

CROSSECTION



GETTING INVOLVED IN CONSERVATION

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• **Special points of interest:**

- Attend one of our home-builder workshops being offered in February
- Perry Historical Society is collecting history of Lake County nurseries – your help is needed!
- Become active in one of the many nature/conservation organizations in Lake County!
- Get your children or students involved in our Conservation Poster Contest

Lake County residents are fortunate to have an abundance of natural resources to use for outdoor recreation, such as hiking, birding, and fishing. It is easy to take Lake County's natural resources for granted. However, it is necessary to protect our resources so future generations can enjoy the same natural beauty. Lake County resources worth protecting include: 436 miles of streams and rivers; wild & scenic Grand River corridor; Chagrin River scenic East Branch Valley; 31 miles of Lake Erie shoreline; 850 acres of Mentor Marsh; Arcola Creek, a fresh-water estuary; and locally unique farm soils supporting billion-dollar specialty crop agriculture. There are a variety of environmental/conservation clubs and organizations which help foster environmental stewardship and preservation. This edition of CrosSection highlights many of the opportunities available to Lake County residents who are interested in becoming involved in conservation.

In the following pages, look for information about:

- Outdoor sports and recreation
- Conservation/Preservation Organizations
- Nature/Birding Clubs
- OSU Extension Services
- Fishing Clubs

Homebuilder Workshop Offered!



The District will be hosting free workshops specifically for homebuilders on Lake County's Erosion and Sediment Control Rules. Sessions will be held on Wednesday, February 21, 2001 and Friday, February 23, 2001 from 8:00 am – 11:00 am. Both sessions will contain similar content and will be held at the District Office, 125 E. Erie Street, Painesville. Subjects to be covered are the newly adopted ESC Rules, Best Management Practices specifically required for homebuilders, and water quality concerns in Lake County. Donuts, coffee and juice will be provided with registration beginning at 8:00 am and presentations to follow at 8:30 am. Each session is limited to 40 attendees, so please register with the District (440) 350-2730 by February 14th. We look forward to meeting with you.

Perry Historical Society Collecting History of Lake County Nurseries

Bob Poling of the Perry Historical Society has started an ambitious project. He hopes to compile a detailed history of all Lake County nurseries of the past and present. Although Poling's group of volunteer assistants is small, they have already audio taped and transcribed interviews with several nurserymen in their area. They hope to meet with many more.

If you would like to help with this project, or know of a Lake County nurseryman or nurserywoman who might enjoy being part of it, please call Bob Poling at (440) 259-2061. Area nurseries help preserve the rural character and natural beauty of our towns. Sharing the history of the nurseries in our county is a good way to help others appreciate their importance.



The 2001 Tree Seedling Sale is here! Turn to Page 4 and 5 for ordering information! Order form can also be downloaded from our web site: <http://soil.co.lake.oh.us/>

CONSERVATION/PRESERVATION ORGANIZATIONS

GRAND RIVER PARTNERS, INC.

C/O Lake Erie College, Box 25, Painesville, OH 44077

Website: www.ncweb.com/org/grandriver/

Grand River Partners, Inc. (GRPI) is organized and operated with the goals of preserving the open space, the natural, recreational, agricultural and scenic resources of the Grand River watershed in Ashtabula, Geauga, Lake, Portage and Trumbull Counties of Northeast Ohio. GRPI's goals are achieved by uniting residents, landowners, businesses and communities in the stewardship and permanent protection of the Grand River watershed. The primary objective of GRPI is to serve as a land conservancy dedicated to protecting the Grand River, its tributaries and watershed. You can help protect the Grand River by becoming a member of GRPI, volunteering your time, making a donation and/or permanently protecting your property.

CHAGRIN RIVER LAND CONSERVANCY

P.O. Box 314, Novelty, OH 44072

Website: <http://www.crlc.cc/>

The Chagrin River Land Conservancy is a private, nonprofit corporation, organized by residents of the Chagrin River Valley, to provide a means for the permanent protection and preservation of our open fields, woods, farmlands, wetlands, and streams. The Conservancy has so far permanently protected over 500 acres of land in the valley, working hand-in-hand with private landowners to maintain the scenic beauty and healthy ecosystem of our region.

FRIENDS OF ARCOLA CREEK

1553 Lakeview Avenue, Madison, OH 44057

The mighty Arcola, its estuary and the many tributaries that drain two-thirds of Madison Township, is an esteemed stream of great note, a place where Eagles soar, fish fly, and rare beauty abounds. Friends of Arcola Creek, Inc. is a tax exempt group working in harmony with Lake County Metroparks, The Nature Conservancy and the staff of various county offices to help preserve the marsh and surrounding areas. Regular meetings are held on the fourth Monday of each month at the Madison Public Library at 7:30 PM. Anyone with an interest in nature is welcome to attend.

