

“It’s Not Easy Being Green!”



Kermit the Frog

Bath Township, Summit County, Ohio

Population: 10,000

Square Mileage: 23 Square Miles

Budget: \$12,000,000

Comprehensive Planning

Funding: General Fund

Bath Township Comprehensive Plan

November, 1997

Prepared By:

Pflum, Klausmeier & Gehrum Consultants,
15 Atterbury Boulevard, Suite 10
Hudson, Ohio 44236
330/650-9949

Cincinnati, Ohio • Hudson, Ohio • Indianapolis, Indiana • Glasgow, Scotland

Natural Resource Protection Study

Draft Report

Bath Township
Summit County, Ohio

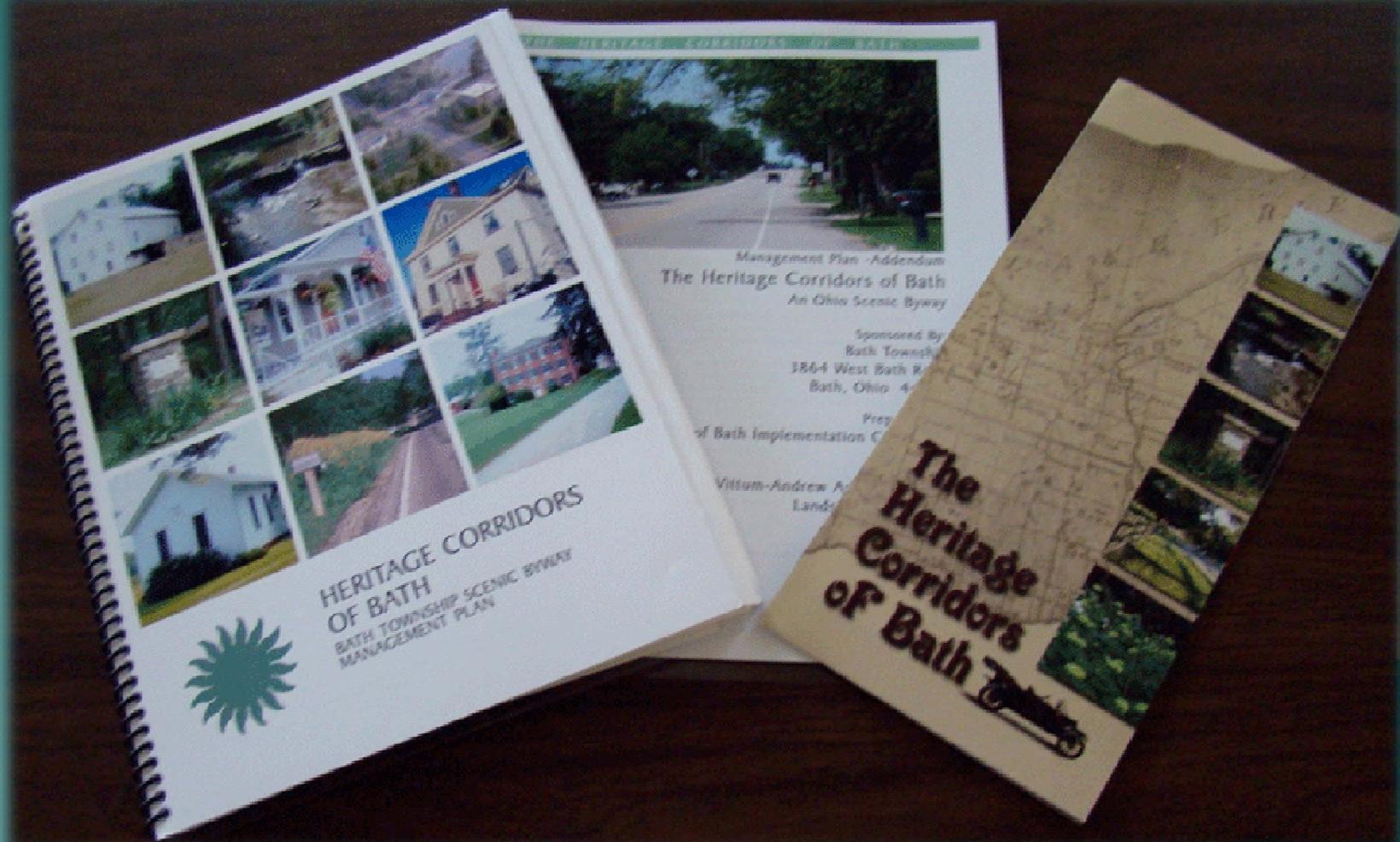
BATH

Township

Design Guidelines

Heritage Corridors of Bath, An Ohio Scenic Byway

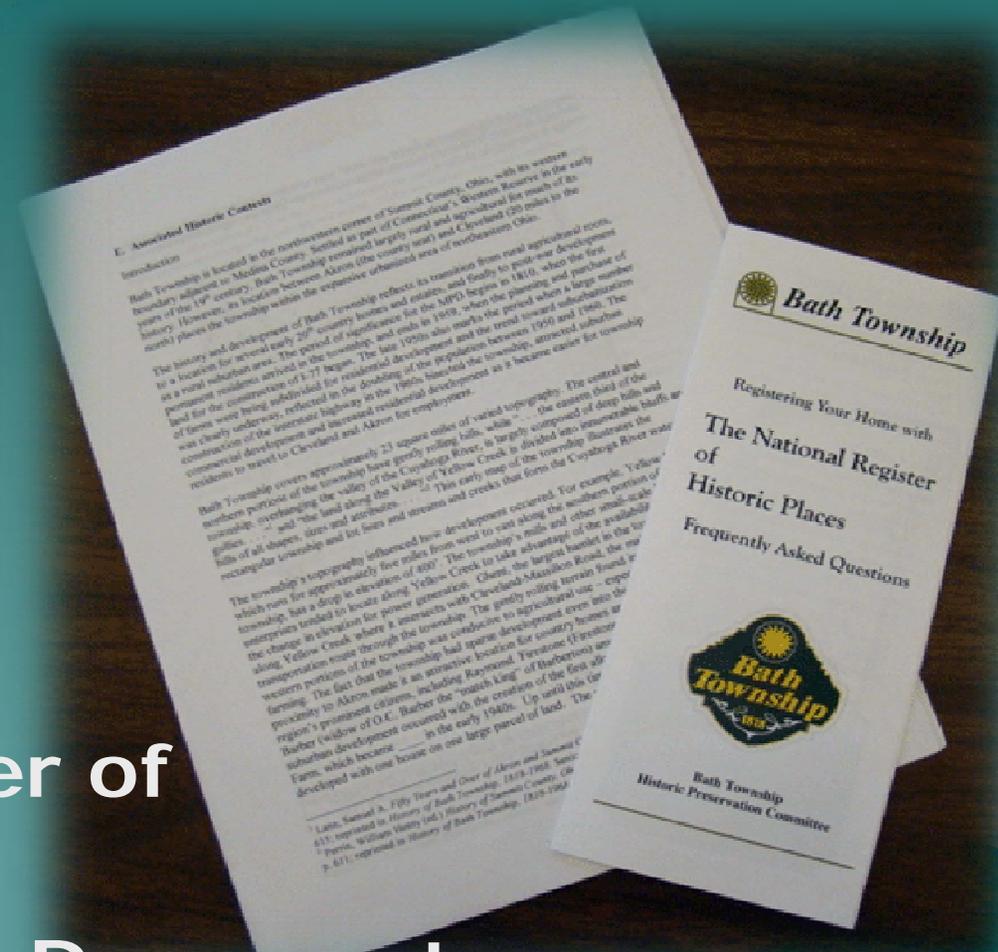
Funding: Scenic Ohio, General Fund



Historic Preservation Committee

Funding: General Fund

- ◆ National Register of Historic Places
- ◆ Multi Properties Document



Historic Town Hall Becomes Museum

Funding: Bath Historical Society, Bath Volunteers for Service, Kiwanis, Grange, Rotary, Community Development Block Grant, Memberships, Donations



Cemeteries

Funding: Fee for Cemetery Lots



- ◆ Stones reused from a collapsed century old bridge

