

Sandusky River Watershed Coalition

Volume 1, Issue 1
Summer 2009



Annual Meeting Coming Soon

When: September 15, 2009 3:00 PM

Where: Tackle Box II (starting at the water)

Activity: Fish Shocking Demonstration followed by the Annual Meeting and update (open to anyone who lives, works, or plays in the Sandusky River Watershed)

Join us for an afternoon of fun while learning about the number and species of fish found in the Sandusky River. The

fish shocking is one segment of the Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) study being conducted within the Lower Sandusky basin.

Following the Fish Shocking demonstration the Coalition will present an overview of the past year, report on grants, and other accomplishments and hold elections for seats on the Coalition's Steering Committee.

Nominations of par-



Fish Shocking Demonstration earlier this summer.

ties interested holding a seat on the Coalition's Steering Committee should contact Dwight Clary at clary-farms_llc@earthlink.net or Cindy Brookes at cabrookes@wsos.org.

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Home Sewage Treatment System Stimulus Funds Available!

Some of the watershed Counties are offering Home Sewage Treatment System (HSTS) repair or replacements made possible through Stimulus funding.

Homeowners must meet several criteria to be eligible including: 200% poverty level or lower, site must be owner-occupied and must have a failing system

verified by the County Health Department. Counties in the watershed offering this program include Erie, Sandusky, Seneca and Wood. If your county is not listed check

with your local Health Department for more information. For the counties listed you can contact the watershed office for more information.

Registration Being Accepted for CLAM Training

What is CLAM? CLAM stands for Citizens Lake Awareness Monitoring. This training is offered by Ohio Lake Management Society on Saturday, September 26th from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. with lunch being provided. Volunteer monitors completing training and testing will receive free monitoring equipment and will be eligible

for certification as Level 1 Qualified Data Collectors (QDC) at their local lake or reservoir. Data collected by these volunteers is utilized to indicate changes in lake quality. These changes can assist the Sandusky River Watershed Coalition in determining ways they can assist the local community with necessary programs

“Volunteer monitors completing training and testing will receive free monitoring equipment...”

and grants. Registrations are required and due no later than Wednesday, September 23rd by contacting Cindy Brookes at 419-334-5016 or cabrookes@wsos.org.

Source Water Protection Planning Workshops Moving Along

The six watershed communities of the Sandusky River Watershed have attended one or more of the workshops providing assistance for writing and submitting a Source Water Protection Plan (SWPP) for endorsement by Ohio EPA.

Why is this important you may ask?

A SWPP plan addresses how to deal with various emergency situations as well as where and how changes can be made to protect the waters immediately upstream, which they use as

their source of drinking waters.

Approved SWPP's are a tool for the community and watershed to use in obtaining grants to correct issues influencing the land and water that the community utilizes. This can also help rural and urban residents find ways to become better neighbors as they learn how each influence the other economically.

The series of five workshop assist water supply operators and other com-

munity members writing the plan.

Communities participating will be attending the Workshop #3 of 5 in late September.

Community involvement is encouraged and appreciated. The more local involvement only strengthens the possibility of success.

For more information and to volunteer contact Cindy Brookes, Watershed Coordinator.

River Clean Sweeps A Success!!!

Sandusky County - The Sandusky County and Seneca County River Clean-ups have been very successful this year in removing litter and trash from the Sandusky River and its tributaries, banks and adjoining wetlands. Sandusky Co. recorded 60 individuals assisting with cleaning up following the yearly Spring Walleye run and

added the Wetland along River Road this year. **Great Job to all who participated!!**

Seneca County - The Seneca County River Clean Sweep recorded 282 volunteers that cleaned nearly 26 miles of river, streams, and stream bank at over 15 sites. They collected 115 tires, over 1.5 tons of scrap metal



Volunteers and items collected at one Seneca County site.

and 3 tons of trash.

A BIG Thank You to all the Volunteers!!!

Memberships Needed and Appreciated!!

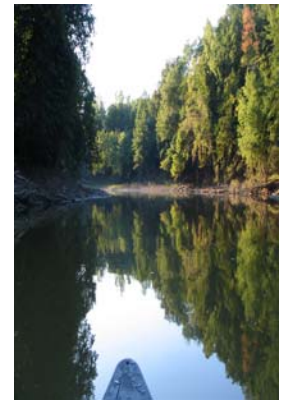
With the ODNR Watershed Coordinator Grant ending on December 31, 2009 your memberships are more important now than in the past.

The Coalition is working diligently to continue to keep both the watershed coordinator position and program into the future. The coordinator is

continuously looking for and writing grants to benefit the citizens of the watershed as well as their prodigy.

Membership funds provide added importance because they provide the local match needed to secure additional grant funding.

Local funding keeps the programs and efforts of the Coalition locally based and directed.



Some of the beauty the SRWC works to protect and improve upon for future generations .

THANK YOU to Current Members!!!

Dragonfly

Individuals: Tom & Paula Bartlett, Dwight & Lisa Clary, Kurt Erichsen, Tom & Connie Fishbaugh, George & Madelyn Fruth, Lynn & Linda Getz, Cliff Hartline, Tom Kashmer, Dale Lewis, Joe Perry Family, Scott & Joanne Riddle, Roger & Sandra Wise, Roland & Carol Zimmerman

Businesses & Organizations: Clary Farms, LLC, Izaak Walton League - Seneca County Chapter, Kansas Grain, Inc., Seneca County Farm Bu-

reau, Sandusky Soil & Water Conservation District, Scherger Farms Inc., Sound & Communications, Village of Green Springs and Village of New Washington.

Wild Turkey

Individuals: John & Susan Crumrine, Mark Keever, Patrick Scherger, Shane & Kate Siefert, David Weininger and Brian & Kristin Woodall

Businesses & Organizations: Seneca Caverns, Streaker Tractor Sales

Sycamore

Individuals: James & Marcia Bailey, Ken & Deb Baker, Gerry Brookes, Jim & Janet Pry, Dr. & Mrs. D.P. Smith, Brad & Susan Tanner, and Julie Ward

Businesses & Organizations: Ag Credit ACA, Clouse Construction Corp., City of Fostoria, Erie County SWCD, and Seneca Muzzleloaders

Mink

Businesses & Organizations: City of Tiffin

River Clean Sweeps A Success!!! (photos)



Left—Volunteers await the picnic lunch. Center— Clean up site crew with bags of trash collected. Right—One volunteer proud to show off his unusual find.



Sandusky River Watershed Coalition



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View our new website at
www.sanduskyriver.org

Scenic Rivers Update

The Ohio Scenic Rivers Program has been transferred from the Division of Natural Areas and Preserves to the Division of Watercraft. This was accomplished with the passage of the state's biennial budget. The program will remain intact including the Scenic River License Plates and the Stream Quality Monitoring (SQM) Project. The transfer



allows the program to be on dedicated funding and not rely on tax revenues. In recent years, there has been a 34% increase in the number of registered canoes and kayaks,



which is about 20% of all registered watercraft in Ohio. Most of the paddlers tend to use the Scenic Rivers system because of the natural riparian corridors and high water quality.

Presently, there 14 Scenic Rivers in Ohio with the Vermilion River slated for designation this Fall. For more information, please contact Robert Vargo, Sandusky State Scenic River Manager, at 419-981-6319, or

A few scenes from the Scenic Sandusky River!

bob.vargo@dnr.state.oh.us.