LAKE COUNTY FARMLAND CONSERVATION TASKFORCE

125 East Erie Street, Painesville, OH 44077

The mission of the LCFCT is to permanently conserve land of agricultural value in Lake County by means of advocacy, education and land protection for the benefit of present and future generations. In order to accomplish this, it is necessary to convince community leaders and residents of the significant economic, environmental, and quality of life contributions that agriculture makes. The LCFCT meets monthly at Rider's Inn in Painesville. Please call for dates and times.

Contact Person: Chuck Ashcroft

440-639-4773

Contact Person: Rich Cochran

440-729-9621

Contact Person: Ray Wickert, President

440-428-2929 or call the Lake SWCD office at 440-350-2730

440-350-2730

NATURE CLUBS

BIRDING CLUBS

Individuals involved in birding clubs have an interest in birding and bird and wildlife habitat conservation. Clubs generally meet once a month where they discuss local birding/wildlife issues and listen to guest speakers concerning a variety of conservation topics. Clubs offer field trips throughout the year to anyone interested!

BLACKBROOK AUDOBON SOCIETY

Contact: Mary Hoffman, President

Address: 8765 Cliffwood Court, Mentor, OH 44060

Telephone: 216-382-8053

Website: www.blackbrookaudobon.org

Blackbrook Audobon Society is a local chapter of the National Audobon Society. Meetings are held on the 3rd Tuesday, September through May, 7:30pm. Please call for meeting locations.

KIRTLAND BIRD CLUB

Telephone: 440-526-2473 (Rare Bird Alert)

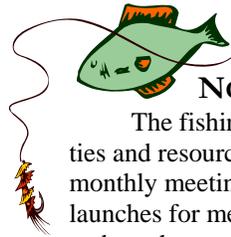
Kirtland Bird Club is a local birding organization. Please call the above number for rare bird sightings, field trip announcements, and meeting times and dates.

BURROUGHS NATURE CLUB

Contact Person: Gretta Pallister

Telephone: 440-942-2307

This is the oldest nature club in the area, formed over 90 years ago. The club offers a wide-range of programs and field trips on a variety of topics including birding and conservation. Monthly meetings are held the 4th Friday of each month at 6:30pm Sept. – April at Willoughby United Methodist Church; 15 Public Square; Willoughby, Ohio. (Feb. meeting is Feb. 16)



NORTHEAST OHIO FISHING CLUBS

The fishing clubs in Northeast Ohio offer many opportunities and resources for their members. In addition to having monthly meetings with guest speakers, some clubs have boat launches for member-use, fishing days on charter boats, fish fries, and much more! Please call Lake SWCD for further contact information.

- **Chagrin River Salmon Association** – Meetings held last Wed. of each month in Eastlake. Meetings begin at 7:30pm, refreshments at 7:00pm For more information, write to CRSA, P.O. Box 352, Willoughby, OH 44096.
- **Cleveland Museum of Natural History Trout Club** – Meetings held 3rd Wed. of each month, Sept. – May, with cocktails served at 6:00pm, at the Cleveland Museum of Natural History.
- **Fairport Harbor Rod & Reel** – Meetings are held the 3rd Thurs. of each month at 7:30pm at the club grounds in Fairport Harbor.
- **Northeast Walleye Association** – Meetings held on the first Tuesday of each month at 7:30pm at the Horseshoe Bar in Grand River.
- **Lake County Rod & Gun Club** – Call Lake SWCD for contact information!



If you don't see your conservation organization or fishing club listed, please call us so we can update our records!!



GET STUDENTS INVOLVED! POSTER CONTEST SPONSORED BY YOUR SWCD

Lake County SWCD is sponsoring a 2001 Conservation Poster Contest. The contest is being held in conjunction with the National Association of Conservation Districts and the Ohio Federation of Soil & Water Conservation Districts. "Habitat for Life" is the theme for Soil and Water Stewardship. The theme addresses the need for people to provide a healthy habitat for all inhabitants of the earth. A habitat provides for all the needs of its inhabitants - clean and safe shelter, food, water, and air. The purpose of the contest is to instill in our youth an appreciation for the environment and the need to protect our precious soil and water resources.

Entries must be submitted to the local school districts on or before **March 1, 2001** and will then be collected by the Lake SWCD. Judges will consider neatness, choice of color, and adherence to the rules. Prizes will be awarded! All posters become the property of Lake SWCD.

Please call Amy Knisely, Education Coordinator, at Lake SWCD (440-350-2730) for contest rules before getting started!

OUTDOOR SPORTS, RECREATION, AND NATURAL AREAS

Cleveland Metroparks – Offers many opportunities, including educational programs for all ages, hiking, swimming, nature walks, nature centers, golfing, and the Cleveland Metroparks Zoo. *Headquarters location:* 4101 Fulton Pkwy., Cleveland, OH 44144. *Phone:* (216) 351-6300.

