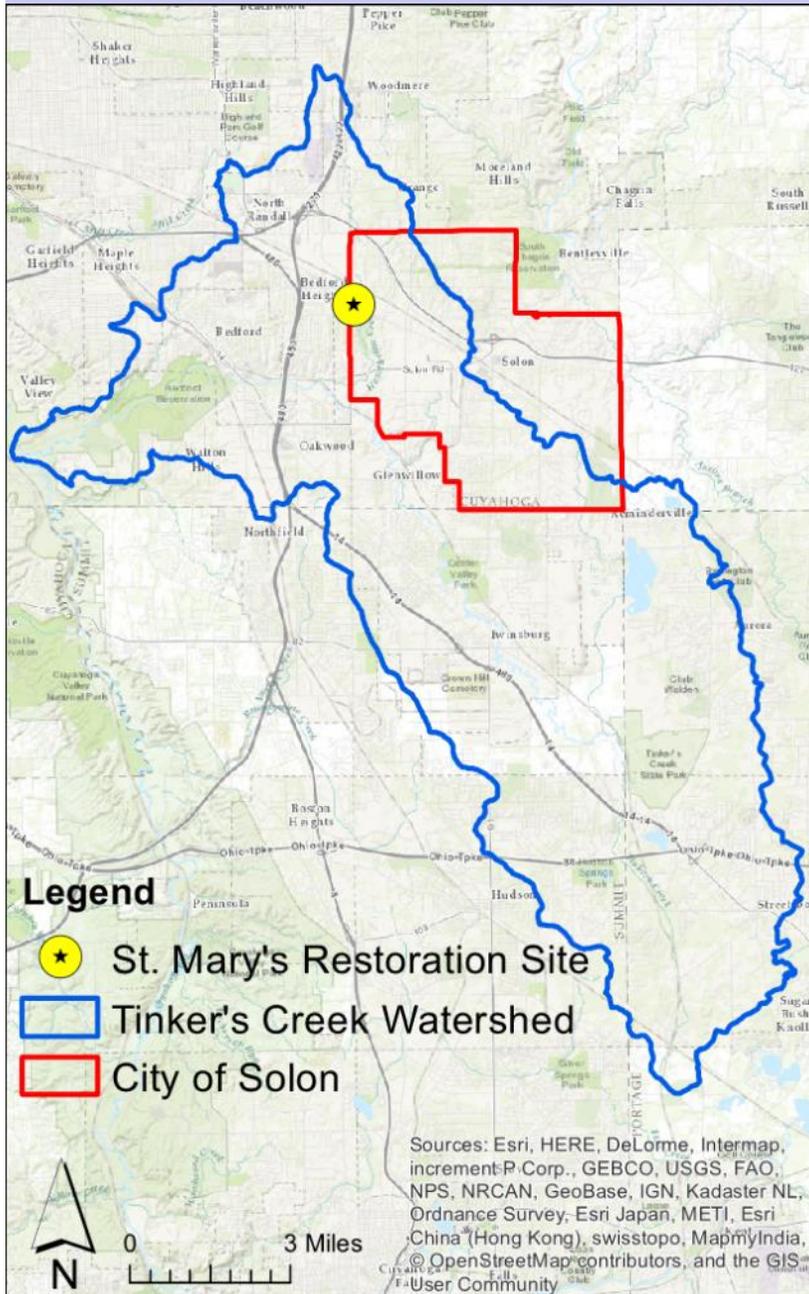


St. Mary's Stream Restoration Project

In 2014, the City of Solon received an Ohio EPA Nonpoint Source Implementation grant for \$105,000 to complete a stream restoration of Hawthorne Creek, a tributary to Tinker's Creek in the Cuyahoga River watershed. Tinker's Creek is the largest tributary to the Cuyahoga River, a recognized National Heritage River. In 2007, Ohio EPA determined that Hawthorne Creek was in non-attainment of its warmwater habitat (WWH) water quality standards due to increased erosion and sedimentation from impervious cover and suburban development.

The project was completed in the spring of 2016 and restored 430 linear feet of severely eroding streambank and an acre of riparian habitat. It reduced harmful nutrients and sediment from entering Hawthorne Creek, bringing it significantly closer to achieving attainment of WWH water quality standards.

Projects like these illustrate the importance of maintaining healthy riparian cover and protecting streamside habitat, which stabilizes streambanks, minimizes erosion, and reduces the harmful effects of urban stormwater runoff and pollution to our valuable streams, rivers, and ultimately Lake Erie.



Tinker's Creek Quick Facts:

- Size: 96.4 square miles
- Largest tributary to the Cuyahoga River and is ~30 miles long
- Spans 4 counties and 24 communities

For more information, visit Tinker's Creek Watershed Partners at www.tinkerscreek.org

How was the stream restored at the St. Mary's site?

The St. Mary's site contains Hawthorne Creek, a headwater tributary to Tinker's Creek, which drains to the main stem of the Cuyahoga River. This stream has been impacted by channelization, riparian vegetation removal, and stormwater flows. The stream restoration included stabilization of eroded streambanks caused by increased sedimentation, establishment of woody vegetation within the riparian corridor, and recreation of a floodplain bench to allow the stream to access the floodplain.



Severely eroded existing streambank.



Building a floodplain access area.



Volunteer planting with local girl scout troops.



Seven months after volunteer planting.

St. Mary's Stream Restoration

Quick Facts:

- **Floodplain restored:** 430 linear feet
- **Streambank stabilized:** 430 linear feet
- **Riparian area restored:** 1 acre

For more information, visit our project page at:
<http://crwp.org/index.php/projects/restoration-projects-current>



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