Bath Township Solid Waste District

Funding: Fee for Service Includes Recycling

- ◆ Recycling on the left, trash on the right



Project Pride: Annual Roadside Cleanup

Funding: General Fund,
Healthy Communities Healthy Youth, Donations



Waste Collection

Funding: Summit/Akron Solid Waste Management Authority,
General Fund



Household Hazardous Waste Collection

SATURDAY, MAY 31, 2008

9:00am to 3:00pm

3300 Fairlawn Service Dr
Fairlawn Dept. of Public Service

(Next to Andrew E. Sombali Compactor and Recycling Center-follow signs)

ONLY the following materials will be accepted:

- ✓ Paints (includes oil, latex, stain & varnish)
- ✓ Pesticides
- ✓ Herbicides
- ✓ Fungicides
- ✓ Car Batteries
- ✓ Household Batteries
- ✓ Gasoline
- ✓ Used Motor Oil
- ✓ Antifreeze
- ✓ Aerosol Cans
- ✓ Driveway Sealer

Fairlawn, Bath and Copley residents only
(Please bring proof of residency)

Fairlawn Residents 9:00am to 1:00pm
Copley Residents 11:00am to 1:00pm
Bath Residents 1:00pm to 3:00pm

NO business, commercial or school waste accepted

Cooperated by:
The Summit/Akron Solid Waste Management Authority
In partnership with:
City of Fairlawn • Bath Township • Copley Township

