FORESTRY PROGRAM SERIES

TREE TO STREAM:
FORESTRY FOR GRAND RIVER HEALTH

FIELD DAY @ WORKING WOODS

on September 27, 2025 from 9am-1pm

Today's Program

9 - 9:30 am	Program Introduction - Natalie Gertz-Young and Maurine Orndorff
9:30 - 11:45 am	Working Woods Tour - Becah Troutman
11:45 am - 12 pm	Break
12 - 12:45 pm	Hands on Live Stake and Woody Structure Installation
12:45 - 1 pm	Wrap up and Networking

Who are we?

What is a Soil and Water Conservation District?

Let's go back to the 1930's...

A Brief History

Late 1935-6 the federal government stepped in to help farmers and prevent “the dust bowl” from happening again

On April 27, 1935 Congress passed Public Law 74-46, that established the Soil Conservation Service (SCS) as a permanent agency in the USDA

"the wastage of soil and moisture resources on farm, grazing, and forest lands . . . is a menace to the national welfare”

“Land must be nurtured; not plundered and wasted.” - Hugh Hammond Bennett first director of the SCS

A Brief History

Conservation districts were the local boots on the ground.

- The formation of Lake SWCD approved by voters in July of 1946 and officially created in January of 1947.
- Started as protecting soil and water resources for agriculture

SWCDs today

- Every county is different. Local control is important.
- Northeast Ohio is more urbanized so our focuses include:
  - Small, urban and specialized agriculture
  - Smart development
  - Easements
  - Water quality: stormwater prevention, watershed planning, erosion and sediment control
  - Landowner assistance
  - Backyard conservation and more!

Mission

Lake SWCD's mission is to provide leadership and technical expertise to guide the protection and conservation of the unique soil and water resources of the county. Our office serves residents and communities through our watershed, erosion and sediment control, and education services.

Our watershed services consist of working with communities to protect and restore our creeks, streams and rivers. This is accomplished through planning, restoration project management, agricultural and natural land preservation.

Erosion and Sediment Control services help communities stay in compliance with the Phase 2 of the Clean Water Act. It includes plan review and inspection of construction sites for erosion control practices. This ensures that soil (Ohio's #1 water pollutant) stays on construction sites and out of our streams, creeks, rivers, and Lake Erie.

Upcoming

Public Programs & Events

2025 BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ELECTION

Every year Lake SWCD holds a special election to elect supervisors to our board.

District Board Supervisors are respected conservation leaders elected by county residents to represent them in charting the course for soil and water conservation and natural resources management in their county.

Board supervisors are elected to a three-year term as public officials and serve without pay.

Celebrate Conservation

2025 ANNUAL MEETING DINNER & ELECTION

JOIN US FOR FOOD, DRINKS, & CONSERVATION UPDATES!

WHEN & WHERE

October 2, 2025
6:00 - 8:00 pm
Springbrook Gardenhouse at Springbrook Gardens Park
6776 Heisley Road
Mentor OH 44060

COST $40

Includes dinner and a drink ticket. Additional drink tickets will be available. Special diets please inquire.

