

Sawyer Brook – Cuyahoga River Watershed Planning Survey

Nonpoint Source Implementation Strategy Planning (NPS-IS)

Thank you for choosing to take this survey! Your responses will help achieve water resource goals in the Sawyer Brook – Cuyahoga River watershed. This watershed includes portions of the following communities and park districts in Geauga County: Burton Township, Geauga Park District, Middlefield Township, Parkman Township, and Troy Township.

The goal of this NPS-IS plan is to address water quality issues through activities like stormwater management, agricultural nutrient management, stabilizing streambanks, and restoring and protecting wetlands and riparian (streamside) areas. Some state and federal funding for these projects require inclusion in an approved NPS-IS plan. This survey is intended to obtain feedback on locations for restoration and protection opportunities.

Submittal instructions: Please email completed surveys to survey@crwp.org. Please name your completed survey file “SawyerBrook_LastName” and include “Upper Cuyahoga Watershed Survey” in the subject line of your email. If you have any data, surveys, or photos that would be useful for developing this watershed plan, please include them as an attachment with your email. These could include flooding, erosion, or water quality data; habitat evaluations; bird, fish, or wildlife surveys; or other information. If you have photos, please include a brief description, location, and the date taken. The deadline to submit input surveys is **January 14, 2022**.



3. Are there any areas within the Sawyer Brook watershed that are prone to flooding? If so, please provide the location (coordinates, address/ parcel, etc.) and description of the flooding. Coordinates may be obtained by right-clicking on a location in Google Maps.

Examples of streambank erosion:



4. Are there any areas within the watershed that are experiencing erosion? If so, please provide the location and description of the erosion.

Examples of invasive species found in Northeast Ohio:



Phragmites



Japanese Knotweed



Honeysuckle

5. Are there any areas within the watershed where control of invasive species is needed? If so, please provide the location and a site description.

6. Are there any dams or low water stream crossings within the watershed that need removal or modification? Low water stream crossings allow vehicle passage over streams during periods of low water flow. These passages may become impassable during periods of high water flow. Dams and low water stream crossings can impede fish passage. If so, please provide the location and a site description.

Examples of restored riparian zones:



7. Are there any areas within the watershed that would benefit from riparian restoration? Riparian restoration may include native plantings, invasive species control, establishing a “no-mow” zone, and implementing livestock buffers/fencing. If so, please provide the location and a site description.

Examples of impaired streams:



8. Are there any areas within the watershed that would benefit from stream restoration? Indicators include eroded banks, channelization, and lack of floodplain access. If so, please provide the location and a site description.

9. Are there any wetland habitats within the watersheds that should be restored or renaturalized? For example, a wetland area may be degraded through invasive species domination and/or past land uses such as farming, mowing, or draining. If so, please provide the location and a site description.

Examples of stormwater management projects:



Permeable pavement with bioretention



Wetland created to address excess stormwater

10. Are there any stormwater management projects to improve water quality that would be beneficial in this watershed? Examples include public rain gardens, pocket wetlands to treat stormwater flow, permeable pavement, or bioretention. If so, please provide the location and a site description.

Examples of tree pests and diseases:



Emerald Ash Borer



Beech Blight Aphid



Beech Leaf Disease

11. Are there any areas that should be targeted for large scale reforestation efforts or mitigation of tree pests and diseases? If so, please provide a location and site description.
12. Untreated feces released into streams from sources such as sewage from failing septic tanks or waste from livestock can expose recreational users to health threats from human pathogens such as *E.coli* or *Salmonella*. Are you aware of any areas where recreational activity might be impacted by *E.coli* or other human pathogens?

13. Is there a property or specific type of habitat (e.g. wetlands, stream resources) that you would like to see protected and put into permanent conservation? If you suggest specific locations, please provide the location and a site description.

14. Are you interested in protecting or restoring water resources (e.g. streambank stabilization projects, septic system remediation) on your own property? If so, please describe.

15. Is there a park or other location where you would like to see more trails for hiking or biking?



16. Do you have any other comments or feedback to inform development of this watershed plan?