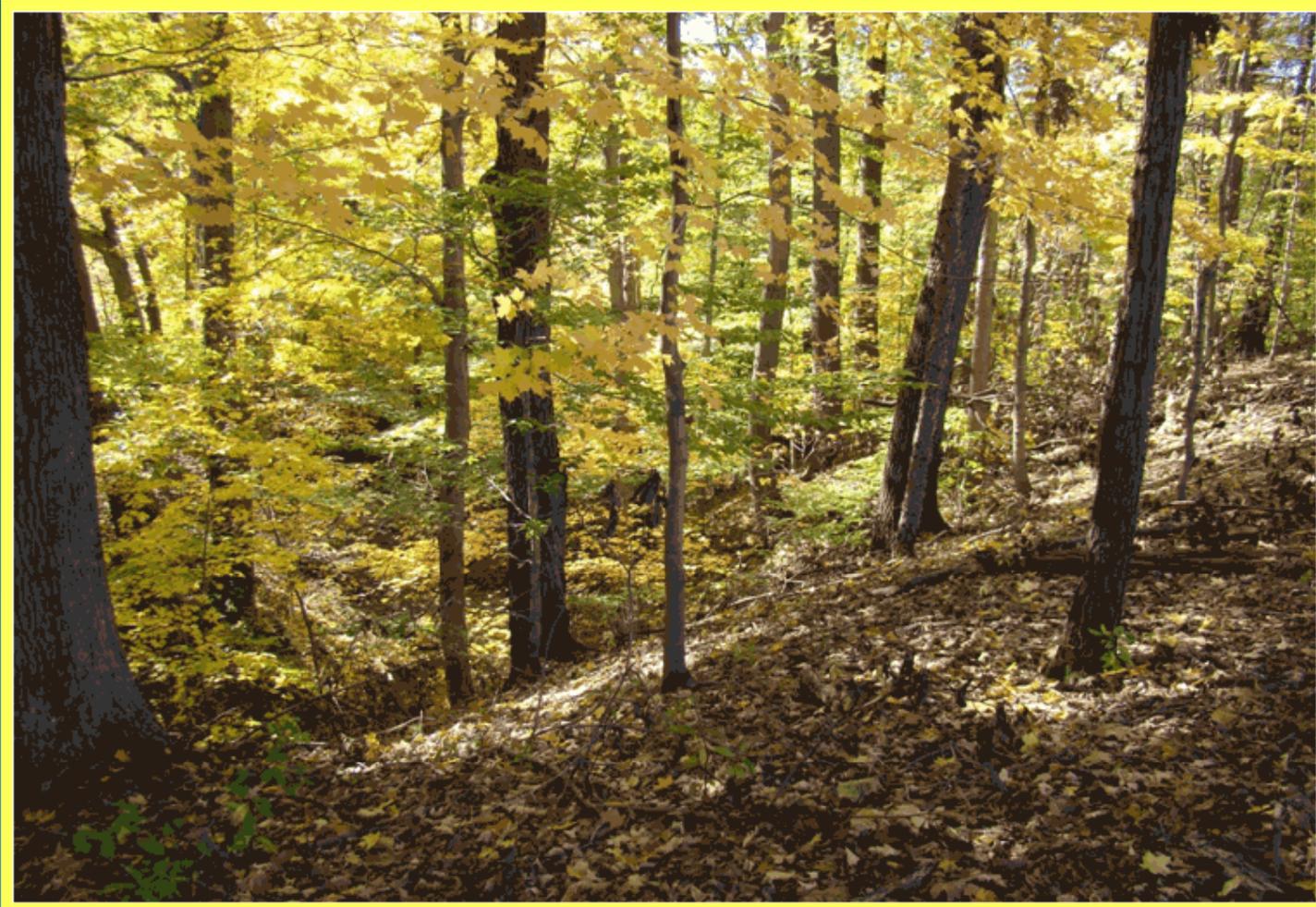
For more information
call the Summit/Akron
330-314-1000

