

DIVISION OF NATURAL AREAS AND PRESERVES

Natural Ohio

Bob Taft, Governor • Sam Speck, Director • Stu Lewis, Chief

Vol. 22 No. 4

Fall 2000

STATE NATURE PRESERVE SPOTLIGHT

Sears/Carmean Woods State Nature Preserves

Sears Woods and Carmean Woods were dedicated in 1991 as Ohio's 81st and 82nd state nature preserves. Sears Woods was purchased from the Sears family and was named in honor of Dr. Paul B. Sears, a renowned Yale professor of botany. Sears was born in Bucyrus, Ohio and did his undergraduate work at Ohio Wesleyan University. Carmean Woods is adjacent to Sears



Woods and was donated to the Division by Frederick L. Carmean. Sears Woods contains 98 acres of beech-maple forest, while Carmean Woods is comprised of 39 acres of mixed swamp forest. Quality old-growth woods are found in both preserves.

Sears Woods is partially located on a Wisconsin glacial end moraine. (A moraine is debris left behind when a glacier begins to recede.) This upland area slopes down to the Sandusky River creating picturesque bluffs. The change from upland to floodplain creates varying soil conditions for plants, resulting in a diversity of wildflowers. Many spectacular plants cover the forest floor in spring including dutchman's-breeches (*Dicentra cucullaria*), squirrel-corn (*Dicentra canadensis*), large-flowered trillium (*Trillium grandiflorum*) and may-apple (*Podophyllum peltatum*). Amphibians abound in the vernal pools in Carmean Woods.

The dominant tree throughout the area is the sugar maple (*Acer saccharum*). Other abundant trees include American elm (*Ulmus americana*), American beech (*Fagus grandifolia*), American basswood (*Tilia americana*), and white ash (*Fraxinus americana*). Common shrubs in the preserve are spicebush (*Lindera benzoin*), elderberry (*Sambucus canadensis*), and gooseberry (*Ribes cynosbati*).



Sears/Carmean Woods Preserves are examples of the few remnant old-growth woods left in Ohio. These preserves contain 137 acres, and the sights and sounds of these preserves are now enjoyed by all Ohioans.

Sears Woods Preserve is currently leased to Crawford Park District and includes facilities for public use. During



daylight hours, visitors to Sears Woods can hike the 1-mile long trail. All other uses require written permission. A bluebird trail meanders through the meadow and is monitored each year by the Park District. Facilities also include a gravel parking lot, a bike rack, and a bulletin board. The Sears/Carmean Nature Preserves are located southwest of Bucyrus in Crawford County. They are located 2 miles west of State Route 4 on Mt. Zion Road.

For more information about these preserves, contact the Division at 614/265-6453 or 419/981-6319, or the Crawford Park District at 419/562-8394. 🍁

- Stacie Roby, Seasonal Assistant, North Central Ohio Nature Preserves

SEARS/CARMEAN



Solidago ohioensis

GOLDENRODS

Goldenrods brighten Ohio's landscape from late July through frost. About 25 species of goldenrods occur naturally in Ohio; just a bit more than 100 species occur throughout the world. Goldenrods grow in all sorts of habitats, from rich woods to open fields, marshes and roadsides.

Goldenrods are classified as the genera *Euthamia* and *Solidago* in the aster or composite family, Asteraceae. The genera and species are identified by the varied arrangement of flowerheads. The flowerheads of *Euthamia* are in flattened clusters held on branches of varying lengths. This type of flower cluster is called a corymb. The flat-top goldenrod, *E. graminifolia*, is common throughout Ohio. Great Lakes goldenrod, *E. remota*, is a threatened species found only in the western basin of Lake Erie. A vigorous population of this rarity grows at the Lou Campbell State Nature Preserve west of Toledo.

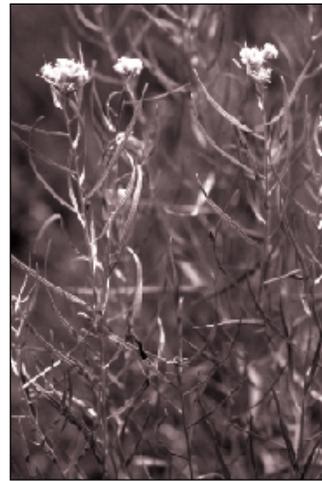
The remaining Ohio goldenrods belong to the genus *Solidago*. The generic name is derived from Latin meaning "to make whole", referring to the plant's supposed medicinal properties.