To register visit www.lakeconservation.org

Woodland Wednesdays

FORESTRY PROGRAM SERIES

TREE TO STREAM: FORESTRY FOR GRAND RIVER HEALTH

YOUR FOREST, YOUR FUTURE: CRAFTING A MANAGEMENT PLAN

VIRTUAL **on November 19, 2025 at 6pm**

PROTECTING YOUR WOODLAND ASSETS

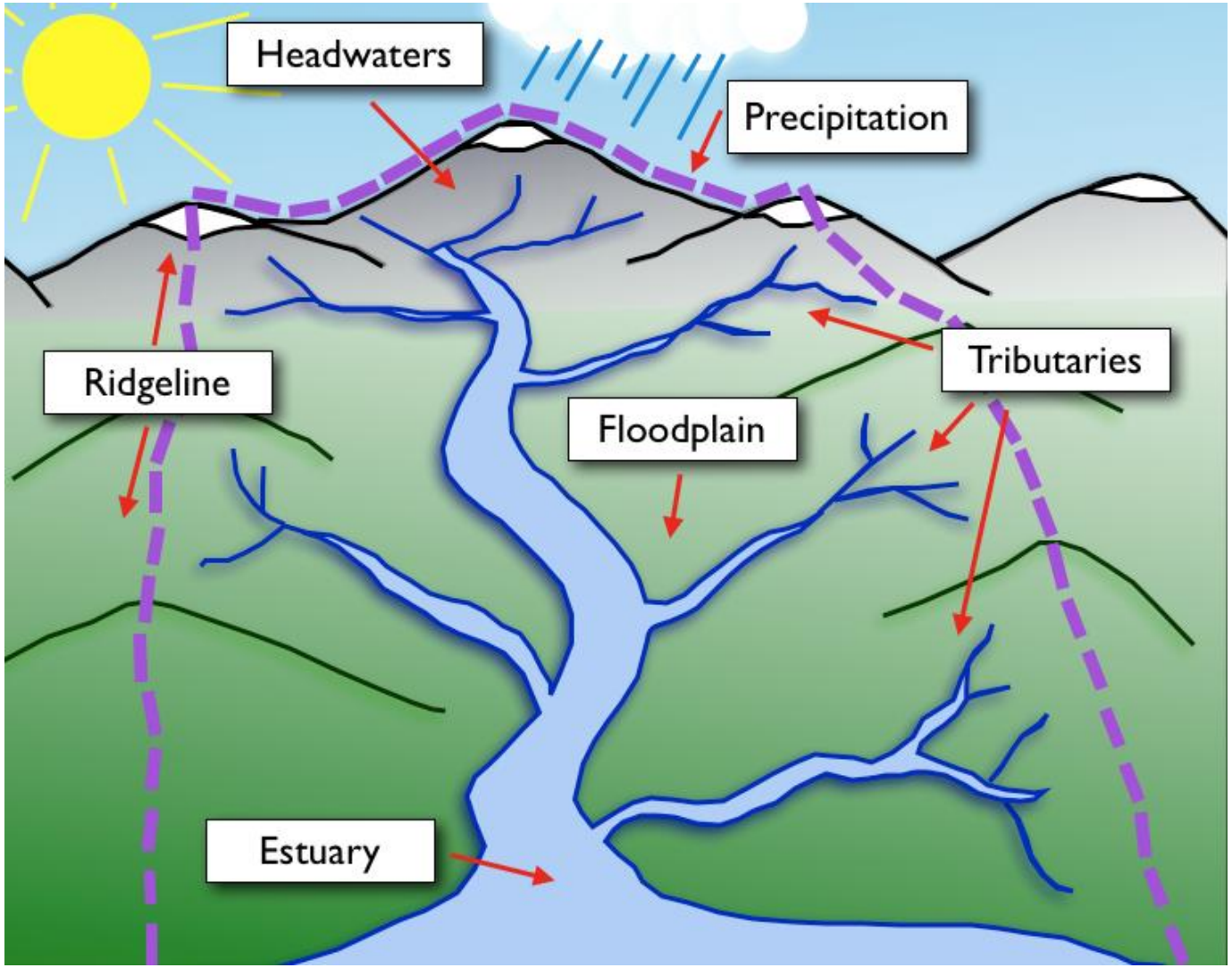
VIRTUAL **on December 3, 2025 at 6pm**

MANAGING THE CUT: A TIMBER HARVEST TOUR

TBD

Lake Soil & Water Conservation District

What is a Watershed?



