

Doan Brook Watershed Partnership
2600 South Park Blvd.
Cleveland, OH 44120

Contact us by phone at (216)321-5935, x234
or visit our website at www.doanbrookpartnership.org

*"The Doan Brook Watershed Partnership...
protecting and restoring Doan Brook
and its watershed"*

DOAN BROOK—OURS TO PROTECT

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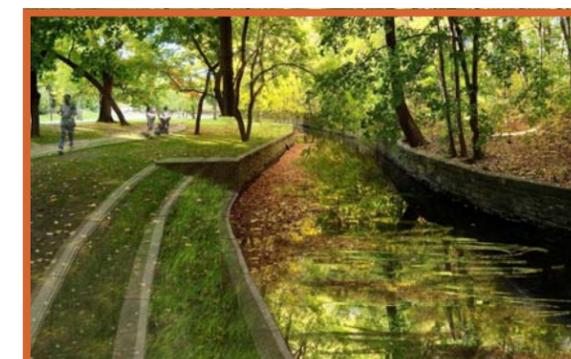
Brook Notes

A publication of the
DOAN BROOK WATERSHED PARTNERSHIP

Learn and Contribute: New Trails & Redevelopment in the Doan Brook Parklands

FALL 2008

The Doan Brook Watershed Partnership will host its Annual Meeting on Wednesday, November 19th at 7:30pm at the Nature Center at Shaker Lakes. The annual celebration of our local watershed is an opportunity for all people who love the brook to meet one another and learn about DBWP activities. This year the DBWP will introduce new board members and unveil a stronger vision for clean water, diverse riparian corridors and more vibrant communities.



Renderings by McKnight & Associates: proposed changes to Doan Brook through Rockefeller Park

While the DBWP board and staff work hard to realize this vision, it is inspiring and important to work in concert with partner organizations, the watershed municipalities (Cleveland, Cleveland Hts. & Shaker Hts.) and local agencies, like the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District.

University Circle Inc. has been a member organization of the DBWP since its inception in 2001. The keynote address this year will feature UCI's exciting plans to revitalize portions of the Doan Brook corridor. Local landscape architect, Jim McKnight, has been working with the Cleveland Foundation, UCI, Parkworks and other organizations to revitalize Rockefeller and Ambler Parks. Specifically, he's been working to connect the Doan Brook and Rockefeller Park to local neighborhoods with the goal to create a more interesting, clean and safe experience for people who visit the park and brook. Jim will also present plans for the new "Lake to Lakes" bike path which will link Lower Lake paths in the Heights with Lake Erie and beyond. Join the DBWP team, UCI and Parkworks for a festive evening and lend your ideas to the new directions in the Doan Brook Watershed.

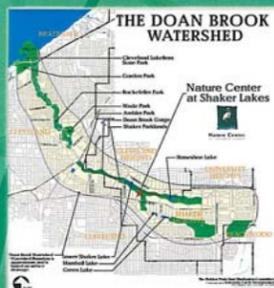
SAVE THE DATE—DBWP ANNUAL MEETING

11/19/2008

The Nature Center at Shaker Lakes

WOODBURY SCHOOL ENJOYS A RESTORED DOAN BROOK

The Doan Brook Watershed is your Ecological Address



Everyone lives in a watershed. A watershed is the area of land that drains into a stream or river. The shaded area of this map is the general outline of the Doan Brook's watershed—YOUR watershed.



Now the stream has new curves, called meanders, to slow flow and erosion; and the stream banks have been replanted with native shrubs and flowers to increase biodiversity.



Communities are learning how to work together to rejuvenate their local environments. For students in the Shaker Heights schools and across the nation, the future will be filled with opportunities to work with nature and restore the ecosystems upon which all life depends.



Many thanks to the following groups:
Shaker Hts. High School Students, Teachers and PTO ♦ Citizen Volunteers
The Doan Brook Watershed Partnership, representing the cities of Shaker Hts.,
Cleveland Hts., and Cleveland ♦ The Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District
The Nature Center at Shaker Lakes ♦ Oxbow River and Stream Inc.
The Lake Erie Protection Fund ♦ The Ohio EPA

In our community, impervious surfaces including roads, roofs, and parking lots impact local waterways by increasing storm water runoff. Storm water can increase erosion, flooding and pollution in the Doan Brook and Lake Erie.

Before this section of the brook was restored, it was stagnant and mired with algae. There were no trees or shrubs to filter out pollutants and keep the stream shady and cool for the aquatic life.