The majority of Ohio goldenrods have flowers in pyramidal clusters. The individual flowers are twisted to one side of the branches, a condition known as secund. This group includes our most familiar species. The Canada goldenrod, *Solidago canadensis*, is abundant in fields in every county of Ohio. This species spreads by running rootstalks and quickly can vegetate open ground. The early goldenrod, *S. juncea*, as the name implies, is our first species to

bloom, beginning in July. Sweet goldenrod, *Solidago odora*, is a threatened species in this group. Its leaves are speckled with clear dots and have an anise scent. Sweet goldenrod can be seen at Lake Katharine State Nature Preserve and the Shawnee State Forest.

A few Ohio goldenrods have flower clusters on short branches in the leaf axils. The flower clusters have the look of a wand or "rod"—thus, the English name of the group. The wreath goldenrod, *Solidago caesia*, is a late-blooming species common in mesic woods across the state. Silverrod, *S. bicolor*, is a white-flowered "goldenrod" frequent in dry woods in eastern Ohio. Dusty goldenrod, *Solidago puberula*, is an endangered species from the Chagrin State Scenic River in Cuyahoga County.

Some goldenrods have flower clusters



Euthamia remota

totally false. Goldenrod pollen is large and heavy, carried from flower to flower by insects, not wind. The real villains are common and giant ragweeds, *Ambrosia artemisiifolia* and *A. trifida*. Ragweeds bloom at the same time as goldenrod. Their flowers are green and inconspicuous, while goldenrod flowers are all too

obvious. The showy, innocent goldenrods take the rap for the true culprits.

Insect galls are common on goldenrods. Galls form when insect larvae burrow into plant tissues, causing an abnormal growth of cells which enwrap the larvae. Three insects are responsible for most goldenrod galls. Round balls of stem tissue are caused by a small fly, *Eurosta solidaginis*, and a moth, *Gnorimoschema gallaesolidaginis*. A leafy gall near the summit of the stem is caused by a midge, *Rhyopalomya solidaginis*. Notice that all three species names reflect the association between these insects and goldenrods.

This autumn, take time to stop and gaze over a field or woods thick with goldenrods. Note the flower clusters, flattened, wand-like, or pyramidal. See how the leaves may be short and round or elongate, smooth or hairy, scented or not. What marvelous variety exists in these handsome members of Ohio's natural flora! 🌻

- Phil Zito, Preserve Manager
- Allison Cusick, Chief Botanist



Solidago canadensis

which are intermediate between those of *Euthamia* and *Solidago*. These unusual species include two characteristic wetland plants. Ohio goldenrod, *S. ohioensis*, was described to science from the Ohio prairies near Columbus. This potentially threatened species can be seen at Prairie Road Fen and Springfield/Gallagher Fen State Nature Preserves. Riddell's goldenrod, *S. riddelli*, grows in wet prairies and fens. Populations occur at Irwin Prairie and Travertine Fen State Nature Preserves. Riddell's goldenrod, with distinctive, sickle-shaped leaves, is named for the Ohio botanist John L. Riddell.

A common folk belief blames goldenrods for hay fever in late summer and fall. This is



Solidago rigida

EVENTS Calendar

January - February - March 2001

The letter code before each program refers to the region of Ohio where the program will be held. Below is a list of the letters and the corresponding manager's name. Please call the manager or the Division for more information on the programs or state nature preserves.



DIVISION - 614/265-6453

- C** - (Central) - Jeff Johnson, 614/265-6458
- EC** - (East Central) - Greg Seymour, 740/763-4411
- N** - (Northern) - Gary Obermiller, 440/839-1561
- NC** - (North Central) - Eddie Reed, 419/981-6319
- NE** - (Northeast) - Emliss Ricks, 330/527-5118
- NEL** - (Northeast Lakeshore) - John McFadden, 440/632-3010
- NESR** - (Northeast Scenic Rivers) - Steve Roloson, 330/527-4184
- NW** - (Northwest) - Bob Sanford, 419/445-1775
- S** - (Southern) - Martin McAllister, 937/544-9750
- SE** - (Southeast) - Phil Zito, 740/286-2487
- SC** - (South Central) - Mark Howes, 740/653-2541
- SW** - (Southwest) - Frank Skalski, 513/932-2347
- SWSR** - (Southwest Scenic Rivers) - Don Rostofer, 513/934-0751
- W** - (Western) - Herb Leen, 937/663-4197
- WC** - (West Central) - Tim Snyder, 937/964-8794

January

NE, Wednesday, January 3, 7:00 p.m. -
New Year's Night Hike (Eagle Creek)

Welcome in the new millennium on this brisk walk through the preserve under the winter night sky. Meet at the parking lot and dress warmly.

SC, Saturday, January 6, 10:00 a.m. -
Conkle's Hollow Winter Walk (Conkle's Hollow)

The quiet and solitude of Conkle's Hollow frames the splendor of the majestic rock cliffs and icy waterfalls.