Collection Site for Aluminum Cans for Burned Children



Steep Slope (18% or more) Zoning Protection

Funding: General Fund, Zoning Fees



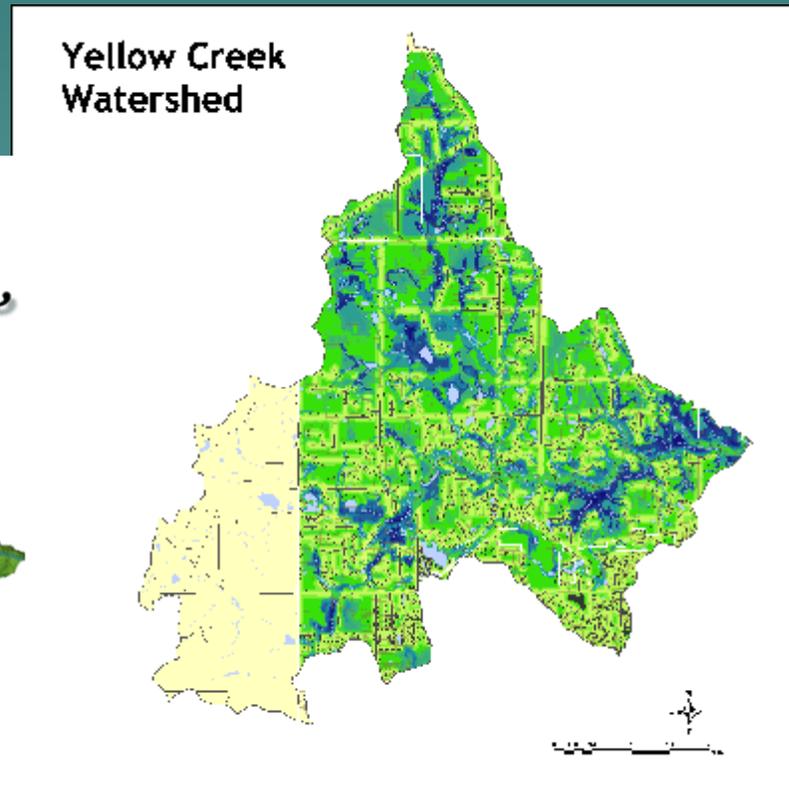
Rain Barrel Workshop

Sponsored by the Park Board



Friends of Yellow Creek

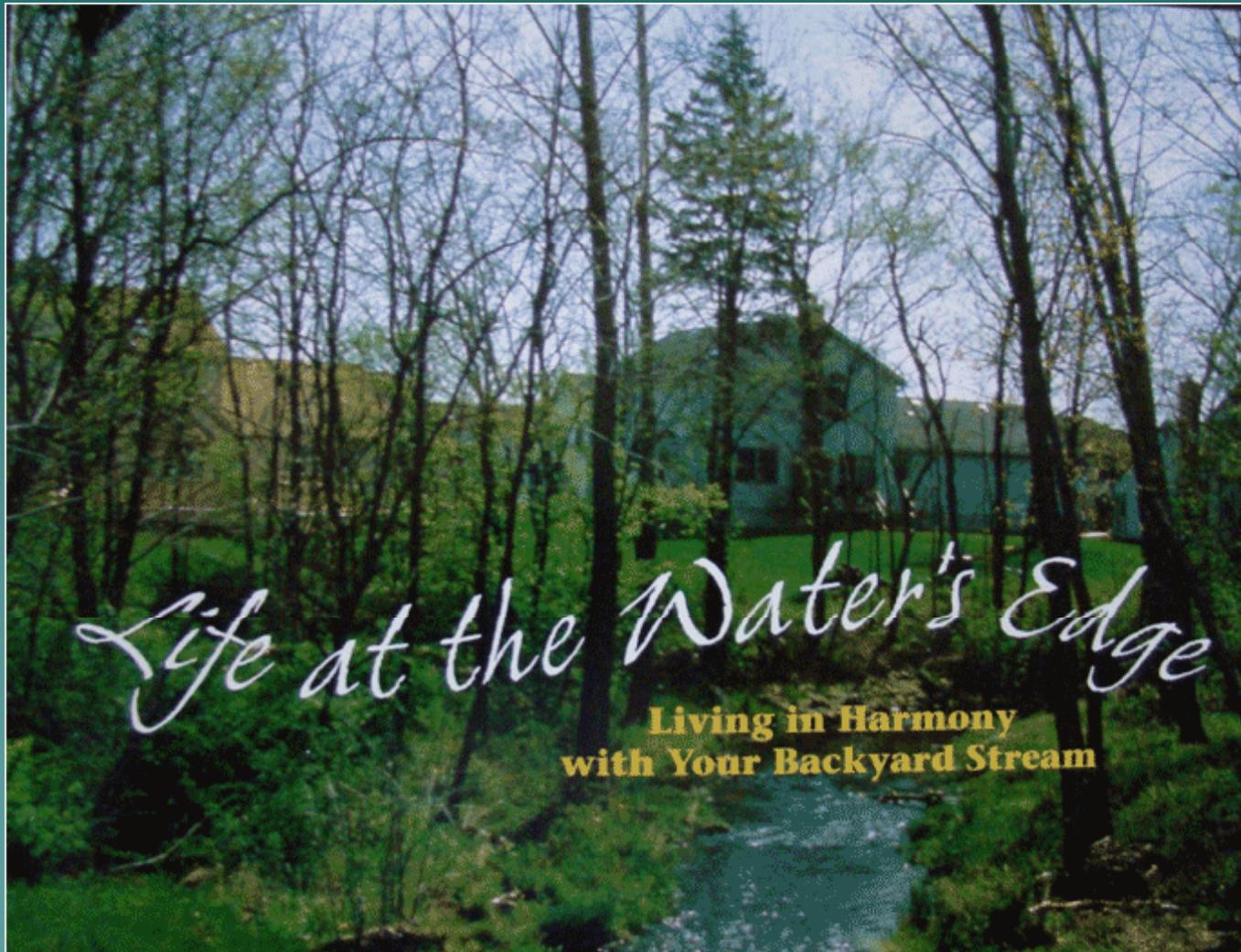
Yellow Creek is one of the cleanest rivers in the area, it is one of the reasons Lake Erie is now "fishable".



