



# CHAGRIN RIVER WATERSHED PARTNERS, INC.

## 2007 PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

**CRWP is a collaboration** of 36 cities, villages, townships, counties, and park districts working on innovative solutions to flooding, erosion, and water quality problems to minimize the impacts of development and limit local infrastructure costs.

CRWP's founding principles are:

- Natural systems provide flood control, erosion control, and water quality protection services that should be maintained as land is developed.
- It is more cost effective for local governments to take planning and development steps to maintain these services than to pay for costly, and generally less effective, remedial solutions.

**CRWP's 2007 accomplishments were made possible through partnerships** with Members; the Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake and Portage County Soil and Water Conservation Districts, Planning Commissions, and Health Departments; the Geauga and Lake County Engineers; the Lake County Stormwater Management Department; and the Geauga and Portage County Departments of Water Resources.

### CRWP Regular Members

Auburn, Aurora, Bainbridge, Bentleyville, City of Chardon, Chagrin Falls, Chagrin Falls Township, Chester, Claridon, Cleveland Metroparks, Eastlake, Gates Mills, Geauga County, Geauga Park District, Hunting Valley, Kirtland, Kirtland Hills, Lake County, Lake Metroparks, Mantua Township, Mayfield Heights, Mayfield Village, Mentor, Moreland Hills, Munson, Newbury, Orange, Pepper Pike, Russell, Solon, South Russell, Waite Hill, Wickliffe, Willoughby, Willoughby Hills & Woodmere

### CRWP Sponsoring Members

BioHabitats, Inc.  
CDM, Inc.  
EMH&T, Inc.  
EnviroScience, Inc.  
FMSM Engineers, Inc.  
Holden Arboretum  
Hull & Associates  
Ohio Central Basin Steelheaders  
Ohio Stream Preservation, Inc.  
Orin Group, LLC  
Partners Environmental Consulting, Inc.  
TranSystems Corporation  
URS Corporation  
Western Reserve Land Conservancy  
Western Reserve Federation of Conservationists

**\$1.2 MILLION FOR MEMBER PRIORITY PROJECTS:** CRWP worked with Members and project partners to secure funding for the following projects:

Low Impact Development in Orange & Moreland Hills  
*Addressing chronic street flooding without moving problem downstream.*



**Before:** Roadside swales failed to convey stormwater, causing street and yard flooding.



**After:** Bioretention swales with rain garden inserts manage stormwater at its source.

◆ **\$173,345 for design, construction, and monitoring of 4 innovative stormwater management projects:**

- Cawrse & Associates, Inc. (**South Russell**) combination of stormwater management practices to address water quality and existing water quantity concerns. \$75,000
- **Orange** Sterncrest Road. Constructed in 2007 and shown to the left. \$69,200
- **Pepper Pike** Fox Hollow Drive and Chagrin Blvd. Replacement of roadside ditches with bioretention swales to enable residents to enclose ditches while enhancing stormwater management. \$24,000
- **Munson** Township Scenic River Retreat. Three rain gardens to manage stormwater runoff from two park pavilions and a parking lot. Constructed in 2007. \$5,145

◆ **\$949,325 recommended for funding by Ohio EPA under the 319 program:**

- **Chagrin Falls** IVEX Dam Modification and Stream Restoration, with ALCOA. \$400,800
- **Bainbridge** Kenston Lake Dam Removal, with dam owners. \$294,900
- **Willoughby Hills** Stream Restoration, sponsored by Lake County Stormwater Management Agency, with Lake SWCD and property owners. \$253,625

◆ \$47,000 from CRWP to **Auburn, Aurora, and Newbury** to update Master/Land Use Plans with

information and recommendations from CRWP's **Balanced Growth Pilot Project** to support local priorities for development and conservation and to ensure community eligibility for State incentives and assistance. In partnership with Geauga County Planning Commission.

**RIPARIAN SETBACKS, COMPREHENSIVE STORMWATER MANAGEMENT, CONSERVATION DEVELOPMENT & ILLICIT DISCHARGE DETECTION/ELIMINATION:**

◆ **Bentleyville adopted riparian setbacks. Mentor, Russell, and Willoughby Hills** considering this provision.

◆ **Bentleyville and Lake County adopted comprehensive stormwater management. Solon and Moreland Hills** considering this code.

◆ **Lake County, Orange, Solon, and Willoughby adopted illicit discharge detection and elimination. Moreland Hills** considering this component of Phase II compliance.

◆ **Gates Mills adopted conservation development** based on Hunting Valley's 2006 code. **South Russell** considering this innovative approach to residential subdivisions.

CRWP supported Members as they considered, adopted, and implemented these codes. CRWP Member services included reviewing and preparing draft codes; addressing Trustee, Planning Commission, and Council questions; reviewing plans submitted under the new codes; conducting site visits; and working with landowners and developers. These Member services were delivered at Member request and at the direction of Member staff.

**SOLVING MEMBER CONCERNS:** CRWP worked with Members to review development projects with potential downstream stormwater impacts, difficult topography, and streams and wetlands. Member services included site evaluations; site plan review to suggest alternative layouts to minimize impacts and stormwater problems; meetings with developers; and assistance with variance requests. CRWP also worked on grant applications and landowner concerns. Examples of this Member-directed assistance in 2007 included:

◆ **Flooding in Bainbridge:** Continued to partner with Trustees, Geauga Soil and Water Conservation District, Geauga County Engineer, and **Village of Chagrin Falls** to solve local chronic flooding concerns along Cedar and South Streets.

◆ **Oil and Gas Drilling in Wickliffe, Newbury & Eastlake:** Worked with Wickliffe and Eastlake on draft codes to regulate activities around drilling sites. Assisted Newbury to review lease proposal. Provided information session for Members with Chris Eiben. Partnered with Cuyahoga, Geauga, and Lake Soil and Water Conservation Districts in these efforts.

◆ **Land Protection in Eastlake:** Worked with the Port Authority of Eastlake and **Lake Metroparks** on pending application for \$110,000 to preserve 5-acre Anchor Island at the Chagrin River's mouth.

Each year CRWP focuses on providing high quality and timely services in response to Member requests. This will continue in 2008. In addition, **Look for These 2008 Services:**

- **Phase II Renewal:** Update Members on new conditions and steps for compliance.
- **Stormwater Demonstration Projects:** Construction, monitoring, and technical assistance for innovative stormwater BMPs.
- **Priority Development and Conservation Areas:** Member adjustments to these drafts to ensure State incentives.

**ASSISTING MEMBERS WITH PHASE II**

**COMPLIANCE:** In addition to helping Members implement regulations as part of their Phase II programs, CRWP worked with Members to meet other stormwater management commitments by:

- ◆ Partnering with the Geauga Soil and Water Conservation District to provide 12 evening programs for residents on management of ponds, riparian areas, and water wells.
- ◆ Meeting with **Solon, Mentor, Willoughby**, and members of the **Lake County Stormwater Management Department** to review requirements for Ohio EPA's Phase II audits.
- ◆ Hosting riparian setback implementation workshop for 53 representatives of Member communities and other interested local governments.

**For More Information Contact**

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**2007 Grant Funders:** The George Gund Foundation, Ohio Department of Natural Resources Office of Coastal Management and Division of Soil and Water Conservation, Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and Ohio Lake Erie Commission's Lake Erie Protection Fund and Balanced Growth Pilot Project through the Ohio Water Development Authority.