NE, Saturday, January 13, 2:00 p.m. -
Winter Bog Stomping (Kent Bog)

Return with us to those bitter cold days of yesteryear when mastodons grazed in Kent and saber-toothed cats ruled the roost; and Kent Bog looked pretty much the same as it does today. Dress warmly.

NE, Wednesday, January 17, 7:00 p.m. -
Winter Stargazer (Eagle Creek)

The stars of winter are the most spectacular. Join us as we gaze at constellations, planets, and deep space objects; telescope available. Meet at Eagle Creek amphitheater. If cloudy (60%+) same time tomorrow night.

NE, Saturday, January 27, 11:00 a.m. -
Searching for Signs (Tinkers Creek)

Even in the deep of winter, signs of life and animal activity are all around us. Join us on this short hike around Seven Ponds Trail as we see what the animals and plants are up to.



February

SC, Saturday, February 3, 10:00 a.m. -
Winter Tree Identification (Shallenberger)

What's the difference between a white oak and a red oak tree? Which tree has "cornflake" bark? Which tree was used for sewing needles? Learn the answers to these questions and others as well on this hike. 1+ hours.

NE, Saturday, February 10, 11:00 a.m. -
Winter Fen Foray (Jackson Bog)

Join us as we turn back the icy hands of time and revisit the end of the "ice age".

SC, Saturday, February 17, 10:00 a.m. -
Winter Trees and Shrubs (Conkle's Hollow)

This hike features information on the trees and shrubs of this popular state nature preserve. Handouts available. 2 hours.

NW, Saturday, February 24, 2:00 p.m. -
Spring Anticipation (Goll Woods)

Do you have cabin fever? Tired of watching football? Tired of the snow? Hang in there! Spring is really just around the corner. Join us at Goll Woods and we will look for signs of Spring.

March

SC, Saturday, March 10, 10:00 a.m. -
A Geological Masterpiece (Rockbridge)

This unique spectacular sandstone bridge spans 100 feet and is the largest of the 70+ natural bridges in Ohio. Join us as we discuss the geology and ecology of this nature preserve. 2 hours.

NE, Saturday, March 17, 10:00 a.m. -
Searching for Spring (Eagle Creek)

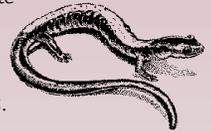
The first signs of the coming season are all around us as the daylight lengthens and the sun climbs higher in the late winter sky.

S, Saturday, March 17, 1:00 p.m. -
Snow Trillium Hike (Miller Sanctuary)

Wake spring with this rare early blooming wildflower hike. PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED.

NW, Saturday, March 17, 2:00 p.m. -
Amphibians (Goll Woods)

Frogs, toads, and salamanders are three commonly found groups of amphibians that can be found in our area. Spring is the best time to locate and observe these animals. Join us on a leisurely walk in the preserve in search of amphibians. Participants should wear footwear appropriate for the weather and trail conditions.



WC, Saturday, March 24, 10:00 a.m. -
Spring Hike (Clifton Gorge)

Things are starting to pop outdoors, it's time to come out of hibernation and see what the season is springing on us. Meet at the Bear's Den.

SC, Saturday, March 24, 1:00 p.m. -
Early Spring Rim Hike (Conkle's Hollow)

Stretch those "winter" legs and join the naturalist on this wonderful 2+ mile hike. Scenic vistas and interesting plant communities make this a hike to remember. 2+ hours.

SE, Sunday, March 25, 1:30 p.m. -
Early Spring Wildflowers of Lake Katharine (Lake Katharine)

This will be the first of a series of spring wildflower walks to span the flowering period from late March through mid-May. On this walk we hope to see early bloomers like hepatica and harbinger of spring in bloom along with the first stirrings of what will soon be an incredible array of flowers.

Invasive Plant Alert #7

Japanese Knotweed *Polygonum cuspidatum*

Description:

This shrub-like herb grows up to 10 feet in height. Stems are smooth and the pointed leaves vary from broadly oval to almost triangular. The stout, hollow stems are reddish brown and the nodes are swollen, giving them a bamboo-like appearance. Flowers are greenish-white, very small, and borne in plume-like clusters in the upper



