

## For the Environment

- Keep non-native plants and animals out of the environment. Never flush them down the toilet or release them into the wild. For disposal advice, contact a pet store or any Metroparks nature center.
- Fishing line left on the ground or in water can harm animals. Dispose of it in a lidded container.
- Keep fishing worms out of wooded areas. They eat the decaying leaves that nourish trees. Throw all worms in the trash.
- Don't feed people food to wildlife. Feeding makes them dependent on us and may make them sick.



- Join and donate to environmental organizations.
- Teach children to love and appreciate nature. Encourage them to search for bugs, critters, and flowers. Take them outside to play, and to park nature programs.

## Resources to Learn More

Cuyahoga Soil & Water Conservation District

[www.cuyahogaswcd.org](http://www.cuyahogaswcd.org), 216-524-6580

The Friends of Euclid Creek

[www.friendsofeuclidcreek.com](http://www.friendsofeuclidcreek.com)  
[friendsofeuclidcreek@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofeuclidcreek@gmail.com)

Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District

[www.neorsd.org](http://www.neorsd.org), 216-881-6600

Cleveland Metroparks

Watershed Stewardship Center

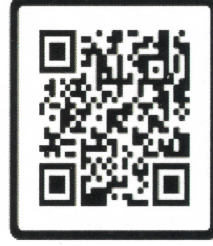
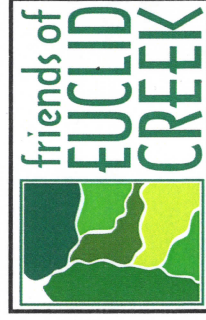
[tinyurl.com/y4a7tk29](http://tinyurl.com/y4a7tk29),  
[wsc@clevelandmetroparks.com](mailto:wsc@clevelandmetroparks.com),

Cuyahoga County Solid Waste District

[cuyahogarecycles.org](http://cuyahogarecycles.org), 216-443-3749

Ohio State University

[u.osu.edu/beelab/gardening-for-bees](http://u.osu.edu/beelab/gardening-for-bees)



Revised November 2021

## A few Simple Actions we all can do...

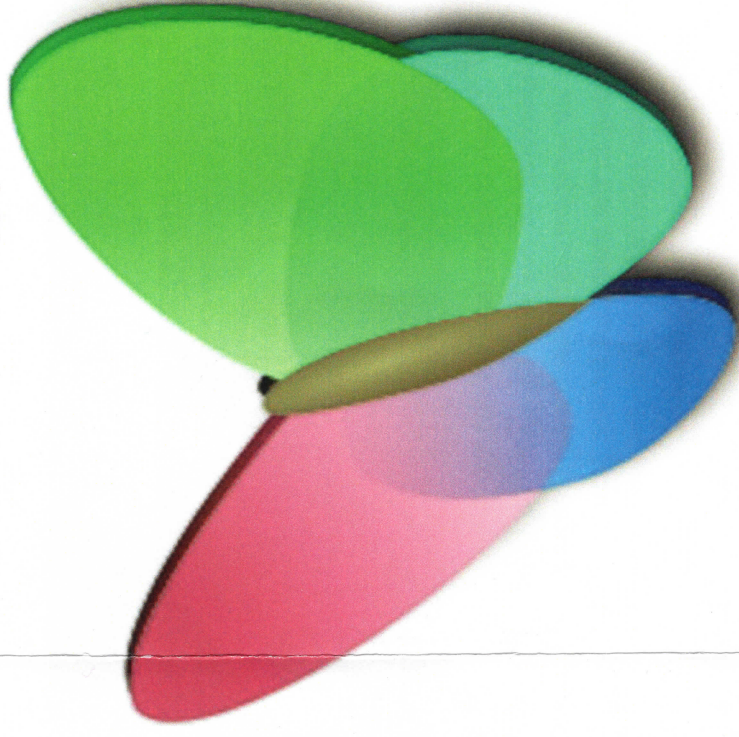
*To keep our water safe to drink*

*To reduce litter and trash*

*To protect our natural environment*

*To provide habitats for animals*

*To ensure our food supply*



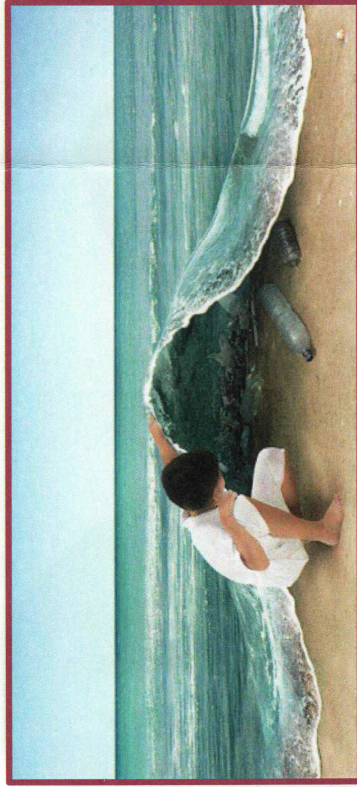
## Friends of Euclid Creek

Volunteers working to secure the health  
of the Euclid Creek Watershed



**Water** (and everything else) runs downhill. Water from rain and snow in a “watershed” drains into streams, creeks and rivers. It carries pollution from roofs, driveways, streets, yards— everywhere people live and work. This litter and pollution in our area ends up in Lake Erie, our primary source of drinking water.

**Plastic and Trash** Tons of litter and trash pile up every year on land and enters our waters. It lasts forever.



Teach children (and adults) the importance of not littering. Cigarette butts, candy wrappers, and fast food packaging belong in the trash, not on the ground. Pick up litter especially if it is on the curb, and when possible, in the street.

Dispose of all non-recyclable plastics in the trash. Cut the links of plastic beverage holders and the handles of plastic bags to protect animals from entanglement before throwing them out.

Avoid microfiber (polyester) clothing and cleaning products. Tiny filaments from the fabric get into the water when we wash them. These tiny fibers stay in our waters until consumed by the fish or by us.

Single use plastics are a serious problem in the environment. Find alternatives, Complain to companies that over-package with plastic, Reduce, reuse, recycle, refuse.

Recycle properly. Call city service department for information.

## Bees and Food

Bees, butterflies (and other insects) carry pollen from flower to flower. Without pollination, one-third of the world's fruits and vegetables cannot produce food (including tomatoes).

Reduce or eliminate fertilizers, pesticides and herbicides. They harm pollinators, animals, people, and water.

Buy local and organic farm produce in season. Or, grow your own.

Plant pollinator-friendly flowers around your yard or in a container. Regional natives are best. Contact OSU Extension Service at [extension.osu.edu](http://extension.osu.edu); or call Master Gardeners at (216) 429-8200.



Pick up pet waste to keep dangerous bacteria out of our waters. Call 216-881-6600 for a “Pick up the Poop” yard sign.

Use low-phosphate cleaners to prevent harmful algae blooms in Lake Erie. Avoid antibacterial cleaners, they contain harmful chemicals and create super-germs. Substitute baking soda and vinegar for harsh chemical cleaners. For Green Cleaning workshops contact [cuyahogaswcd.org](http://cuyahogaswcd.org). 216-524-6580.

Take unused medications to a community drop-off. Medicine *must not* be flushed down the drain.

Take paints, chemical cleaners, and car fluids to a hazardous waste drop off. Contact city service dept. for information.

Report strange colors, debris, or odors in any waterway to that community's service department. Call police if you see anyone dumping into a storm drain. All storm drains flow to Lake Erie unfiltered.