Clean Water Initiatives

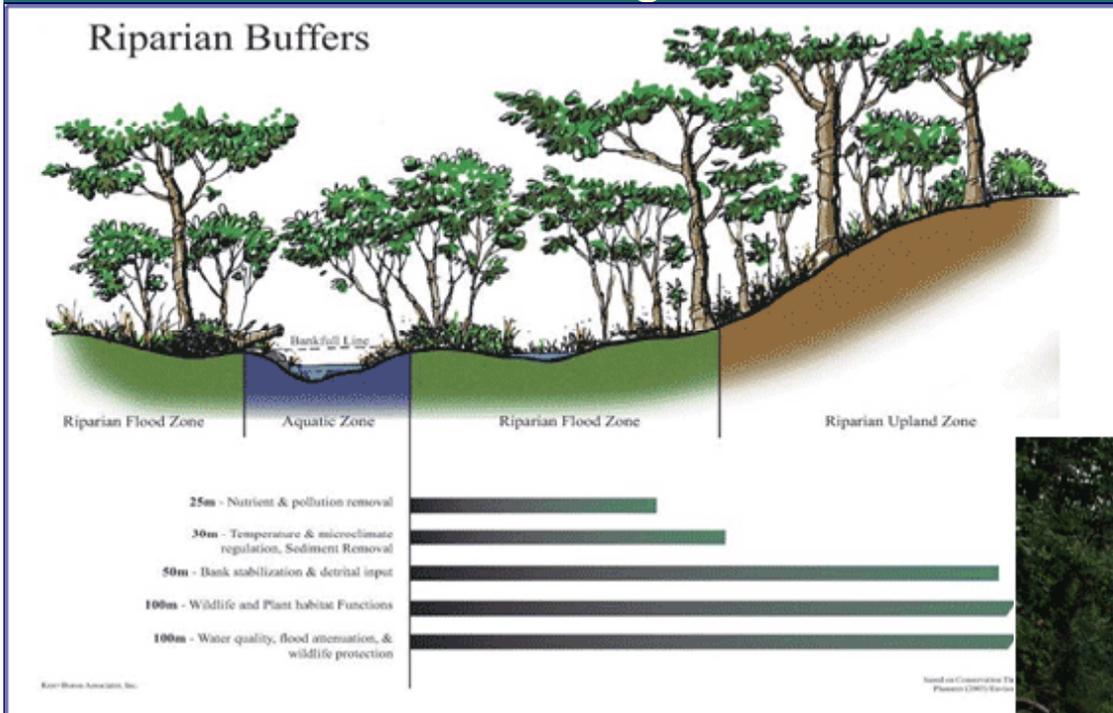
Using Best Management Practices

Funding: Summit Soil and Water Conservation District



Riparian Zone

Funding: General Fund, Zoning Fees



◆ First Community in Ohio to Implement 75 Foot Zoning Setback

Tree Planting on Township Property

Funding: \$200 leaf from Bath Township Living Tree



Salt Use on Roads Cut in Half through Conservation



Township Offices

- 
- ◆ Scanned files to computer
 - ◆ Permits available online
 - ◆ Shredded paper recycled
 - ◆ Use of recycled paper

Drug Drop-off Box



- Provides a safe disposal of expired and unused drugs.
- Prevents medicines from entering our streams and being ingested by wildlife.
- Keeps drugs out of the hands of teenagers.

Builders' Workshop



Use best management practices:

- ◆ Provide erosion and sediment control
- ◆ Maintain positive surface drainage
- ◆ Encourage porous surfaces
- ◆ Plant native vegetation
- ◆ Eliminate floodplain fill
- ◆ Minimize grading

1997 = 41 acres one park
2007 = 495 acres four parks



Bath Nature Preserve

Funding: \$3.8 Million Bond Issue, Ohio Department of Transportation Enhancement Grant, Recreation Trail Grant, Park Levy Fund, Clean Ohio Conservation Fund, Summit County Grant, U Of Akron Maintenance Fund