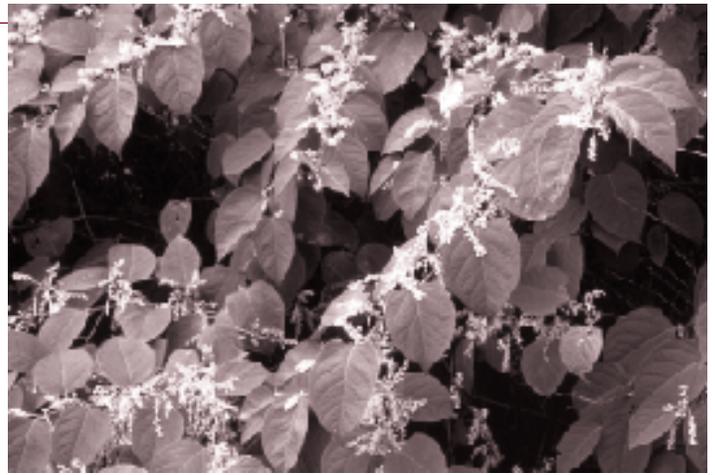
leaf axils which bloom in August-September. Although its seeds are dispersed by wind, the species spreads mainly vegetatively. Once established, the plants spread by a system of underground stems.

Habitat:

Japanese knotweed grows in a variety of habitats, primarily open areas such as roadsides, streambanks, and woodland edges in eastern Ohio. It spreads quickly and forms dense thickets. It was introduced from Asia as an ornamental in the late 19th century because of its unusual bamboo-like growth habit (also called "Mexican bamboo").

Management:

Japanese knotweed is very difficult to control once established. Leaves may be sprayed or stems cut and treated with a systemic herbicide such as Roundup (or Accord in wetlands). Small populations may be dug or mowed repeatedly, but care should be taken to ensure that all plant



material is disposed of and not spread further. The Division controls this species on the edges of Johnson Woods State Nature Preserve.

Native Alternatives:

Japanese knotweed is not generally planted, but it has been used for erosion control along waterways and cultivars are available in the nursery industry. Native alternatives include northern arrowwood (*Viburnum dentatum*), black haw (*Viburnum prunifolium*), dogwoods (*Cornus racemosa*, *amomum*, or *sericea*), and chokeberry (*Aronia prunifolia*).

Want more information on this invasive plant? Contact our office for Invasive Plants of Ohio Fact Sheet 10. 🌿

OPTIONS FOR LAND PROTECTION WITH DNAP

Protection Option #3: Dedication

Under Chapter 1517 of the Ohio Revised Code, the Division of Natural Areas & Preserves is authorized to dedicate state nature preserves. Dedication offers permanent protection for public or private land. Land to be dedicated must be of statewide or national ecological significance: contain rare species, habitat for rare species, and/or unique geological features.

Dedication is accomplished by filing Articles of Dedication with the County Recorder in the county where the property is located. These articles are basically a type of deed restriction that remains with the title to the property regardless of who owns the land. In other words, dedicated property can be sold or gifted to someone, but the restrictions must still be upheld.

Before property can be dedicated, several steps must be followed. First, a site visit is conducted by Division staff. Botanists and/or zoologists visit the site to determine

if the site meets criteria for dedication. If a site meets criteria, then development of the Articles of Dedication begins. Site management concerns are addressed in a management plan which is required if the site will not be managed by the Division. Once the Articles are approved by the landowner, they are presented to the Ohio Natural Areas Advisory Council. Articles are signed by the landowner, accepted by the Director of the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, and then recorded at the courthouse.

Once a property has been dedicated, the land must remain in its natural state. Any visitor facilities must be designed to limit impact to the natural features. Dedicated property must be available for public visitation at some level, by written permit, special group tours, or other. State law provides a provision under which dedicated property is exempt from real estate taxes after the landowner requests exemption with the County Auditor.

Example

Leota Dalton Hutchison is a basket weaver in Hocking County. Her land is situated immediately adjacent to Rockbridge State Nature Preserve. Leota contacted the Division about protection options for her property. Especially in recent years, she has watched Hocking County experience rapid development. The Division dedicated 82 acres of her land as an addition to Rockbridge State Nature Preserve. Leota can still enjoy the beauty of her land and she knows that the land will remain as it is today. She will be leaving a legacy to future generations in an area of the state where developed land is at a premium.

Other examples of dedicated land that is still under private ownership include Crane Hollow, Ladd Natural Bridge, Raven Rock, and Etawah Woods State Nature Preserves. 🌿

- Nancy Strayer, Assistant Chief

For additional information on land protection options, please contact our Central Office at (614) 265-6453.

Scioto Brush Creek Day

Think for a moment about a natural area with which you are familiar. What is it that makes it truly special? Does it harbor endangered species of plants and animals? Is it hundreds of thousands of years old? Does it still contain most of the original species found there by early biologists? Is it relatively free of the effects of modern development? Now think for a moment about a place with all of these characteristics and more. You may then begin to picture a place like Scioto Brush Creek. This tributary of the Scioto River located in south-central Ohio drains large portions of western Scioto County and eastern Adams County. It seems to defy gravity as it flows east out of the gently rolling Interior Low Plateau and into the rugged hills of the Unglaciated Appalachian Plateau.