Geauga Parks – Visit the ten parks, preserves, and reservations, including the Burton Wetlands, located in the Geauga Park District. *Headquarter location:* 9160 Robinson Rd., Chardon, OH 44024. *Phone:* (440) 285-2222.

Headlands Dunes State Nature Preserve – Located at the east end of Headlands Beach State Park, this is one of the last and finest remaining examples of Lake Erie beach and dune communities in Ohio. Many plant species not found elsewhere in northeastern Ohio grow abundantly along the dunes, including sand-dropseed, Canada wild-rye, wafer-ash and wild bean. The preserve is open to the public during daylight hours. *Location:* Located west of Fairport Harbor at the north end of State Rte. 44, at the east end of Headland Beach State Park.

Holden Arboretum – Encompassing over 3,400 acres, the Holden Arboretum is dedicated to collecting woody plants for ornamental and scientific merit for northeastern Ohio. The Arboretum features a variety of gardens, collections, woods, ponds, fields and ravines which are accessible on trails throughout the park. Education programs offered for all ages. *Location:* 9500 Sperry Rd., Kirtland, OH 44094. *Phone:* (440) 946-4400. *Website:* <http://www.holdenarb.org>

Lake Metroparks – Offers nature-related opportunities for people of all-ages – swimming, hiking, nature walks, picnicking, camps, educational programs for all ages and much more! More than twenty parks are included in the system which encompasses over 5,000 acres throughout Lake County. *Headquarters location:* Concord Woods Nature Park, 11211 Spear Rd., Concord, OH 44077. *Phone:* (440) 639-PARK. *For program information, call:* (440) 358-7275, (800) 669-9226, or (440) 256-PARK. *Website:* <http://www.lakemetroparks.com>

Mentor Lagoons Nature Preserve – 450 acres of land that offers 1.5 miles of Lake Erie shoreline scenic walking trails, nature preserves with rare dune plants, a river marsh, and open water lagoons. Hundreds of bird species pass through this unique park land every year. *Location:* 8365 Harbor Dive, Mentor, OH 44060. *Phone:* (440) 205-3625.

Mentor Marsh House and State Nature Preserve – The Mentor Marsh is one of the area's largest remaining natural wetlands. An impressive sight – the 691-acre wetland is jointly managed by the Cleveland Museum of Natural History and the ODNR Division of Natural Areas and Preserves. Three trails allow visitors to view the wetland and the surrounding woodlands. Excellent location to view spring migrations of songbirds. *Location:* 5185 Corduroy Rd., Mentor, OH 44060 *Phone:* (440) 257-0777. *Website:* <http://www.cmnh.org/research/botany/natural-areas/mentor-marsh.html>

The Nature League of the Cleveland Museum of Natural History

– Offers nature programs for adults. *For more information, contact:* Cleveland Museum of Natural History, (216) 231-4600.

NorthEastern Ohio Orienteering Club – Organizes orienteering events for foot, cross-country ski, bicycle, and canoe. Orienteering challenges you to read a map while crossing streams, climbing hills, or hiking along scenic trails. *For more information, contact:* Publicity Officer, P.O. Box 5703, Cleveland, OH 44101-0703. *Phone/E-mail* (440) 729-3255/katkat@neo.Irun.com. *Website:* <http://sport.cleveland.com/sport/orienteering>

Northern Ohio Hiking Club – Local hiking adventures in the Ohio Cleveland Metro Parks and surrounding areas. Explore the old sites as well as new ones. Hikes are every other Sunday at 9:00am and last 3-5 hours. *For more information, contact by e-mail:* hiking@hot-shot.com or kennovak@netzero.com



WHO WANTS TO BE A CONSERVATIONIST?

Test your own knowledge of environmental issues by playing "Who Wants to be a Conservationist?" Quiz classmates, colleagues, fellow employees, and your family! Look for the correct answers inside this newsletter!