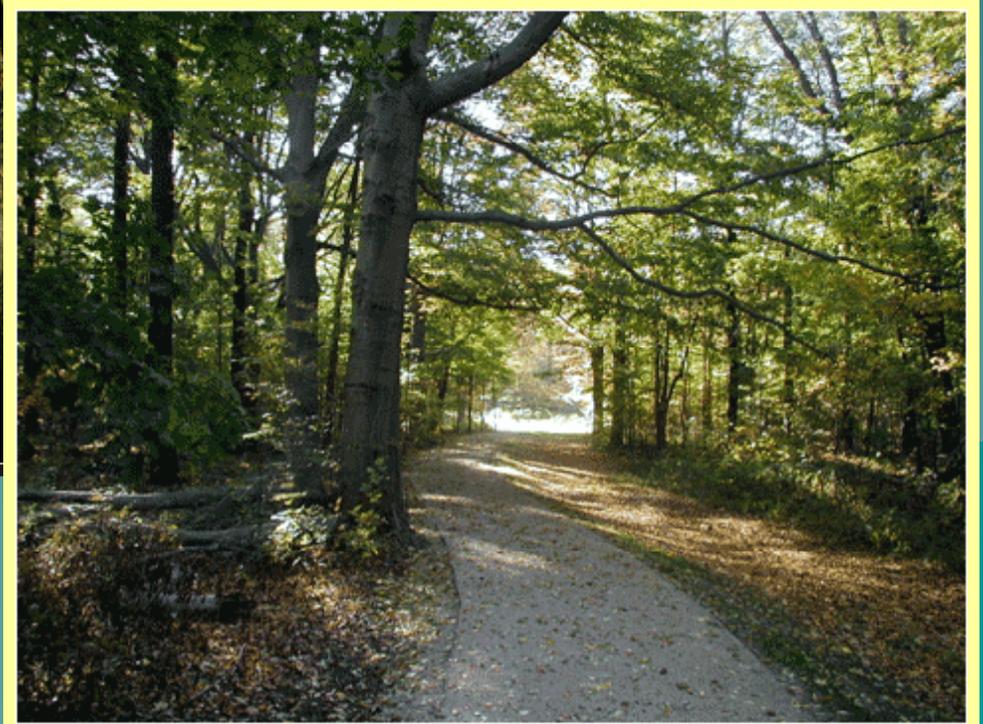
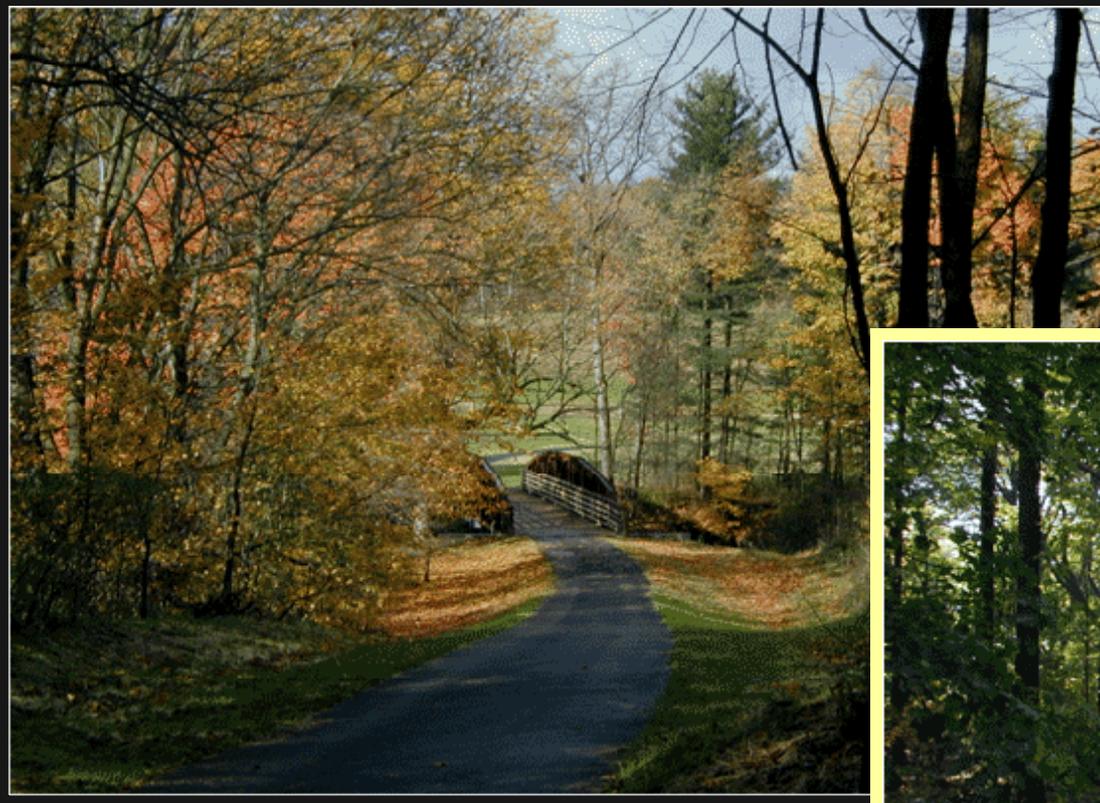
◆ 411 acres 1998



North Fork Trail

in the Bath Nature Preserve

Funding: Ohio Recreational Trails, Park Levy Fund



North Fork Trail Underpass and Bridge at the Bath Nature Preserve

Funding: Ohio Department of Transportation Enhancement Fund, Park Levy



Restoring Bath Creek at the Bath Nature Preserve

Funding: Federal EPA 319 Grant

Formerly straight-line ditch



Restored Flood Plain and Meander



University of Akron Field Station on the Bath Nature Preserve

Funding: University pays \$25,000/ yr. for Bath Parks Maintenance



Warm Season Native Grasses on the Bath Nature Preserve

Funding: Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program (WHIP) Grant



Bath Baseball Park (8 Fields)

Funding: Northfork Developer Donated Land, NatureWorks Grant, Bettinger Foundation, Bath Park Board, Revere Baseball and Softball Assoc., Rotary, Bath Volunteers for Service, Park Levy



◆ 26 ½ acres 1998

Wetlands Protected and Vernal Pool Created at Bath Baseball Park

Funding: Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program (WHIP) Grant



Bath Hill Park

Funding: NatureWorks Grant, Inheritance Monies

◆ 16 acres 2001



Bath Community Activity Center

Funding: Park Levy, NatureWorks Grant, Grange,
Revere Youth Football, Revere Youth Soccer,
Bath Volunteers for Service, King Memorial