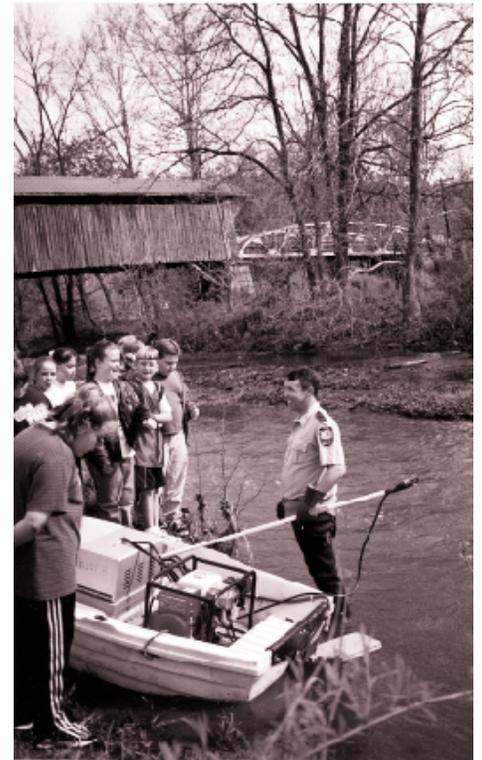
Unbelievably, Scioto Brush Creek retains nearly all the original 66 species of fish known to have lived in the stream during the past century, while other streams around the state have lost much of their original fish fauna. Native Ohio muskellunge still inhabit this nearly pristine stream as they have for thousands of years, spawning on the clean gravel creek bottoms and ambushing prey in



Northwest Elementary students assist DNAP Scenic Rivers staff in stream quality monitoring or "SQM", a method of determining water quality by observing aquatic life.

the deep pools.

In order to celebrate the ecological significance of Scioto Brush Creek, the Shawnee Nature Club of Portsmouth, Ohio recently sponsored the second annual Scioto Brush Creek Day held at the Otway Covered Bridge in Scioto County. On April 28, landowners and outdoor enthusiasts gathered along with more than 125 fifth-grade students from Northwest Elementary School to learn about the creek and the aquatic animals that call it



The Otway Covered Bridge provided an interesting historical backdrop for Scioto Brush Creek Day.

home. Professionals from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources and the Nature Club assisted students and visitors as they participated in a variety of activities including an electro-shocking demonstration by the Division of Wildlife, which allowed the visitors to view many interesting species of fish close up. Later, all fish were returned to the stream unharmed. Staff from the Division of Natural Areas and Preserves, Scenic Rivers Section, were on hand to demonstrate Stream Quality Monitoring. By collecting and studying invertebrates in the stream, students determined the water quality of Scioto Brush Creek to be excellent. Nature Club volunteers directed the students in activities designed to teach the relationship of predator and prey as well as the importance of aquatic habitat and maintaining clean waterways. The Natural Resource Conservation Service and the Soil and Water Conservation District provided information to landowners about conservation practices in the watershed and advice on securing funding to implement these practices. It is hoped that through events such as Scioto Brush Creek Day, local landowners will gain a greater appreciation for this outstanding stream and the unique life it supports.

If you would like to learn more about Scioto Brush Creek or would like to attend next year's event, write to: The Shawnee Nature Club, c/o Lynne Rodeheffer, President, 2865 Circle Drive, Portsmouth, OH 45662. 🍁

- Martin McAllister, Preserve Manager



Scioto Brush Creek Day is definitely a "hands on" experience!

MOVING ON

On June 30, 2000, one of the first employees of the Natural Areas & Scenic Rivers Section retired from state service. John Kopec retired with 31 years of public service and had worked for the Department of Natural Resources' Division of Natural Areas and Preserves for 28 years with an additional 3 years of military and other state service.

John helped with the creation of the State Scenic Rivers Program. In the early days of the program he coordinated several advisory councils and handled all the issues on the Little Beaver Creek Wild and Scenic River, Sandusky Scenic River, Grand Wild and Scenic River, Little Miami Scenic River, and Stillwater Scenic River. As the program matured, Scenic River Coordinators were hired to live in the region of their assigned rivers and John's role changed to one of planning and implementing the Stream Quality Monitoring Project.