- Where did Commodore Perry defeat the British in the Battle of Lake Erie?
 - Near Buffalo, NY
 - Near Cleveland, OH
 - Near Erie, PA
 - Near Put-in-Bay, OH
- The most significant cause of bluff erosion is
 - Surface runoff
 - Wind action
 - Wave action
 - Groundwater seepage
- This nutrient/pollutant causes major algae blooms in the Great Lakes region.
 - Nitrogen
 - Phosphorus
 - Sulfur
 - Silica
- What Indian tribe massacred residents of Ste. Marie-along-the Hurons, one of the first colonies along the Great Lakes?
 - Iroquois
 - Cherokee
 - Hurons
 - Shawnee
- Which invading fish almost destroyed the lake trout population in Lake Superior?
 - Salmon
 - White Bass
 - Sea lamprey
 - Alewife
- How many state parks are along the Ohio shore of Lake Erie?
 - 8
 - 4
 - 6
 - 5
- The disappearance of the native Lake Ontario salmon at the turn of the century was attributed to the settlers clearing land, tilling fields, and building dams. These activities destroyed the salmon's
 - Spawning grounds
 - Food supply
 - Water quality
 - Young
- The Great Lakes were first discovered by Europeans in what year?
 - 1215
 - 1669
 - 1492
 - 1720
- A material that is mined from beneath Lake Erie is
 - Coal
 - Limestone
 - Shale
 - Rock salt
- Due to salt contamination, this invasive plant species has proliferated in the Mentor Marsh.
 - Common reed grass
 - Eurasian water milfoil
 - Purple loosestrife
 - Reed canary grass

OSU EXTENSION SERVICES

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION, Lake County Extension Office, 99 East Erie Street, Painesville, OH 44077; 440-350-2582, 440-918-2582, or 440-298-2582; **Contact:** Pat Meyer

Website: www.ag.ohio-state.edu/~lake/index.html

The Extension office in Lake County has fact sheets and programs available on solid waste management, emphasizing waste reduction, litter/pollution prevention, and safe disposal of household hazardous waste.

LAKE COUNTY 4-H, Lake County Extension Office (See above address); 440-350-2582; 440-918-2582; 440-298-3334 ext. 2582; **Contact:** Suzanne Skufca

Each year, Lake County 4-H'ers "learn by doing" as they participate in hundreds of project, club, and community activities. There are more than 200 activities which include: raising market livestock animals, learning how to construct their own clothing, schooling dogs in obedience and handling, studying photography, learning the physics behind rocketry, training horses for the show ring, learning judging techniques for rabbits. By participating in these activities, 4-H'ers are all learning to become more positive, productive citizens.

MASTER GARDENER PROGRAM, Lake County Extension Office (See above address); 440-350-2267, 440-918-2582, or 440-298-3334 ext. 2582

Contact: Susan Schleder

The Master Gardener Program was established to help meet the horticultural needs of county residents. Each year a group of enthusiastic gardeners is selected for extensive horticultural training. Master Gardeners must attend ten training sessions, pass a final exam and volunteer 50 hours of service through the Extension programming to complete their Master Gardener certification. If you have gardening questions, you may call the Master Gardener Hotline on Tuesday 9am – 11am, 1pm – 3pm, and Friday 9am – 11am.

OHIO SEA GRANT, Lake County Extension Office (See above address); 440-350-2267; **Contact:** Frank Lichtkoppler, District Specialist, Northeast District, Lichtkoppler.1@osu.edu
Website: www.ag.ohio-state.edu/~lake/seagrt/seagrt.htm

The mission of Ohio Sea Grant is to increase understanding, assessment, utilization, development, conservation, and wise stewardship of our Great Lakes and ocean resources, with particular emphasis on Lake Erie, through a combination of research, education and outreach to focus on the economy, the environment and education.

LAKE COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

125 E. Erie St., Painesville, OH 44077

•440-350-2730 (main number) •FAX 440-350-2601

Toll-free •298-3334 ext. 2730 Madison/Perry

•918-2730 Cleveland/Western Lake County

•1-800-899-LAKE outside Lake County only

•**E-mail:** reach any staff member: office@soil.co.lake.oh.us

•**Web site:** <http://soil.co.lake.oh.us>

PAM BROWN, District Secretary/Treasurer	350-2730
DAN DONALDSON, Program Administrator	350-2030
CHAD EDGAR, Urban Stream Specialist	350-2032
AMY KNISELY, Education/Information Coordinator	350-2033
JOHN NIEDZIALEK, NRCS, USDA	350-2034
MATTHEW SCHARVER, Resource Protection Tech.	350-2031

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

PAUL BELANGER, President

RICHARD BAKER, Vice-President

CAROL FLECK, Treasurer

ROBERT ZEITZ, Secretary

BARBARA LESKOVEC, Fiscal Agent

MEMBER OF:

- American Farmland Trust
 - Lake County Farm Bureau
 - Nursery Growers of Lake County, Inc.
 - National Association of Conservation Districts
 - Ohio Federation of Soil & Water Conservation Districts
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AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

All Lake SWCD and USDA programs and services are available without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age.

The public is invited to attend Lake SWCD's monthly Board meetings, held the fourth Wednesday of each month at 7:00 pm at 125 East Erie St., Painesville. Meeting announcements appear under the public agenda in the Plain Dealer and News-Herald. Please call in advance to let us know you will be attending.

Lake County Soil & Water
Conservation District
125 East Erie St., Painesville, OH 44077

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