◆ 41 acres 1968

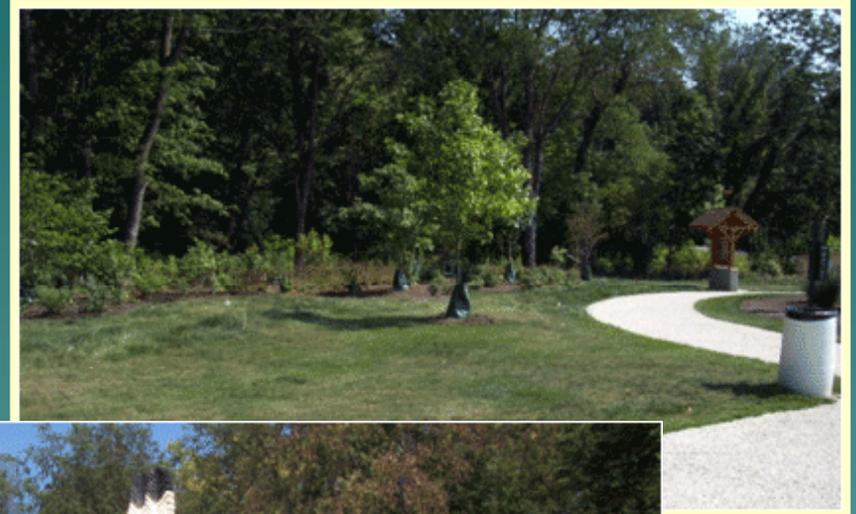
Butterfly Garden

at the Bath Community Activity Center
Funding: Bath Alpha Garden Club



Native Plantings / Riparian Restoration

Chief Logan Trailhead at the Bath Community Activity Center
Funding: Fee in Lieu of Land Monies Collected from Residential Developers



No Mow Grass

Chief Logan Trailhead at the Bath Community Activity Center
Funding: Park Levy



Manicured Lawn Area

No Mow Grass Buffer of Riparian Corridor



Volunteers Planting Rain Gardens to Filter and Slow Water

Chief Log an Trailhead at the Bath Community Activity Center

Funding: Merrill Lynch, Living Tree Fund, Park Levy Fund



Educational Guides

Funding : Park Levy Fund



Runoff into stream before Trailhead Construction

In the park

In 2005 the need for additional parking at the trailhead next to the entrance to Bath Community Activity Center Park became apparent. However, adding impervious surfaces, such as parking lots, increases erosion and risk of flooding. Rainwater runs off parking lot surfaces very quickly and this runoff increases the load on nearby streams.

After considerable research Mike Rorar, park administrator, decided to incorporate two rain gardens into the site design for the new parking area. In 2007 the site was contoured to route rainwater toward two new rain gardens. The rain gardens were designed by John Vittum.

Rain garden basins were constructed with a sand / soil mix to provide a good home for plants and to allow water to soak into the ground. Overflow pipes were installed to prevent damage to the rain gardens during heavy rains.

Finally, the rain gardens were planted with native species selected for water tolerance and the sun /shade balance at each location.

Botanical Name	Common Name
<i>Carex grayi</i>	Burr Sedge
<i>Carex stricta</i>	Tussock Sedge
<i>Carex vulinoidea</i>	Fox Sedge
<i>Rudbeckia subtomentosa</i>	Sweet Black-eyed Susan
<i>Iris versicolor</i>	Wild Iris
<i>Juncus torreyi</i>	Torrey's Rush
<i>Lobelia cardinalis</i>	Red Cardinal Flower
<i>Lobelia siphilitica</i>	Great Blue Lobelia
<i>Carex bromoides</i>	Brome Hummock Sedge
<i>Carex normalis</i>	Spreading Oval Sedge
<i>Athyrium filix femina</i>	Lady Fern
<i>Onoclea sensibilis</i>	Sensitive Fern

Rain Gardens

Rain gardens are designed to capture rainwater. They are located in depressions and planted with vegetation selected to tolerate both wet and dry conditions. They mimic natural processes by allowing rainwater to soak into the ground or evaporate, rather than running directly and rapidly into nearby creeks and streams.

Benefits of Rain Gardens

Decreased flooding and erosion. Flooding and erosion occur when a large volume of rainwater overloads creeks and streams. By delaying rainwater runoff, rain gardens reduce the risk of flooding and erosion.

Cleaner water. Rain gardens filter water runoff. After soaking through the soil, water leaving the rain garden is dramatically cleaner than the water that enters it. This means that streams, such as our own Yellow Creek will be cleaner. Rain gardens may also help to replenish ground water supplies.

Beauty and habitat. Rain gardens are heavily planted, typically with a variety of native species. These plants add beauty to our environment and provide habitat to wild life. Once established, rain gardens require relatively little maintenance.

No mosquitoes! Rain gardens retain water for no more than a few days. Because mosquitoes require standing water for at least 7 days to complete their life cycle, rain gardens do not harbor mosquitoes.



Front Rain Garden (on Cleveland - Massillon Rd.)

Rain gardens at home?

Rain gardens are ideal to catch runoff from roofs or driveways. Maintenance required is low and benefits are many. Proper plantings of native species provide the beauty of a garden, with flowers that attract butterflies and pollinators. Rain gardens also provide ecological benefits in helping to keep our streams healthy and our water clean.



Rear Rain Garden (behind Chief Logan, near the creek)

How to learn more

An excellent Rain Garden Manual for Homeowners is available from the Geauga Soil and Water Conservation District at www.geaugaswcd.com/.

More information about rain gardens and links to other sources can be found on the Friends of Yellow Creek website at www.yellowcreekwatershed.org.

