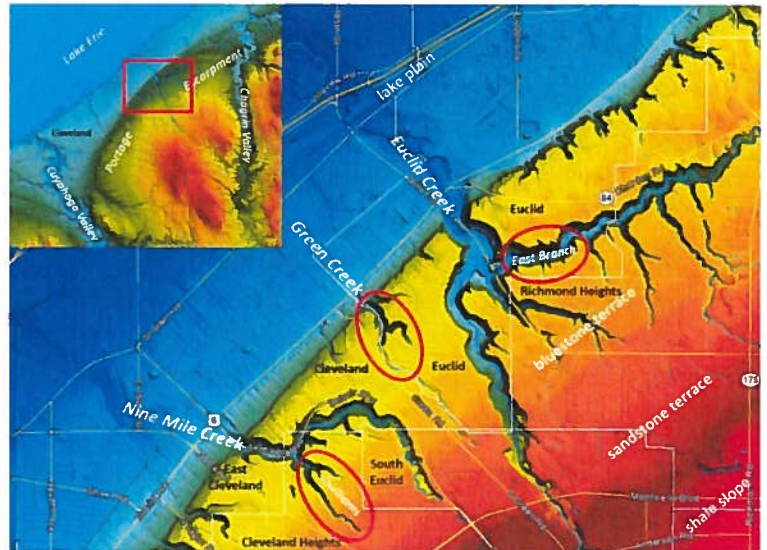


Revitalizing our Ravines

On the East Side Heights, several ravines cradle the headwaters for Dugway, Euclid and Nine Mile Creeks. These deep recesses maintain natural ecology and beauty within the local built environment. The places give special character to the Heights.

But the ravines are in danger. The overriding threat comes with intensified rainfall that is the hallmark of regional climate change. Flash floods now more frequently undermine real property and basic infrastructure. Floodwaters also bring in road pollutants and invasive species.



Portage Escarpment east of Cleveland. Workshop ravines: Quilliams (Nine Mile) Creek, Green Creek and Euclid Creek East Branch.



Green Creek ravine. A streambed segment in good health.



Green Creek ravine. Another streambed segment with slumped, eroded streambank, invasive species and urban refuse.

What is to be done? We believe that with thoughtful action, the 'escarpment ravines' can be made more climate-resilient and ecologically diverse. During July 2017, *Revitalizing our Ravines* will hold three escarpment ravine workshops. At the events, varied stakeholders will gather to learn about their ravines, identify problems and collaborate on solutions.

Property-owning households are primary ravine stakeholders. Homeowners directly feel the ebb and flow of ravine life. They suffer the costs of climate change on real property. Acting alone and collectively, homeowners can take some action. But they cannot solve the big environmental issues.

Larger stakeholders (municipalities, utilities, watershed groups, funding organizations) can provide resources. Nevertheless, it is often difficult for homeowners and providers to communicate directly. The workshops give a chance for all participants to identify common needs, assemble resources and make change happen.

In workshops, community experts summarize ravine watershed issues, both negative (erosion, pollution, habitat degradation) and positive (rainwater harvesting, regenerative ecology).

Residents respond with critical local issues. Community partners listen and make offers of expertise and resources.

Small, mixed groups then work on solutions at homeowner and community levels. Case study solutions from other, similar areas are prime workshop tools. At the end of the event, all parties should have concrete vision for specific projects, responsible personnel, resource opportunities and work pathways.

Revitalizing workshops empower homeowners to identify common problems and seek action, collectively within the neighborhood and with community partners. Larger institutions can communicate directly with property owners. All stakeholders can learn and work together.

Join us in July 2017. *Revitalizing workshops* are a pioneer program for making Heights neighborhoods future-resilient.



