Message from the Chair

A few key words for 2014 include milestones, memberships and monolith. On a sunny, yet chilly Saturday in March we celebrated the 100th jaunt of the Mill Creek Yacht Club. The Development Committee persevered to deliver a significant increase in business membership from all reaches of the watershed. And a squad of Mill Creek Tough Boys strained against all odds and stubborn muck to remove a massive hunk of steel, otherwise known as "the leviathan," from the creek bed. None of this is possible without the hard work and dedication of an indispensable cadre of volunteers as we continue toward our goal of Making the Mill Creek Great Again.

–Richard Osgood, Council Chair
The goal of this project is to filter and detain stormwater through a biofiltration system from the campus of Hopewell Elementary School and improve habitat along the riparian corridor of East Fork Mill Creek. Pollutants from the school parking lot, soccer fields, and roadways will be filtered through a passive treatment system.

Grant Amount: $123,450
Funder: Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, Surface Water Improvement Fund
Implementer: Butler Soil and Water Conservation District

Reading Residential Stormwater Management Demonstration
The project involves design and installation of four stormwater management techniques suitable for residential application including rain barrels, flow-through planters, pervious pavers, and a rain garden; and installation of an irrigation system to water an adjacent vegetable garden. Rain barrels and flow-through planters will be connected to downsputs on the residential property, which has a footprint of 1,200 square feet. Overflow from flow-through planters will be directed to the rain garden.

Grant Amount: $82,683
Funder: Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, Surface Water Improvement Fund
Implementer: City of Reading

Volunteer Water Quality Monitoring Program
We compiled another successful year of the monitoring program thanks to our 56 dedicated field and lab volunteers, and program partners. Volunteers collected water samples at 43 sites in the Mill Creek Watershed and tested for pH, total phosphorus, nitrates, turbidity, nitrates, coliforms, and fecal coliforms. In eight months, volunteers gathered a total of 344 samples and spent over 5,000 hours volunteering their time. This year we also began using mobile technology in the field to provide data and information to watershed stakeholders in real-time.

With the help of our collaborators, the Council will continue to build and sustain consistent monitoring in the Mill Creek.

In 2014...
- 21 outreach events
- 11 canoe outings
- 5 cleanups by canoe
- 3 cleanups on foot
- 2 guided bike tours
- 6 plantings
- 4 maintenance/invasive species removal days
- 1 creek walk
- 113 new Mill Creek Yacht Club crevemes
- 680 total crevemes
ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Thank you! Your contribution supports direct Mill Creek improvement.

The Council worked to bring more than $350,000 in grant funds in 2014 for stream and floodplain restoration, stormwater management and green demonstrations, water quality monitoring, lawn care management, consensus-driven watershed planning, recreational canoe and bicycle outings, and stream cleanups.

Individual and Family Members:
John Campbell
Ann Schuur
JoelTrash
Jared Robertson
Michael Miller
Kim Lamhan
Jeff Agriola
Steven Buchberger
Mark Schuster
Stiney Vonderhaar
Ryan Grafton
Cornelius Coyle
Liz Cline
Chuck Holliday
Thayne Bedenkop
Bruce Koehler
Mary Lewis
Jim O'Reilly
Barbara Ann Austin
Bob Ashbrook
Dean Niemeyer
Greg & Susan Bechtel
Gerald Bonecutter
Melanie Brokaw
Nancy Elwood
Jackie Helm
Brian Wamsley
John Carmichael
Michael Refenberenger
Karen Ernst Dil
Suzanne Jeffrey
Robert Hess
Dennis Lye
Steve Lilly
Neal Eiseleer
Barbara Gleeke
Kris & Wengly Shogler
Peter Soys
Gary Bramble
Amy West
Debbie Clark
Mark Campbell
Richard Overturf
Karen Arnett
Andrew Fisher
Christina MacVeigh
Ryan Clop
Ron Ripperger
M.J. Tarter
Steve Johns
Lee Koehler
William Webber
Mark Plungis
Susan Miller-Stigler
Michele Gottschlich
David & Christine Russel
Carrie Glidden
Aaron Burkhardt
John Planes
Owen Marshall
John Johnston
Jim West
Andy Mauk
Patrick Michel
Hagen Cramer
William Martin
Marc Kirby