The Stream Quality Monitoring Project began in 1982 when John, working with Susan Gray of the Stillwater Scenic River Advisory Council (currently Darke County Park Board Commissioner), recognized that a monitoring program Susan was using with local 4-H groups might work well on Ohio's designated scenic rivers. Her program was based on one started by the Izaak Walton League in the 1970s. John met with Jeff Deshon of the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, one of the most knowledgeable macroinvertebrate specialists in the state, and together they designed the Scenic River Program's Stream Quality Monitoring Project. Volunteer participants have taken part in this program every year since 1982. The project not only is successful for the Division of Natural Areas & Preserves, but also is used by the Division of Soil & Water, other states, countries, and national programs such as project Global Rivers Environmental Education Network (G.R.E.E.N.). Over 50,000 school children, conservation organizations, civic groups, university students, and individuals have participated since records have been kept for this program. The Stream Quality Monitoring Project provides river health information to both Ohio and U.S. Environmental Protection Agencies. This program enables us to create a long term database for tracking river health, and most importantly, provides people the opportunity to learn about our rivers and the value they play in all our lives.

In recent years, John has served as the Division's public relations specialist and handled all of our media coverage, special events, dedication ceremonies, marketing

and corporate partnerships, Division displays and symposiums, conferences, fairs, and other events.

John says that in addition to spending more time gardening and "learning how to fish all over again", he will find time to stay involved with natural resources issues, especially environmental education and watershed monitoring issues.

The Department and Division staff wish John the very best in retirement and hope that he will continue to participate with us in the future in the preservation and protection of Ohio's natural resources and its scenic rivers and natural areas.

This is a brief tribute to a long career in natural resource protection. It is difficult to put into words the lasting impression John has made as he journeyed across our state. I know I will miss John, as will many



other friends and associates he has come to know. Luckily, John will remain in the vicinity and we will still be able to spend some time together for fun and on Division projects that may suit his interests. 🍷

- Stuart Lewis, Chief

Natural Areas & Preserves Permanent Staff September 2000

Stuart Lewis, Chief

Nancy Strayer, Assistant Chief

Kathy Smith, Chief's Secretary

SUPPORT SERVICES:

Group Manager - Vacant

Natural Heritage Database -

Pat Jones, Debbie Woischke, Treva Knasel

Technical Services - Steve Goodwin

Human Resources - Dee Hammel

Public Information/Receptionist - Kay Hall

Publications - Heidi Hetzel-Evans

Real Estate - Bill Loebick

National Estuarine Research Reserve:

Group Manager - Gene Wright

Education Coordinator - Linda Feix

Research Coordinator - David Klarer

RESOURCE SERVICES:

Group Manager - Dan Rice

Zoological Inventory - Dan Rice

Botanical Inventory -

Allison Cusick, Jim McCormac,
Greg Schneider, Richard Gardner

Research & Monitoring -

Jennifer Windus, Roger Barber

SCENIC RIVERS SERVICES:

Group Manager - Bob Gable

SW Ohio Coordinator - Don Rostofer

NW Ohio Coordinator - Bob Vargo

NE Ohio Coordinator - Steve Roloson

Central Ohio Coordinator - Tim Peterkoski

Scenic Rivers Assistant - Beth Wilson

PRESERVE SERVICES:

Group Manager - Ron Demmy

Central Ohio - Jeff Johnson

NW Ohio - Bob Sanford, Eddie Reed

North Central Ohio - Gary Obermiller

NE Ohio - Emliss Ricks, John McFadden

SW Ohio - Frank Skalski, Martin McAllister

Western Ohio - Tim Snyder, Herb Leen

SE Ohio - Mark Howes, Phil Zito

Eastern Ohio - Greg Seymour

BUSINESS SERVICES:

Group Manager - Vicki Smith

Grants - Mickey Nygaard

Fiscal - Kathy Cochrane

MIAMI VALLEY VOLUNTEERS HELP CLEAN UP THE STILLWATER STATE SCENIC RIVER

Littering harms the environment every day-it causes health problems to wildlife and humans and is aesthetically displeasing. Litter (trash) is ingested by animals and causes starvation and even death. Many forms of litter are not biodegradable and will degrade water quality and destroy habitat for macro-invertebrates and fish communities. The Keep America Beautiful study states that most people litter because they feel no sense of ownership. Even though areas such as parks and beaches are public property, they believe someone else will pick up after them. How true this often is in the hustle, bustle world we all live in today. Someone else will take care of it. How many times have you heard that phrase?

Littering is also illegal in Ohio - the Ohio Revised Code defines "litter" as "trash dropped, thrown, or discarded by an individual onto private and public property not owned by that person, or into any watercourse within the State of Ohio." Littering in Ohio is a very serious offense and is punishable by steep fines as well as possible jail time.

