



## CHAGRIN RIVER WATERSHED PARTNERS, INC. 2003 PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

CRWP had a busy and productive year in 2003. We continued to work with our members to reduce flooding and erosion problems and to maintain the public health and safety services of the Chagrin River watershed. We assisted members in managing their portions of the watershed, obtaining funds for community projects, and implementing Phase II Storm Water Management Programs. Our accomplishments in 2003 include:

**Growing membership.** We welcomed the **Village of Woodmere** and the **City of Mayfield Heights**. Today we have 31 members, representing 86% of the watershed.

**Successful grant applications.** We were very busy with the **Clean Ohio Fund** in 2003. We assisted Eastlake to obtain **\$250,860** to preserve 20 acres of floodplain open space, and are working with Lake Metroparks, Munson, and Russell on a total of **\$1.65 million** in pending applications. We also assisted Aurora, Munson, Russell, and Willoughby Hills in taking advantage of a reissue of the **Ohio Great Lakes Coastal Restoration Grant**, with total pending applications of **\$728,680**. In 2003 we continued to receive positive feedback from application reviewers on the quality of our member proposals and their innovation in addressing watershed issues. We also partnered with the Chagrin River Land Conservancy on the Russell and Munson applications to combine the expertise of our two organizations on these multifaceted open space projects.

### **Benefits of CRWP Membership**

- *Innovative and cost saving solutions to flooding, erosion, and other land management problems.*
- *Success with funding for open space, storm water management, and other community projects.*
- *Access to CRWP professional staff.*

**Implementation of model regulations.** We assisted Bentleyville and Moreland Hills with **riparian mapping**, and worked with Bainbridge, the Geauga County Planning Commission (GCPC), and the Geauga Soil and Water Conservation District (GSWCD) to develop a **model Riparian Setback Resolution**. **Bainbridge** is currently **reviewing this model for adoption**. Working with Lake SWCD and OEPA, we finalized a **Phase II Compliant Model Erosion and Sediment Control Ordinance** for villages and cities. **Willoughby Hills** is currently **reviewing this model** for adoption. We again partnered with the GCPC and GSWCD to develop a township zoning resolution format for erosion and sediment control under **consideration by Russell and Auburn**.

*In October we were honored to receive the **Cardinal Award** from the **Ohio Department of Natural Resources**. Each year ODNR recognizes the work of individuals and organizations that have contributed to the preservation and wise use of Ohio's natural resources. We look forward to continuing our productive relationship with ODNR.*

**Member and landowner technical support.** We worked with members and landowners on a variety of watershed management issues, such as assisting:

- Aurora and Kirtland with **implementation** of their riparian and wetland setback regulations.
- Willoughby Hills with storm water management and erosion and sediment control **issues on specific development projects**.
- Chagrin Falls with their OEPA Source Water Assessment Report regarding the Village's drinking water supply, and to develop **options to address severe flooding in a residential area**.
- Aurora, Kirtland, Munson, Russell, and Solon with **direct assistant to residents** experiencing significant and on-going erosion and flooding problems.

**Phase II member assistance.** In January and February we were very busy assisting members with submittal of their Storm Water Management Programs. The remainder of 2003 focused on guiding members through Program implementation, including:

- Development of a **Phase II compliant Erosion and Sediment Control Model Ordinance and Resolution** and assistance with adoption.

- Organization of a **watershed public education information strategy** and printing of the USEPA brochure *Make Your Home the Solution to Pollution* for members at a reduced price.
- Working with the Geauga County Engineer, SWCD, Health District, and Bainbridge and Russell to develop an **illicit discharge detection and elimination protocol** for the County.
- Assisting Auburn to successfully obtain a **waiver from the Phase II requirements**.
- Working with Lake SWCD and CT Consultants to **train** Willoughby and Eastlake service, building, and other staff on **Phase II implementation** including illicit discharge detection and elimination protocols, erosion and sediment control inspection, municipal pollution prevention activities, and recordkeeping and reporting.

**Statewide leadership.** We continued to be recognized as a leader in watershed management. We made presentations at **state and national conferences** and represented the watershed on the Lake Erie Commission's **Balanced Growth Initiative** and other statewide committees impacting members.

**Watershed projects.** Through these projects we gather information to support member land management activities and implementation of our recommended model regulations. These projects also increase landowner awareness about watershed management. Our projects include:

- **Controlling Stream Bank Erosion:** We installed three tree revetments in Eastlake and Russell to **reduce stream bank erosion and minimize downstream flow of logs and other woody debris**. We hosted four site tours of the projects and are drafting a pamphlet on the technique.
- **Inventorying Headwater Streams:** We surveyed **60 streams** in the Upper Main Branch in Chester, Munson, Newbury, and Russell. This project also involved **significant landowner contact** and has led to several other projects to address specific erosion and flooding concerns.

➤ **Maintaining Wetland and Stream Function:** We surveyed **potential mitigation sites** to assist members in ensuring that the flood control, erosion control, and water quality protection services of wetlands and streams are not removed from the watershed when land is developed.

➤ **Gulley Brook Watershed Study:** We coordinated with Wickliffe, Willoughby, Willoughby Hills, Lake Metroparks, and Lake SWCD to assist the **U.S. Army Corps of Engineers** in studying potential restoration projects in the Gulley Brook drainage. Through this study we increased the Corps understanding of the sophistication of watershed planning in the Chagrin and explored several other **Corps funding opportunities** to address member concerns.

#### Watch for in 2004

- **WRRSP Nominations:** OEPA's WRRSP program is a great source of funding for open space acquisition. In 2003 we assisted Kirtland in nominating projects in association with their planned sewer extension. This will assist Holden Arboretum and Aurora with preservation and will provide Kirtland with interest savings on their loan. Please contact CRWP if you have open space goals or are undertaking a sewer project.
- **Chagrin Total Maximum Daily Load Study:** In 2004 OEPA will sample the watershed. This will identify major sources of pollution, such as sediment. CRWP is working with OEPA to ensure the study is conducted for maximum member benefit.
- **Phase II Implementation:** Please check your Storm Water Management Program for those activities you planned for 2004 such as implementation of an illicit discharge detection regulation and riparian setbacks. CRWP is available to assist with these activities.
- **District 1 Clean Ohio Fund:** Applications for District 1 will be due in March 2004. Begin today to identify projects and we will work with you to ensure high quality applications.

#### For More Information Contact

Kyle Dreyfuss-Wells, Executive Director  
440-975-3870  
kdw@crwp.org

---

**CRWP Members:** Auburn, Aurora, Bainbridge, Bentleyville, Chagrin Falls, Chagrin Falls Twp., Chester, Cleveland Metroparks, Eastlake, Gates Mills, Geauga Park District, Hunting Valley, Kirtland, Kirtland Hills, Lake County, Lake MetroParks, Mayfield Heights, Mayfield Village, Moreland Hills, Munson, Newbury, Orange, Pepper Pike, Russell, Solon, South Russell, Waite Hill, Wickliffe, Willoughby, Willoughby Hills, and Woodmere.