**In Partnership with the NCSL, VOLUNTEERS, Rain Barrels,
Composting, Clean ups & Storm Drain marking!**



Photo courtesy of Hathaway Brown School



Photo by Laura Gooch

Confluence: The Work of the Doan Brook Watershed Partnership and the Nature Center Unite

It is fitting that, at the confluence of the Doan Brook's North, Middle and South Branches, the Doan Brook Watershed Partnership (DBWP) and the Nature Center have also united to create an innovative organizational model. As an independent watershed restoration organization, the DBWP has worked to restore the Doan Brook and its watershed since 2001. Many readers are well aware that many of the DBWP's accomplishments originally spawned from the grass-roots efforts of the Nature Center's Joint Committee on the Doan Brook.

After an intensive period of strategic planning, the DBWP will make a state-endorsed watershed action plan its primary priority. The DBWP has a successful foundation on which to build, including two restored sites on the South Branch and a sustainable backyard education project, which will continue and expand. In addition to a galvanized mission, the planning process revealed that the DBWP could be more effective working in unison with the Nature Center.

The DBWP's office will be housed at the Nature Center, but this is only the first step on the path of this exciting

collaboration. The DBWP and Nature Center Boards have worked closely to create opportunities that increase operational efficiencies and accomplish mission goals common to both organizations, while maintaining separate identities and governance structures. The Nature Center will be providing administrative support to the DBWP, and in return, the DBWP will provide staff support to some of the Nature Center's sustainability programs. The cooperative agreement between the two organizations is hoped to serve as a model for other watershed organizations across the region.

The DBWP vision is to serve as a clearinghouse for watershed information, restoration, awareness and celebration. The Partnership will strive to achieve this vision while balancing diverse ecological, social and economic perspectives that exist within our watershed community. Though the Doan Brook watershed is geographically small, it is home to a considerable social and economic network. To start, hundreds of thousands of residents, two major universities, a myriad of cultural institutions, two hospitals and three city governments interact with the

brook everyday—whether they realize it or not. The Partnership will work strategically with community entities to improve water quality and promote sustainable land-use activities.

A strategy based in sustainability is critical to bolstering economic vitality in Northeast Ohio. The watershed governments of Cleveland, Cleveland Hts., and Shaker Hts. understand that the provision of basic, quality-of-life services, such as potable water and storm-sewer management, is best accomplished by working in concert with nature's free ecosystem services. For example, scientists estimate that one acre of wetlands provides over \$100,000 per year in water purification, flood protection, biodiversity, carbon sequestration, and nutrient cycling (*National Science Foundation, 1995, Mitch, William J., 1993*).

Action by many students, adults and groups is needed to create and apply holistic water quality solutions. You are invited to help build dynamic watershed projects and programs. Visit our websites or stop by the Nature Center to learn more; we are grateful for your involvement! Call 216-321-5935, x234. www.doanbrookpartnership.org.

Area Teens Build a Garden to Aid Southerly Park

by Lauren Pacini



Photo by Lauren Pacini

A group of heights-area 7th, 8th and 9th graders spent six weeks this summer focusing on the environment. The summer began with exploration into solar and wind energy, and ended with investigation of the chemistry and biology of the Doan Brook and the Upper and



Photo by Lauren Pacini

Lower Cuyahoga River. For many, the highlight was the

creation of a Rain Garden in one of Shaker's parks. The southwestern quadrant of Southerly Park, located near the intersection of South Woodland and West Park is a rolling grassy area, and home

to many vernal pools. Salts, oils, and other pollutants wash down the hill from the pavement, into Doan Brook. Standing water in the pools can become a

breeding ground for misquitos.

With the cooperation of the City of Shaker Heights, the Nature Center at Shaker Lakes, the Doan Brook

Watershed Partnership and with the assistance of Ohio Prairie Nursery, Three-Z-Inc., and local merchants, sixteen students, worked with

Ruffing Montessori School teacher Lauren Pacini, to create the rain garden in one

of those pools. Now host to a wide variety of native plants, including Ox Eye Sunflower, Foxglove Beardtongue, Great Blue Lobelia, Cardinal Flower, Big Bluestem and Prairie Cordgrass, the garden will become home to butterflies and hummingbirds as it filters the run-off and redirects it into the ground before it makes its way into Doan Brook.

Up-A-Notch, a program, for students entering 7th through 9th grades, is part of Ruffing's summer camp program -



Photo by Lauren Pacini

Summer Ruffing It. Come visit the garden to see what these hard-working teens, with shovels, wheel barrows, and determination accomplished, and what you can do to combat erosion or standing water in your own back yard or within your community.