Community and Government Members:
City of Blue Ash
City of Sharonville
Amberley Village
City of Fairfield
Fairfield Township
City of Wyoming
City of Village of Greenhills
City of Woodlawn
Liberty Township
City of Cincinnati
City of Evendale
City of Forest Park
Village of Evendale
West Chester Township
Greater Parks of Hamilton County
Butler County Storm Water District
Butler County Water & Sewer Hamilton Ground
Water Resources
Hamilton County Soil
Water Resources Conservation
Cincinnati Stormwater
MGMU Utility
Metropolitan Sewer District

OKI
Devery's Pizza
XACO Enterprises
XACO Consultants
Duke Energy Foundation
Continental Mineral Processing
LaRosa’s
Reading Motor Company
Gold Metal Products
Rumpke
Bucyke United Fly Fishers
Kao Corporation
McGill Smith Punshon
Dan Beard Council
BASF Corporation
John Stilbs
John Marron
John R. Juengsen
Skidmore Sales
General Mills

Grant Funders and Foundations:
Ohio Environmental Protection Agency
Ohio Department of Natural Resources
Ohio Department of Natural Resources

Event Sponsors:
C&D Smith
First Suburbs Consortium
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CDRA Associates
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Apex
RiverBridge Brewery
Jersey Mikes Subs
John Morrell
Rumpke
Firestone (West Chester)

Business and Organizational Members:
Human Nature
Sustainable Streams, LLC
Cardno JI/New
Keystone Flora, LLC
Mill Creek Yacht Club
AMEC
Millicreek Valley
Conservancy District
Law Offices of Charles G. Skidmore
SEO Ohio

Chris Monzel
Thomas Bullock
Eugenia Bell
Barbara Sawikni
David & Karen Bulman
Kathy Steele
Donald Rucknagle
Larry Senkren
Laura Murphy
Heather Sabin
Glen Vonderembse
Chris Hall

Bike Group:
Richard Osgood
Bob Oshana
Joyce Chastang
Eula Saxton
Mike Dohner
Carole Maloney
John Kneur
Sharon Kneur
Leslie MacDonald
Patrick Kerin
Kim Lamhan
John Mangan
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Michael Miller
Emily Imhoff
Dan Imhoff
Sandra Imhoff
Carol Wick
Tom Wick
Pamela Smith
Jeff Smith
Bob Ashbrook
Joseph McMillan
Mary Lynn Lodor
Joanna Mitro
Susan Davenkemper
Trevor Groeg

Monitoring Program Volunteers:
Cathy Hale
Levon Siler
Lindsey Staley
Doug Hassenauer
Ed Neuman
William Martin
Jim Moyer
Annie Conley
Gabriele Russel
Rachele Cornett
Lydja Sylies
Cindy Bean
Marc Lea
Kevin Monroe
Mark Rogge
Sam Swanson
Corey Temple
Terry VanderMar
Catholic HEART Workcamp
Kao Corporation
Dave Gamstatter
Warren High
Dick Brewer
Jeff Agricola
Bruce Koehler
Roy Bauer
Megan Scott Blake
Brian Klawitski
Kelly Klawitski
Olivia Williams
Anne McCarty
Joe McMillan
Skidmore Sales
Carme Khodlov
Tila Khodlov
Vlad Khodlov
Michael Milner
Buck Wildins
Jean Schechman
Michael Refenberenger
Chipp Skidmore
Dan Prior
Ken Muth
Aaron Muth
Jim Lasley
Erica Hamilton
Adele Hamilton
Matt Skidmore
Rick Connor
Briana Connor
Lisa Link
Dick Huber
Bob Lentz
Brandon Mez
Sam Hickey
Joe Hickey
Bennett Russell
Adam Schimer

The Council relies on investments of time and money made by watershed stakeholders to complete our mission-driven work.