Through partnerships, a lot can be done to make the streams of Ohio a cleaner natural resource for today, tomorrow, and the future. There are excellent opportunities for citizens to participate in volunteer clean-up programs. For example, the "Adopt-A-Waterway" and "Ohio, A Clean Getaway" are excellent programs sponsored by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources which help focus on continued efforts to maintain the natural integrity of all watercourses within Ohio.

As an outreach to citizens of the Miami Valley, the SW Ohio Scenic Rivers Program and a number of organizations

and local agencies organized the first ever clean-up on the Stillwater Scenic River held on June 10, 2000. The local agencies and organizations involved in this effort include: The Stillwater Watershed Project, the Miami & Darke County Soil & Water Conservation Districts, the Brukner Nature Center, the Miami County Planning & Zoning Department, the Miami County Health District, the Miami Conservancy District, the Ohio EPA, U.S. Filter, and the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (Division of Recycling and Litter Prevention, and, of course, the Scenic Rivers Program).

Other organizations which gave cash, food, and disposal donations, include: Direct Sales and Services, Montgomery County Soil & Water Conservation District, Mike-Sells, R.B. Jergens, Dalton Concrete Construction, Coate Construction, Coca-Cola, Kroger, MB Sand & Gravel, High Tec Industrial Services, Inc., the Village of West Milton, City of Union & Englewood, Jim May Auto Sales, Morgan's Canoe Livery, River's Edge Canoe Livery & Outfitters, and the Montgomery County Transfer Station.

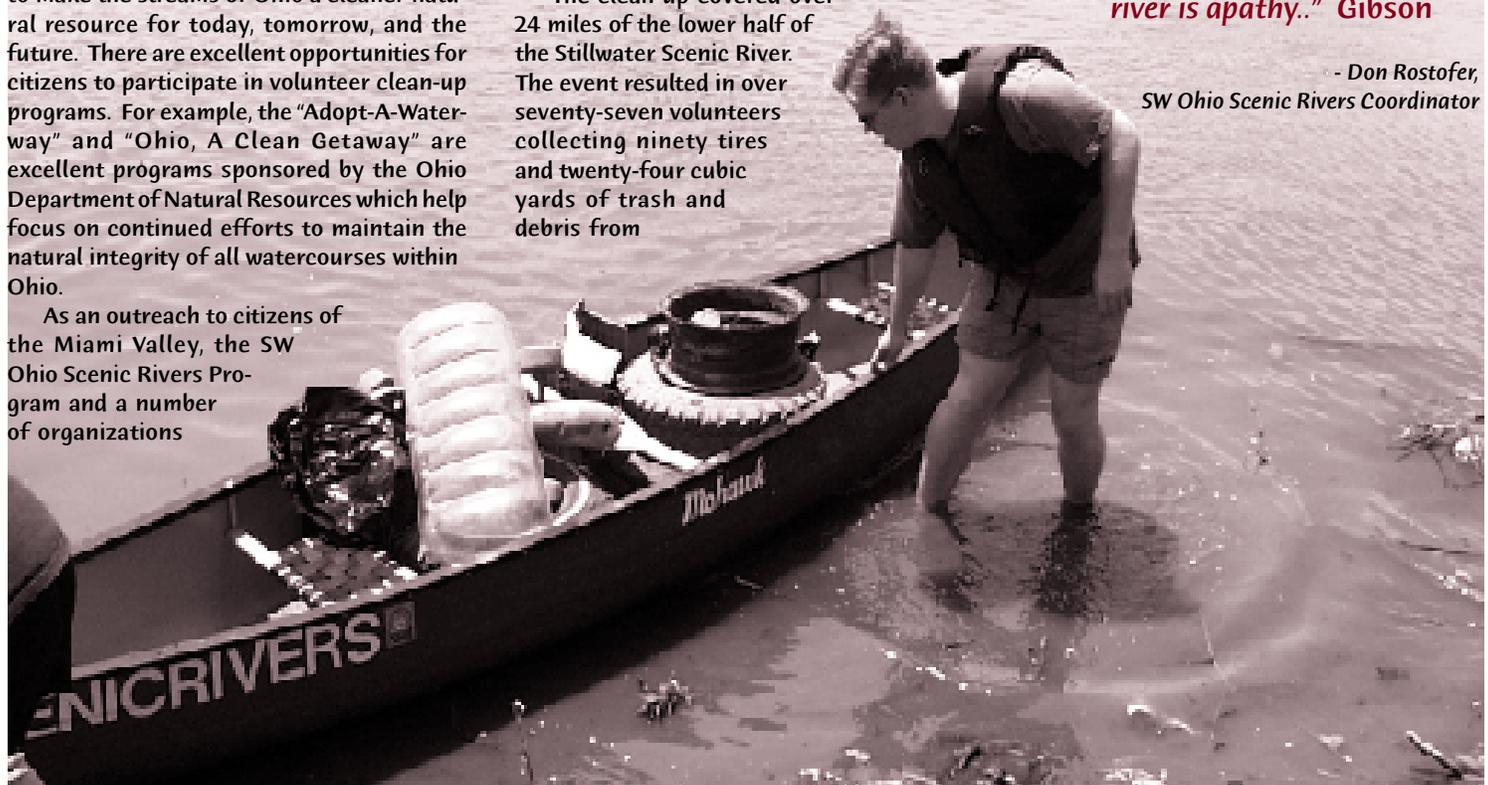
The clean-up covered over 24 miles of the lower half of the Stillwater Scenic River. The event resulted in over seventy-seven volunteers collecting ninety tires and twenty-four cubic yards of trash and debris from