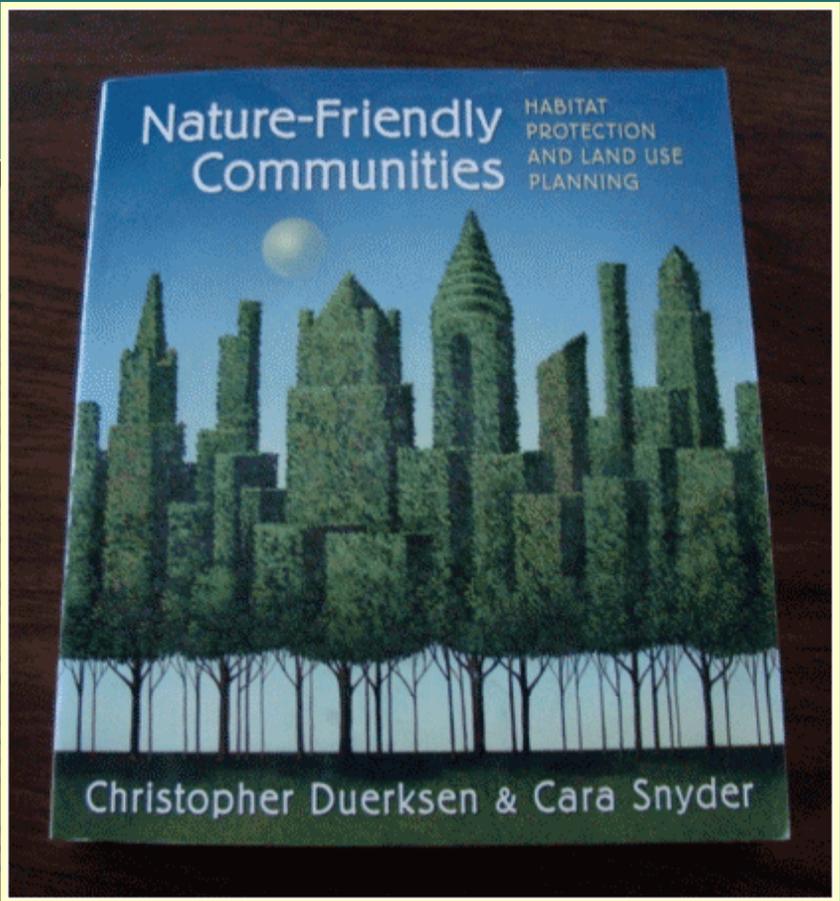
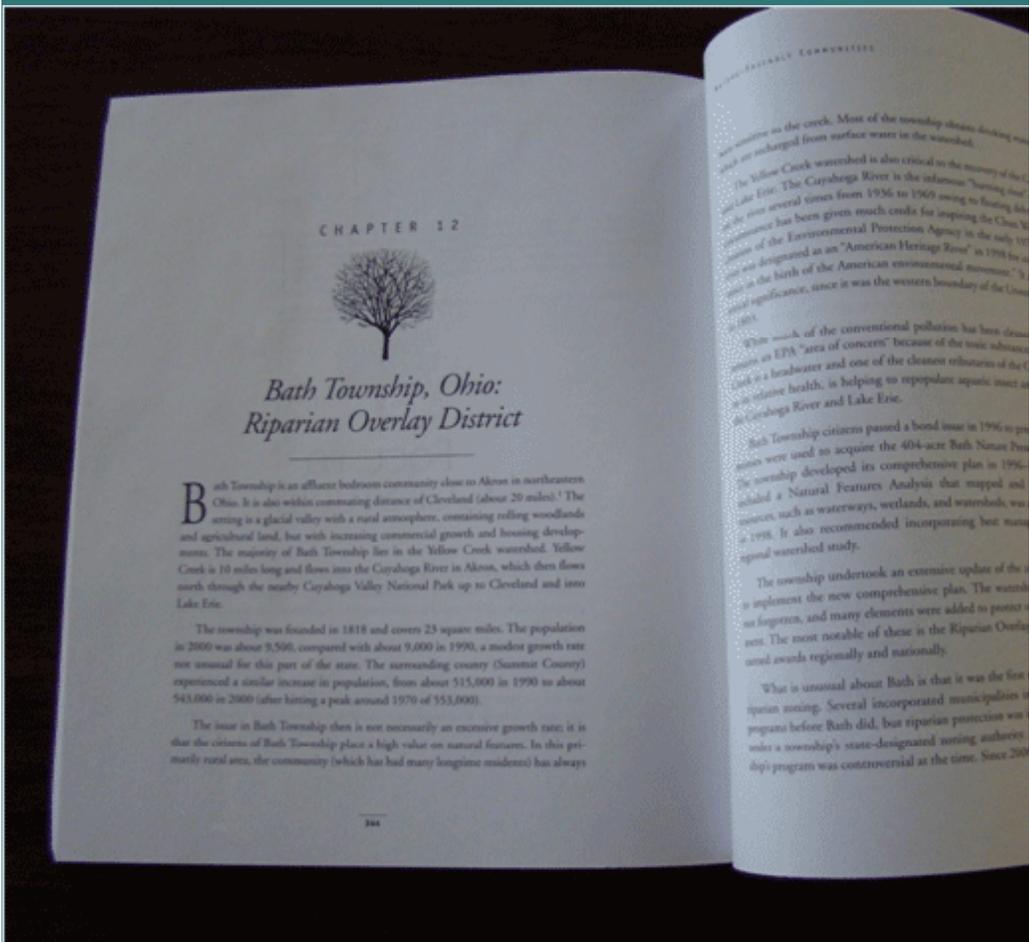


Mutt Mitts Keep the Parks Clean

Funding: Park Levy



Bath Township Declared A Nature Friendly Community 2005



Awards for Sustainable Planning

