



Duck and Otter Creeks Partnership, Inc.



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Quarterly Newsletter

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Lutheran Homes Wetland Project

In 2006, the Duck and Otter Creeks Partnership received a \$50,000 grant from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Foundation for a wetland enhancement management project



located at the Lutheran Home at Toledo. This site is adjacent to a 150 acre urban wetland near the headwaters of Duck Creek. During the summer of 2007, the Duck and Otter Creeks Partnership replaced over 2 acres of lawn with a native grass prairie and planted 5 theme gardens that attract butterflies, songbirds and hummingbirds. This past summer the project moved forward with a pervious concrete pathway that connects all the gardens. This pathway allows water to seep through it during rain storms, lowering the amount of runoff from the project. Educational signs have been placed in all the gardens and benches have been installed.

To learn more about this project and to view pictures of the installation and to see the end results, please go to our website at www.dopartnership.org.

We would like to thank the Toledo ZooTeens as well as all the volunteers who have helped make this project possible.



E-Newsletter

This will be the last mailing of our Duck and Otter Creeks Partnership quarterly newsletter. In the future all newsletters will be sent out via e-mail and also posted on our website at www.dopartnership.org.

If you would like to receive our quarterly newsletter in the future, please send an e-mail to dopartnership@yahoo.com. If you do not have an e-mail account or access to the internet, please call our office at 419-530-8366.

We would like to thank you for your interest in the Partnership and hope that we can count on your continued support in the future.

Clean Your Streams

The 13th annual Clean Your Streams event is taking place on September 12th, 2009. Come and be one of the many volunteers that helps clean up the rivers and creeks in your area.



Last year 69 volunteers helped remove 50 tires from Otter creek! Despite the pouring rain, 768 people turned out last year throughout the region and removed over 20,000 pounds of trash from our rivers and streams.

You can choose between many kickoff locations in the area, one of which will be located at the Oregon Municipal Building on Seaman Rd. Check-in begins at 8:00 a.m. with orientation and cleanup to follow. A free appreciation picnic will be provided to all cleanup participants.

To learn more about this year's event and to register please go to <http://www.partnersforcleanstreams.org/CYS.html>

Duck and Otter Creeks Partnership would like to thank Partners for Clean Streams and its partners for making this event possible.

Calendar

The Duck and Otter Creeks Partnership holds board meetings every other month on the third Thursday at 2:00 p.m.. Below are the next meeting dates. Please call ahead, or go to our website, to verify location:

Sept. 17th Nov. 19th Jan. 21st, 2010 March 18th, 2010

*Please send an e-mail to dopartnership@yahoo.com if you would like to receive future meeting agendas, meeting minutes and other Partnership updates.



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The Duck and Otter Creeks Partnership promotes human and ecological health through education, protection and restoration of these watersheds with diverse collaborative efforts dedicated to building community stewardship

Great Lakes Restoration Initiative

The President's 2010 Budget provides \$475 million in EPA's budget for a new Environmental Protection Agency-led, interagency Great Lakes restoration initiative. If this initiative is approved, \$250 million of this would be available in grants to target 5 main categories: Toxic substances and Areas of Concern, Invasive Species, Nearshore Health and Nonpoint Source Pollution, Habitat and Wildlife Protection and Restoration, and Accountability, Monitoring, Evaluation, Communication, and Partnerships. If the initiative moves forward, the timeline is to have the request for proposals for grant monies available in late August and the due date for proposals in October.

The Duck and Otter Creeks Partnership has been meeting with partners throughout Northwest Ohio to prioritize our projects and prepare for this first round of grants. Some of the projects we have highlighted in our watersheds are: creating a volunteer stream monitoring program, subsidizing the cost to upgrade or replace failed or inadequate septic systems, habitat creation/restoration and bank stabilization in and around Duck and Otter Creeks. Please contact our office if there are projects you would like to see done in the watersheds.

Go to <http://www.epa.gov/glnpo/gfri/> to learn more about this initiative.

Rain Barrels...our answers to your questions

What is a rain barrel? A large container that captures rainwater at the end of your downspout.

Where do I place a rain barrel? At the end of a downspout. If you have more than one downspout, you can combine them and direct them into the same rain barrel, or have more than one rain barrel around the house.

What are the benefits of having a rain barrel? Having a rain barrel will save you money! 1 inch of rainwater over 1,000 square feet is equal to 600 gallons of water. This is free water that can be used to water many items around your house. Also, rain barrels cut down on the amount of stormwater runoff by collecting the runoff and storing the rainwater for future use.

What can I do with the water collected in my rain barrel? You can use the rainwater collected to water:

- lawns
- gardens
- flowers
- car