the five 4-mile stretches of the Stillwater Scenic River. Most of the litter was found between West Milton and the confluence of the Great Miami River. Volunteers collected many large items; some of these items included metal culverts, grocery carts, bikes, toys, and wheel rims. Volunteers enjoyed the event and said they would come back next year. The vision of the steering committee was quite simple as expressed by Nikki Reese, the Stillwater Watershed Project Coordinator, "This is a Scenic River after all, and it really should be kept free of trash." With the continued efforts and vision of all involved, the natural integrity and excellent water quality of the Stillwater State Scenic River will be enjoyed by future generations. ♡

"...The greatest enemy of the river is apathy.." Gibson

*- Don Rostofer,
SW Ohio Scenic Rivers Coordinator*



INVASIVE PLANTS OF OHIO: FACT SHEETS NOW AVAILABLE

The Division of Natural Areas & Preserves in cooperation with the Ohio Chapter of The Nature Conservancy and the Columbus & Franklin County Metro Parks has completed 18 fact sheets covering 26 of the most invasive, non-native plants impacting Ohio's natural areas. They include information on identification, habitat, distribution, problem, and control techniques. These fact sheets are now available due to a generous grant from the Ohio EPA Environmental Education Fund. The fact sheets may be obtained together in one booklet or individually. The species covered are:

- Amur honeysuckle
- Morrow honeysuckle
- Tatarian honeysuckle
- Glossy buckthorn
- European buckthorn
- Garlic mustard
- Purple loosestrife
- Common reed grass
- Reed canary grass
- Autumn-olive
- Russian-olive
- Multiflora rose
- Japanese honeysuckle
- Asian bittersweet
- Japanese knotweed



- Narrow-leaved cattail & hybrid cattail
- Eurasian water-milfoil
- Smooth brome
- Canada thistle
- Common teasel
- Cut-leaved teasel
- White sweet-clover
- Yellow sweet-clover
- Tree-of-heaven
- Lesser naiad
- Curly pondweed

Contact Jennifer Windus at 614/265-6468 or jennifer.windus@dnr.state.oh.us to obtain one or more of these fact sheets.

About this Newsletter

If you are not currently receiving your own copy of the *Natural Ohio* in the mail, complete the postcard inserted in this newsletter and return to our office. This newsletter is a free public service made possible through your contributions to the Natural Areas Income Tax Checkoff Program. If you are receiving duplicate newsletters, please let us know.

Directory Updates #2 Available

Since the Directory of State Nature Preserves was printed, the Division has added additional preserves. In order to provide you with current information, we will provide update pages.

Update #1 (Summer 1998) included Lawrence Woods, Etawah Woods, North Pond, and North Shore Alvar. We are now announcing the availability of Update #2 which includes McCracken Fen, Myersville Fen, Aurora Sanctuary, Novak Sanctuary, White Pine Bog Forest, and Burton Wetlands.

Please supply a self-addressed 9x12 flat envelope with postage affixed (77¢ for Packet #1, 99¢ for Packet #2, or \$1.21 for both packets).

Send your request with the self-addressed, stamped envelope to Directory Updates, ODNR/DNAP, 1889 Fountain Square, Bldg. F-1, Columbus, OH 43224-1388.

NOTE: The Directory is now available for \$10.00 plus shipping. \$3.00 for first class or \$1.75 for book rate.

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The mission of the Division of Natural Areas and Preserves is to administer a system of natural areas and scenic rivers by identifying, inventorying, protecting and managing the best remaining examples of Ohio's natural diversity for the benefit of present and future generations. The Division conducts and promotes research and educational programs designed to further the preservation of significant biological and geological features.

Visit our Web site at: www.dnr.state.oh.us/odnr/dnap/dnap.html



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