



Central Ohio Watershed Contact Information

Bokes & Mill Watershed, Bokes/Mill Technician
 Union Soil and Water Conservation District
 (937) 642-5871 x110, www.co.union.oh.us/SWCD

Center for Energy & the Environment / ORPC
 (614) 233-4186, www.morpc.org

Darby Creek Association
 (614) 288-0313, www.darbycreeks.org

Friends of Big Walnut Creek & Tributaries
 (614) 470-9699, www.friendsofbigwalnutcreek.com

Friends of Blacklick Creek
 (614) 855-3879, www.jeffersontownship.org/Organizations/BlackLickCreek.aspx

Friends of the Lower Olentangy Watershed
 (614) 267-3386, www.olentangywatershed.org

Friends of the Ravines
www.friendsoftheravines.org

Friends of the Scioto River
 (614) 560-6921, www.sciotoriverfriends.org

Friends of Alum Creek & Tributaries
 614-569-8544, www.friendsofalumcreek.org

Rocky Fork Creek Watershed Protection Taskforce
 614-323-4809, www.rockyforkohio.com

Olentangy Watershed Alliance
 (740) 203-1905, www.olentangyriver.org

Sierra Club, Central Ohio Group
 (614) 461-0734, <http://ohio.sierraclub.org/central>

Upper Big Walnut Creek Water Quality Partnership
 (740) 368-1921, www.delawareswcd.org

Upper Scioto River Watershed Project
 (740) 368-1921 x4
www.delawareswcd.org/Watershed/Scioto

Walnut Action Group
 (614) 575-5556, www.violet.oh.us

Printed on recycled paper



Are You the Source?

What YOU can do to keep our water clean!

Funding provided by....



Fertilizer, Pesticides, Engine Oil, Trash....

Are Polluting Our Local Streams?!

Yes. Fertilizer, pesticides, animal wastes, engine oil, and anything that can be picked up as water travels across the surface of the ground are contaminating our local streams in Central Ohio. This type of pollution has many sources: our homes, streets, and local businesses in the community. These sources are referred to as non-point sources (NPS) of pollution since they are the result of a land use and/or man-made change to a river rather than flowing from a single point of discharge.



Why should we care?

Streams, lakes, rivers, and aquifers provide our drinking water supply. Even the water contained in the bottles that we purchase from vending machines use water that travels through the ground, or across the surface.

By taking actions to ensure clean water we protect our family and children as well as wildlife.

How does it happen?

Water that falls on our homes, lawns, farms, and gardens, picks up contaminants including soil, herbicides, pesticides, fertilizer, and petroleum products. If you live in a suburb or urban area, the water from storms will be directed to a storm water drain without being treated. Water flowing over hot rooftops, driveways, and streets is heated and quickly directed to streams raising the temperature of streams and creating flash flows that cause the banks to erode.

Even in rural areas, our streams, lakes, and rivers are being impacted by our everyday living. We all contribute to the problem, and we all can do something about it.

Stream bank erosion along Blacklick Creek in Franklin County
(Franklin SWCD)



What YOU Can Do To Help



In Our Homes

- Reduce use of lawn and garden products, follow the directions for use found on packages.
 - Recycle oil and other petroleum products.
 - Keep trash, oil, chemicals, and debris out of your storm drains because they empty directly into your local stream or river – without any treatment!
 - If you have a septic tank, maintain it.
 - When you walk your pets, properly dispose of pet waste in a trash can or toilet.
- Plant native vegetation to provide habitat for wildlife.
 - Wash your car on a surface, e.g. your lawn, where soapy water will not run to storm drains.

On the Farm

- Properly use and manage herbicides, fertilizers and manure from livestock.
- Work with your local Soil & Water Conservation District Office to enroll in conservation programs such as EQUIP and CREP through the Department of Agriculture.



Manure pile next to a stream

In Your Community

Support land use planning by:

- Letting your local, state and federal officials know you care about healthy streams and rivers.
- Supporting efforts by the local community to protect streamside forests, wetlands, and other natural areas by establishing a protection buffer that limits mowing and logging. Allowing native vegetation to grow around these areas will prevent erosion, filter pollutants and provide habitat for wildlife.
- Encouraging practices that prevent flooding and reduce pollution by controlling the flow of water during and after a storm.
- Promoting efforts to reduce paved or hard surfaces.