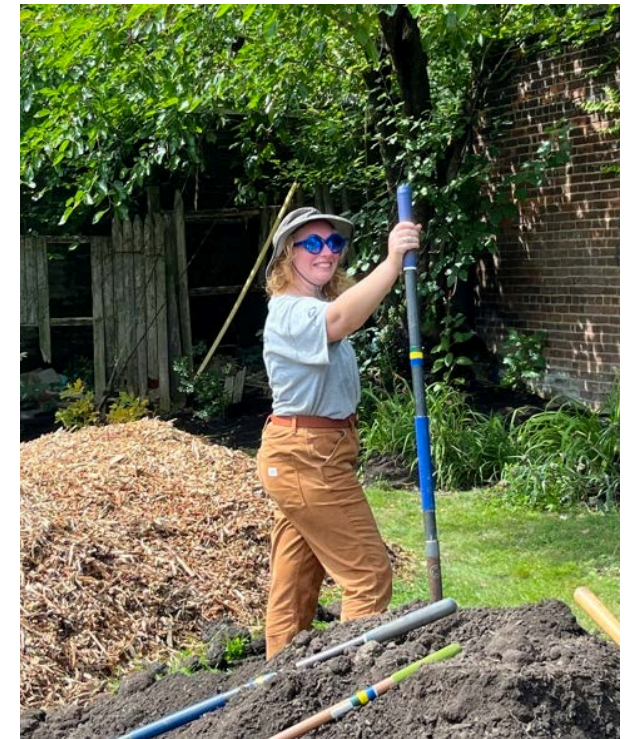
“On November 6, 2021 The Western Reserve Land Conservancy brought to a conclusion a project tied to a story that has long been the sorrow of East Cleveland. In 2009, the bodies of eleven women were found in the home of Anthony Sowell, who was eventually convicted of their murders. The Western Reserve Land Conservancy took it upon themselves to build a park for the community from which Sowell took so much. Twelve years after these horrific murders the community could finally grasp at some sort of closure. The Conservancy acquired eight lots, Sowell's home and seven next to it, knocked them down and built The Garden of Eleven Angels. It was my job to film the ribbon cutting event and produce a meaningful video to tell the story and tout WRCLC's accomplishments regarding this tragedy and its resolution... I was proud to be there and to be a part of a story twelve years in the making.”



I will get things done for America—to make our people safer, smarter, and healthier.



I will bring Americans together to strengthen our communities.





Faced with apathy, I will take action.
Faced with conflict, I will seek common ground.
Faced with adversity, I will persevere.





**I will carry this commitment
with me this year and
beyond.**



**I am an AmeriCorps member, and
I will Get Things Done!**



Ashland



Together with our partners, Tinker's Creek Watershed Partners recognizes the importance of maintaining water quality throughout Northern Ohio. We also believe in educating the public and regional leaders to support behavioral changes that positively affect our water resources. The Northern Ohio Watershed Corps (NOWCorps) works with watershed groups, soil and water conservation districts, city and county government offices, and other conservation nonprofits to facilitate outreach, education, capacity building, environmental stewardship, and stormwater management. Learn more at

<https://tinkercreek.org/nowcorps-program/>