Lake Soil & Water Conservation District

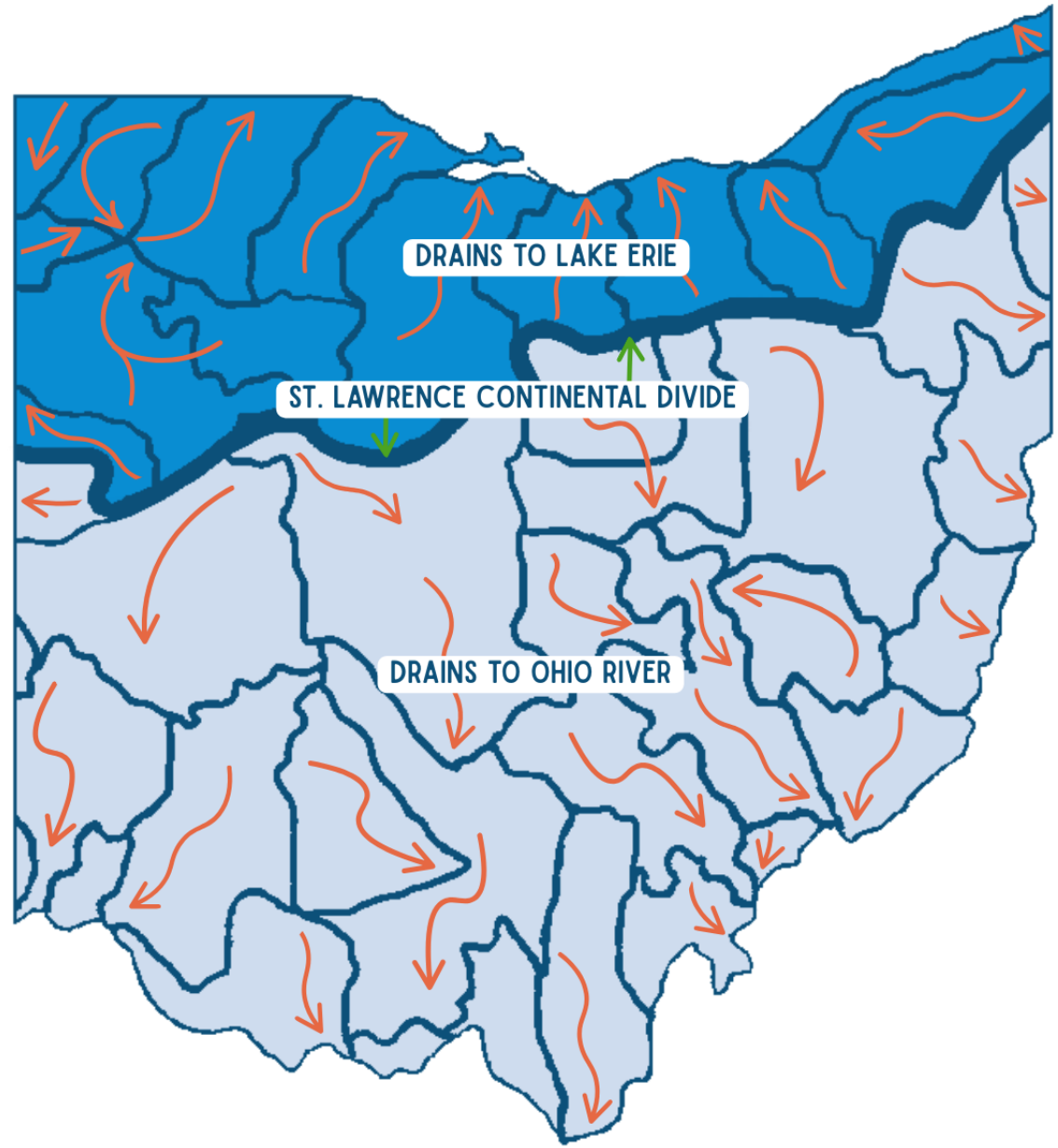
Ohio Watersheds

Lake Erie Watershed

Located north of the watershed divide divide, this watershed includes rivers like the Cuyahoga River, which drain directly into Lake Erie. From Lake Erie, water flows into the Atlantic Ocean via Lake Ontario and the St. Lawrence River.

