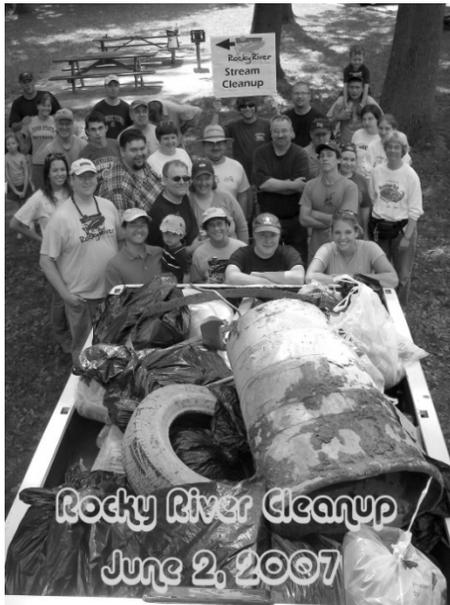


PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

Soil and Water Conservation Districts have a variety of programs for people to get conservation on the ground. The following are just a few examples of programs run on an annual basis and all of these programs provide opportunities for citizens to be a part of conservation! For more information on any of these programs, contact your local soil and water conservation district!



STREAM CLEANUPS

Every spring and summer, Cuyahoga Soil and Water Conservation District holds several cleanups of our local streams, however citizens are welcome to organize their own cleanups as well. Cuyahoga SWCD has detailed instructions for a group to plan, organize and implement their own cleanup. Of course, citizens can always join the ones their local SWCD has organized as well!

STORM DRAIN STENCILING

A GREAT way for citizens to educate themselves and neighbors about non-point source pollution and the affect it has on our lakes, streams and rivers. Any school, church, family, citizen group can participate. It's easy and fun! Volunteers are trained to go out and stencil the storm drain with a simple message "Dump No Waste – Drains to Stream!" Citizens can also deliver fish shaped educational fliers to homeowners as they walk along and stencil.



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CONSERVATION POSTER CONTEST

Sponsored by the National Association of Conservation Districts and the NACD Auxiliary, the annual Conservation Poster Contest is a great way for K-12 students to express their thoughts and ideas about natural resources issues. Teachers may use this contest to correlate with National Visual Arts standards for all grades. Winners in each grade band level are forwarded onto a state contest and winners from that go onto a national contest.

ENVIROTHON

Envirothon is a competitive, outdoor team event for high school students designed to stimulate, reinforce and enhance interest in the environment and natural resources. In the Fall, SWCD's host a practice Envirothon, in the Spring is the Area Envirothon. Winners from the Area competition go onto state competitions and winners from that have the opportunity to compete in the national Envirothon event. Envirothon is a GREAT way for students to learn more about natural resources and challenge themselves in the areas of forestry, soils, aquatics, current environmental issues, and wildlife!



STREAM MONITORING

Stream monitoring is another great way for citizens to literally jump into neighborhood streams to scrutinize the health of their local waterways. The monitoring effort gives a snapshot of life and water quality in the stream and brings your community together to protect our waters! Streams and rivers are invaluable; all life needs water for existence yet each and every one of us has daily impacts on our water quality. Monitoring efforts are designed to gauge biological health in the streams.



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