Local Organization

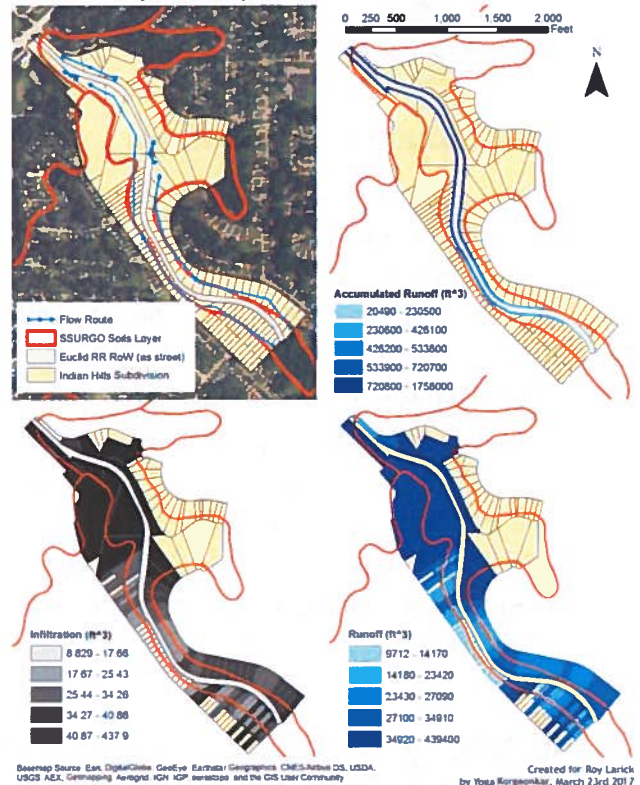
The Cleveland effort is spearheaded by three East Side watershed advocacy groups with support from the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District's Watershed Partnership Service Agreement Program for 2017:

Bluestone Heights: Roy Larick, roylarick@gmail.com

Doan Brook Watershed Partnership: Victoria Mills, mills@doanbrookpartnership.org

Friends of Euclid Creek: Claire Posius, cposius@cuyahogawcd.org

Green Creek, Cleveland, Ohio - Results from the AGWA Urban Tool



Green Creek ravine hydrology in relation to residential parcels.

Revitalizing our Ravines is a program of the Chicago-based Alliance for the Great Lakes. Among the Alliance's many conservation initiatives, Clevelanders know and love *Adopt-a-Beach*. This passionate, volunteer-based effort improved Erie beaches within a few years of arriving here.

Revitalizing also began in Chicago, with the ravine communities along Lake Michigan's urban west shore. *Revitalizing workshops* benefit from the Alliance's grassroots, get-it-done style.

Under the guidance of Resilience Coordinator, Ethan Brown, the *Revitalizing workshop* method should have success in Lake Erie's Portage Escarpment ravine communities.



Ravine Workshops, July 2017, and principal community partners

Green Creek: Tues, 7/11: City of Cleveland, City of Euclid, City of South Euclid, Indian Hills HOA

Euclid Creek: Tues, 7/25: City of Euclid, City of Richmond Hts, Cleveland Metroparks, Friends of Euclid Creek

Quilliams Creek: Wed, 7/26: City of Cleveland Heights, Nela Park, Noble Neighbors HOA

Revitalizing the Euclid Creek east branch escarpment ravine. July 25, 2017

Workshop Format

Euclid Creek, lower East Branch.
July 25 ravine workshop to focus on
residential properties north of Harms
Rd in Euclid & Richmond Hts.



1. Welcome (5 minutes)
 - a. Introductions and review agenda
 - b. Grab some food

2. Presentations
 - a. *Local Ravines and Stormwater Ordinances* by Municipal Staff (5 min)
 - b. *Stormwater, Climate Change, and Ravines* by Coordinator or Advocacy Org (5 min)
 - c. *Keeping Ravines Safe and Stable* by local ravine engineering company (15 min)
 - d. *Ravine Habitat* by local ravine habitat expert (15 min)
 - e. Panel Question and Answers (10 min)

3. Activities
 - a. *Identify Local Assets* (20 min)
 - b. *Identify Issues and Concerns* regarding stormwater and ravine erosion (20 min)
 - c. *Brainstorm Solutions* – try to solve identified issues with named assets (15 min)

4. Next Steps (5 min)
 - a. *How to Stay Engaged* and receive support to take actions to care for your ravine

Asset-Based Facilitated Activity

1. *Identify Assets > Negatives > Solutions*
to be comprehensive for the entire community and natural areas

2. *Identify Desired Results* of public input (e.g. improving water quality for a watershed plan)
 - a. Connect public input results to Identify Solutions activity (e.g. ways to reduce erosion)
 - b. Tailor Identify Negatives activity to address barriers regarding potential expected solutions (i.e. Define issues and concerns around ravine erosion and prior efforts to stop it)

Presenters

Municipalities (Euclid & Richmond Hts): Services Director, Engineer, Planner, Stormwater Manager

Local Ravine Manager: Cleveland Metroparks Properties Manager

Advocacy & Expertise: Friends of Euclid Creek, Bluestone Heights

Contact: Roy Larick, roylarick@gmail.com, 216-280-7506