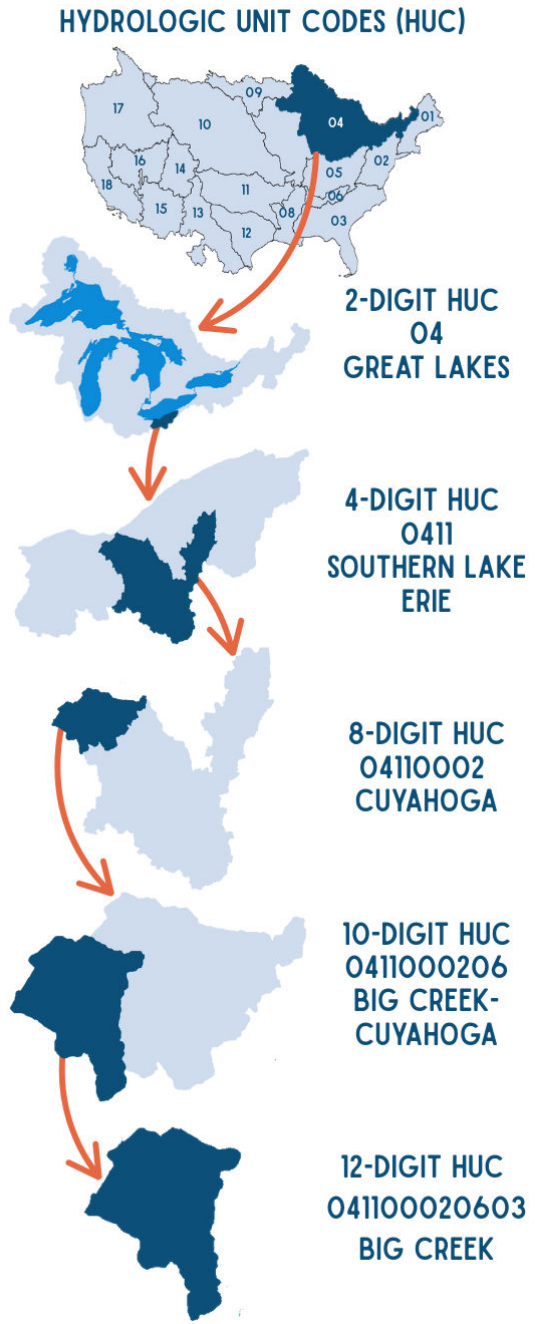
Ohio River Watershed

South of the divide, this watershed includes rivers like the Tuscarawas River, which eventually flow into the Ohio River. From the Ohio River, water flows into the Mississippi River and then into the Gulf of Mexico.



