



# Erie SWCD - Annual Report - December 2012

*Erie Soil and Water Conservation District is committed to the protection, preservation and restoration of natural resources by providing education, funding opportunities and technical assistance to all land users.*

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Teacher Workshop

## Education/Outreach Programs:

- Area II Envirothon, Kidron, 64 teams, 320 students
- Earth Day, Osborn Park
- *Erie Connect* (Erie SWCD and OSU Extension); Sandusky Register Agribusiness Column; Radio program weekly, FM 97.7; District website,

- Erie County Cover Crop Field Day
- Teacher's Workshop - Stream monitoring training
- Harvest Happenings, Osborn Park
- Kids Day at Erie County Fair promoting archery activities

## Technical Assistance:

- Soils, pond, floodplain, watershed info
- Site investigations/evaluations; Ag Pollution I&E
- Drainage improvement petition projects; ditch maintenance

## Stormwater Program:

Working with local communities and coordinating with local County agencies to meet OEPA NPDES Phase II requirements:

- Provided resources and training opportunities: Good Housekeeping, GPS unit training, Construction BMP Workshop, grant writing
- Development of MOUs with local agencies: Health Department and potential County Engineer to implement compliance measures.
- Provided technical assistance and supplies to Perkins High School for green roof and rain barrels installation on the solar house traveling educational demonstration.
- Working with all of the regulated communities on local codes and ordinances for economic growth and compliance requirements



GPS Unit Training for Illicit Discharge Detection & Elimination Program

## Firelands Coastal Tributaries Watershed Program (FCT):

- Volunteer Stream Monitoring Program - 27 volunteers are performing water quality monitoring in 22 sites in 4 watersheds.
- Development of Environmental Report Cards for Old Woman Creek (OWC) and Pipe Creek watersheds
- Stream monitoring data used to acquire special conservation funding for Pipe Creek agricultural producers
- Wetland restoration and invasive species control at OWC Reserve
- Volunteer farm tile monitoring program initiated
- 7 Rain Barrel workshops
- Installation of 950 ft over-wide ditch in OWC headwaters

## Conservation Programs:

- LE CREP — over 460 acres enrolled into conservation to reduce sediment, improve water quality, and provide vital habitat.
- 7 new acres of riparian buffer were added to CREP in 2012

### 2012 Farm Bill Payments

CSP	\$ 283,000
EQIP	\$ 139,321
Annual RP	\$ 121,429

**Total (2012) \$ 543,750**

\*No new CRP/CREP enrollments in Erie county. (provided by NRCS)

- EQIP, NWQI—\$230,000 allocated to eligible ag producers in the Pipe Creek
- EQIP program has provided Erie County ag producers technical and cost share assistance to improve soil health and water quality through nutrient & waste management, waste management, tillage, and cover crops.

## Water Improvement Projects Funding:

The Erie SWCD has expanded partnerships and funds to provide education opportunities and natural resource improvements to Erie County residents. \$272,337 was awarded in 2012 through grants and contracts.

Agency	Project	Award	Yrs
ODNR DOW	FCT Operations	\$90,000	1
ODNR DOW	Construction BMP Workshop, Volunteer tile monitoring, OWC report Card	\$25,285	1
Chagrin River WP	Stormwater Solutions	\$15,000	3
ODNR SWR	Training Manuals	\$1,500	1
ODNR SWR	Teacher Workshop—Water quality test kits	\$500	1
Ohio EPA	Educational Banners	\$2,500	1
Great Lakes Comm.	OWC Sediment Reduction	\$137,552	3

## Partnerships on Other Grant Projects:

**North Central Ohio Sediment Reduction Grant** - A Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) Grant of \$812,000 was awarded to Huron SWCD to address sediment and nutrient issues in nine targeted watersheds in seven counties, including 2 watersheds in Erie County.

**Ohio Storm Water Solutions**— NERR Science Collaborative of \$821,000 was awarded to the Chagrin River Partners to assist with reducing barriers to innovative storm water management practices. Project highlights design assistance and monitoring of 2 pervious pavement projects in Erie County (Perkins Twp Hall and OWC NERR).

