



# Erie SWCD - Annual Report - December 2013

*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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SWAMP Workshop

## Education/Outreach Programs:

- Area II Envirothon, Mahoning County, 51 teams, 255 High School students
- *Erie Connect* (Erie SWCD and OSU Extension); Sandusky Register Agribusiness Column; Radio program weekly, FM 97.7; and District website
- S.W.A.M.P. Conference, Firelands BGSU
- Earth Day Extravaganza, Osborn Park
- BGSU (iEvolve Grant) -citizen science in Perkins and Sandusky Schools - rain garden/community garden install & monitoring

## Technical Assistance:

- Soils, pond, floodplain review, watershed info
- Site investigations/evaluations; Ag Pollution I&E
- Drainage improvement petition projects; ditch maintenance
- Conservation projects: Animal Waste Storage Structure; Streambank Revetment; 2-stage Ditch

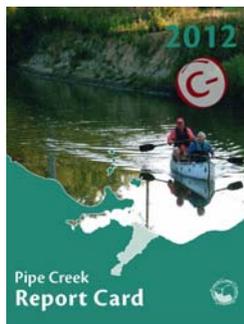
## Stormwater Program:

Collaboration efforts of Clean Water Coalition to meet OEPA NPDES Phase II requirements:

- Local regulation updates -Pre/Post construction Stormwater Management & Illicit discharge
- Initiating Storm Water Assessment for Erie County
- Coordination of outfall mapping
- Continuing efforts in educational outreach and public participation thru news articles, newsletters, website, posters, grants and more
- Providing technical assistance to communities for compliance and responses for potential deficiencies with OEPA including recent findings with the City of Sandusky's construction processes

## Firelands Coastal Tributaries Watershed Program (FCT):

- Volunteer Stream Monitoring Program - 25 volunteers are performing water quality monitoring in 23 sites in 4 watersheds.
- Environmental Report Cards for Old Woman Creek (OWC) and Pipe Creek watersheds completed and distributed to over 1500. Planning initiated for 2013 with addition of Mills Creek.
- Invasive species control and 225 native hardwood planting at OWC Reserve
- Volunteer farm tile monitoring program ongoing
- 5 Rain Barrel workshops—over 45 made!
- Completion of 250ft streambank stabilization on OWC
- Design of 2 "2-stage ditch" projects in progress for OWC



- Assistance to City of Sandusky for living shoreline at shoreline park
- Installation of 950 ft over-wide ditch in OWC headwaters

## Conservation Programs:

### 2013 Farm Bill Payments

CSP	\$ 158,915
CStP	\$ 10,872
EQIP	\$ 15,675
Annual RP	\$ 127,080

**Total (2012) \$ 312,542**

\*No new CRP/CREP enrollments

- LE CREP — over 460 acres enrolled into conservation to reduce sediment, improve water quality, and provide vital habitat.
- 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.

Agency	Project	Award	Yrs
ODNR DOW	FCT Operations (annual)	\$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
Great Lakes Comm.	OWC Sediment Reduction	\$100,652	3
Chagrin River WP	OWC NERR Porous Pavement Design Assistance	\$13,266	1
National Science Foundation	iEvolve project with Perkins and Sandusky Schools	\$94,787	5
ODNR DSWR	Storm drain decals—Bayview	\$562	1

## Partnerships on Other Grant Projects:

**North Central Ohio Sediment Reduction Grant** - A Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) Grant partnership with Huron SWCD to address sediment and nutrient issues in Chappel and Old Woman Creek.

**Ohio Storm Water Solutions**— NERR Science Collaborative partnership with 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
- 15 Deer Damage Control Permits issued (81 harvest tags, 43 filled) in 2013 to address crop and property damage.
- National Archery in the Schools Program; Hunter Education; various school and adult presentations

**Erie SWCD Operating Funds to December 1, 2013:**

Prior Year Carry-Over	\$70,127.89
County Commissioners	\$100,880.00
State Match Funds	\$115,784.16
ODNR, DOW (Watershed and Wildlife)	\$104,000.00
Stormwater Program	\$50,500.00
Ditch Maintenance	\$2,550.00
Total Income and Carry-over	\$443,842.05
Total Expenditures	\$304,270.76
Balance as of 12/1/13	\$139,571.29



**Water Quality Teachers Workshop at Berlin Township Conservation Club**



**ESWCD Demo Rain Barrel**



**Rain Garden Cleanup  
Erie County Service Center**



**Rain Barrel Workshop**



**Living Shoreline—downtown Sandusky**



**Area II Envirothon, Mahoning**



**Perkins HS Green Roof Installation**



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



**Construction BMP Workshop  
Demo of newly installed pervious pavement**



**Macroinvertebrate 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
- 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

**Staff:**

**Board of Supervisors:**

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

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

**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.