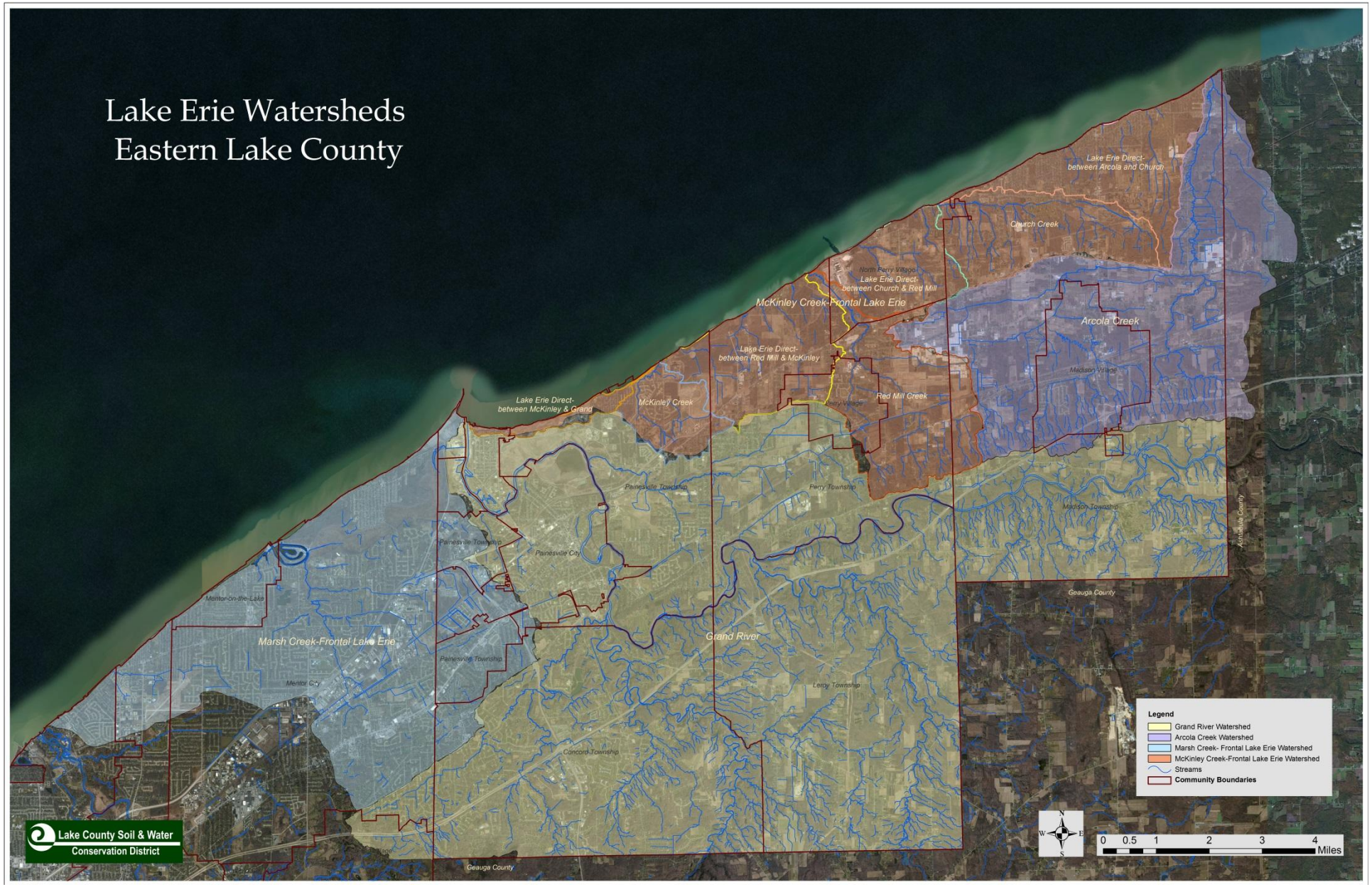
How Watersheds Are Organized

Watersheds are divided into areas called Hydrologic Unit Codes, or HUCs (pronounced "hucks"). The United States Geological Survey (USGS) created this system using surface hydrologic features. Each HUC is a set of numbers, ranging from 2 to 12 digits, that tells you the size and location of a watershed. The more digits in the number, the smaller and more detailed the area it represents.