## Wildlife Specialist Program:

- Partnership with ODNR, DOW
- Nuisance wildlife, habitat improvement; wildlife education
- 23 Deer Damage Control Permits issued in 2011 to address crop and property damage, estimated at more than \$78k; 13 - DDCP to date in 2012 (with more to be processed).
- National Archery in the Schools Program; Hunter Education; various school and adult presentations.

**Erie SWCD Special Fund to December 1, 2012:**

Prior Year Carry-Over	\$58,567.00
County Commissioners	\$100,880.00
State Match Funds	\$113,454.00
NOAA Grant	\$61,914.00
Stormwater Program	\$50,500.00
Ditch Maintenance	\$3,810.00
Other Income	\$163.97
Total Income and Carry-over	\$389,249.42
Total Expenditures	\$ 303,700.02
Balance as of 12/1/12	\$85,549.40



Water Quality Teachers Workshop at Berlin Township Conservation Club



ESWCD Demo Rain Barrel



Rain Garden Cleanup  
Erie County Service Center



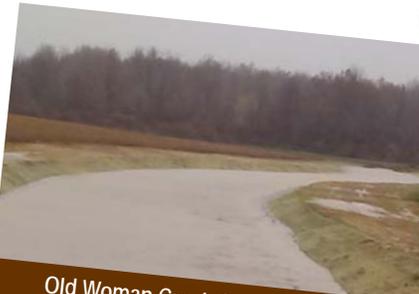
Rain Barrel Workshop



Area II Envirothon, Kidron



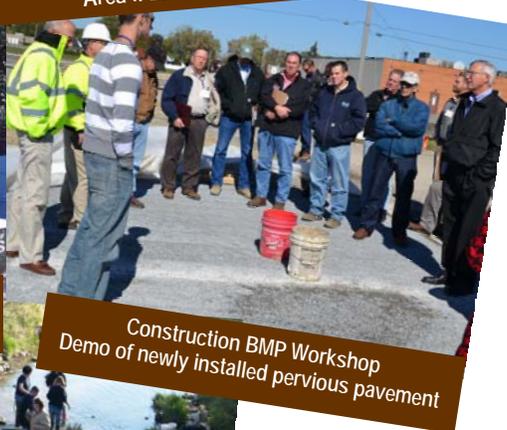
Perkins HS Green Roof Installation



Old Woman Creek Overflow Ditch during Hurricane Sandy



Taking care of our natural resources, so they can take care of us!



Construction BMP Workshop  
Demo of newly installed pervious pavement



EHOVE Stream Sampling

District staff serves and/or regularly participates in the following groups:

- Sandusky City Tree Commission
- Regional Planning TAC
- Ohio Watershed Council
- Sandusky River Watershed Coalition
- Local Conservation Workgroup for Erie County
- Ohio Coastal Resource Management
- Old Woman Creek NERR Advisory Board
- Local watershed "Friends" groups
- Erie County Cost Containment
- Steinen Wildlife Area, Erie MetroParks
- Erie County Health Department
- Erie County Solid Waste District
- GIS Advisory Committee
- Erie County Earth Day Committee
- Erie County Cost Containment Committee
- Erie County WHIP Committee

**Partnerships / Community Involvement**

Erie County residents benefit from the successful programs offered by the SWCD as a result of the strong and productive partnerships we share with many organizations and individuals.

**Board of Supervisors:**

- John Nuhn, Chair
- Steve Deehr, Vice Chair
- Kurt Heyman, PR
- Roger Rowland, Secretary
- Eric Schuster, Fiscal

**Staff:**

- Tim White, DD/Wildlife Spec.
- LouAnn Hauch, Technician
- Celine Hemminger, Adm Asst
- Breann Hohman, Watersheds
- Crystal Dymond, Stormwater
- John Rufo, Stewardship
- Lynette Harmon, NRCS