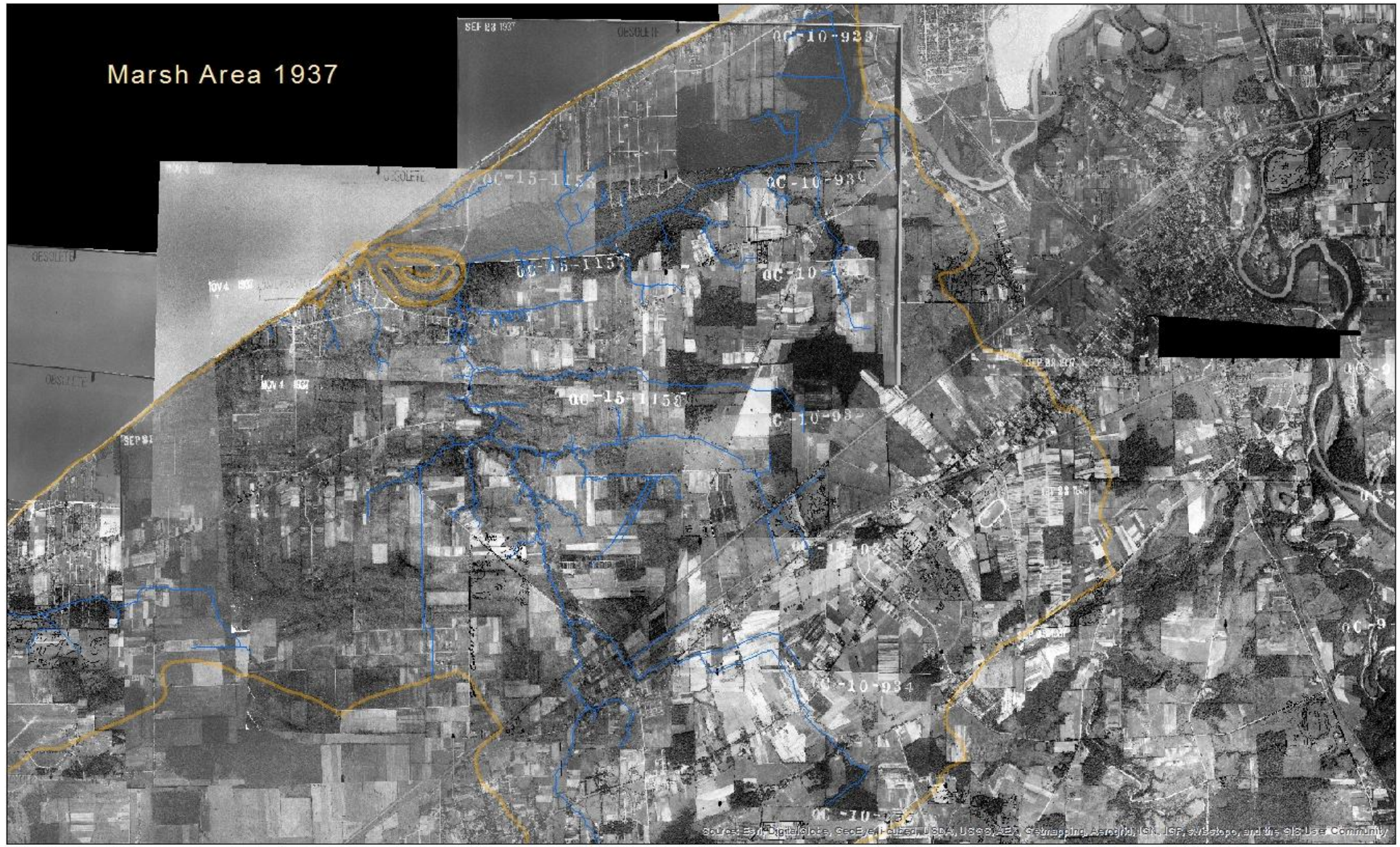


Watershed Planning

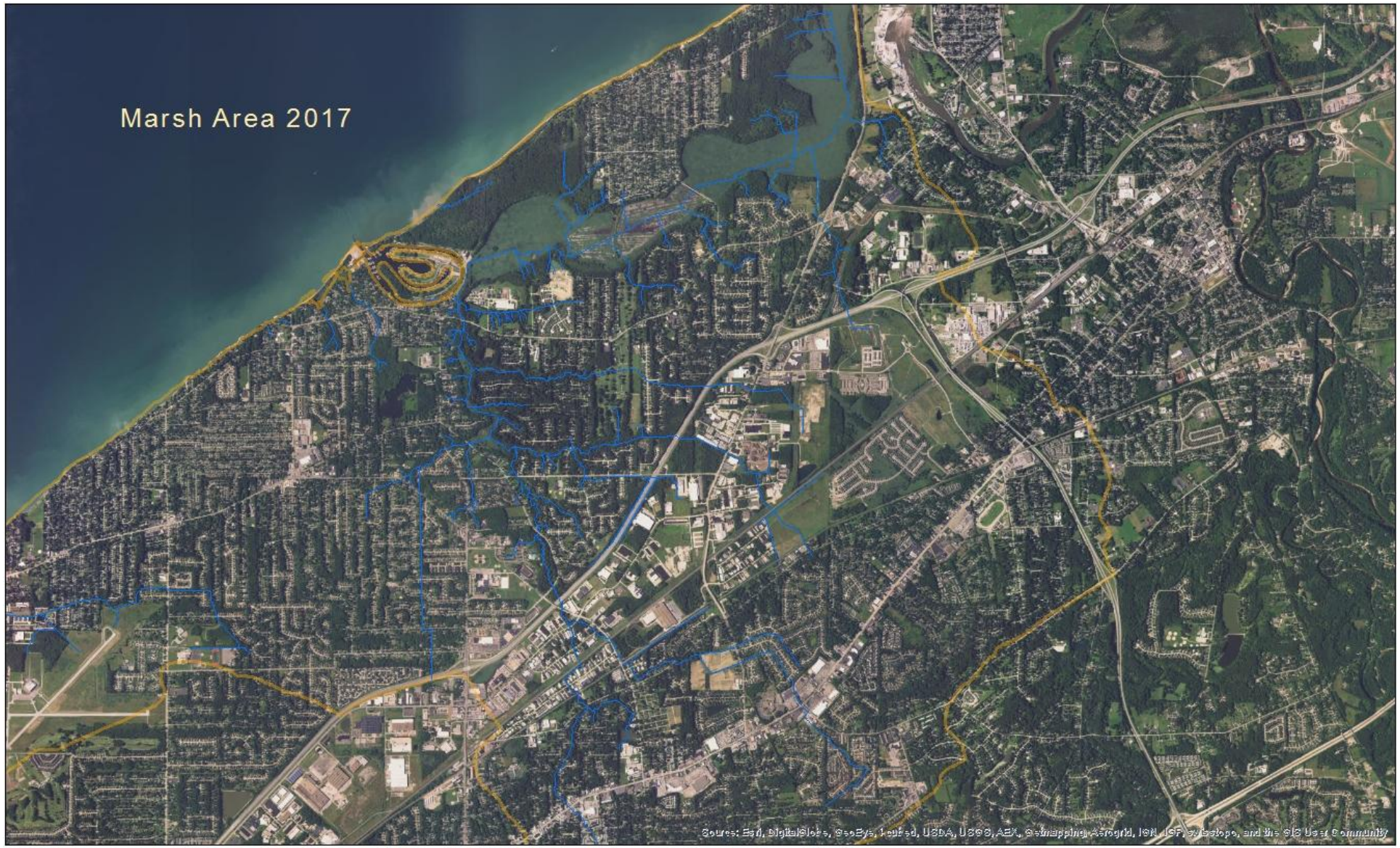
- Identify issues and solutions to reduce flooding and erosion and improve water quality within a watershed
- Non-Point Source Implementation Strategy (NPS-IS)
- Develop solutions on a watershed scale, rather than piecemeal
- Eligibility for grant funding



Lake Soil & Water Conservation District



Lake Soil & Water Conservation District


Marsh Area 2017


04.26.2016 12:25

Best Management Practices (BMPs)

- Tools to increase infiltration and reduce stormwater runoff
- Used for new developments & as retrofits

- Low Impact Development (LID) practices
- Rain Gardens
- Permeable Pavers
- Wetlands
- Vegetated Infiltration Swales
- Riparian Buffers
- Conservation Easements
- Stream hydrology restoration
- Stream habitat restoration
- Tree planting
- 2-Stage Channels
- Access to Floodplain
- Riparian Setback Codes
- Protection of riparian forests
- Establish “no-mow” zones
- Vernal Pool restoration

Lake Soil & Water Conservation District

Lake Soil & Water Conservation District


SIERRA
06.15.2016 13:21


04.18.2017 14:05

Lake Soil & Water Conservation District

Lake Soil & Water Conservation District

Talcott Creek NPS-IS

Talcott Creek-Grand River
HUC-12: 041100040605
Nine-Element
Nonpoint Source Implementation
Strategy (NPS-IS)

Version 1.1
April 30, 2024

- Talcott Creek is a coldwater tributary which contributes cold groundwater base flow to the Grand River
- Talcott Creek is recommended for Coldwater Habitat (CWH) life use based on the presence of eight coldwater macroinvertebrate taxa
- The unusually high-quality macroinvertebrate communities in Talcott Creek is probably due to the stream flowing through highly wooded ravines with continuous groundwater flow and limited development
- Being a direct coldwater tributary to the Grand River, protecting the integrity of Talcott Creek is important to maintaining the long-term health of the Grand River

NPS-IS Goals & Objectives

- Maintain the FULL Attainment of Aquatic Life Use designations
- Protect riparian corridors
- Protect wetlands
- Protect and manage woodland resources
  - Develop Forest Management Plans
  - Conduct timber stand improvements

Lake Erie Forestry Assistance Grant:
Tree to Stream:
Forestry for Grand River Health

- Provide technical assistance to private woodland owners in three streams in the Lower Grand River: Mill Creek (3), Paine Creek and Talcott Creek
- Help to *maintain* the high quality of the Grand River, rather than seek to *restore* it
- Develop educational workshops
- Work with partners: The Division of Forestry, The Holden Arboretum, West Creek Conservancy and consulting foresters

Special Thanks to

HOLDEN
FORESTS &
GARDENS

Scan to visit the
Working Woods Hub

Contact us

Lake Soil & Water Conservation District

105 Main St., Ste. B301, Painesville, OH 44077

(440) 350-2730

soil@lakecountyohio.gov

www.lakeconservation.org

Natalie Gertz-Young
Conservation Educator
ngertz-young@lakecountyohio.gov

Maurine Orndorff
Conservation Projects Specialist
morndorff@lakecountyohio.gov

Woodland Wednesdays

FORESTRY PROGRAM SERIES

TREE TO STREAM: FORESTRY FOR GRAND RIVER HEALTH

YOUR FOREST, YOUR FUTURE: CRAFTING A MANAGEMENT PLAN

VIRTUAL **on November 19, 2025 at 6pm**

PROTECTING YOUR WOODLAND ASSETS

VIRTUAL **on December 3, 2025 at 6pm**

Scan to register

MANAGING THE CUT: A TIMBER HARVEST TOUR

TBD

Lake Soil & Water Conservation District