

continued from front page

renegotiations are too extensive to recount. The upshot, however, is that the project truly represents a compromise for all parties involved. The project could not both achieve the most environmental solution and accommodate historic WPA walls, a major commuter artery and the safety concerns of some nearby citizens.

Now managed by the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District, the Enhancement Project is smaller in scale but represents a monumental and transparent process of stakeholder engagement and collaboration. The Partnership hopes it will catalyze additional restoration to the Doan Brook through Rockefeller Park.

With construction beginning in June 2013, visitors to the Rockefeller Lagoon area at the southern end of the Park should be aware that half of the Lagoon will be cordoned off and parking will be rearranged. Upon project completion in the fall, visitors will notice repairs to several failing stream banks, a new rain garden off the parking lot, removal of invasive species, new native vegetation, eight new in-stream riffle features, and the replacement of 18 missing "Liberty Oaks" and their memorial medallions.

Please check doanbrookpartnership.org and neorsd.org for project updates, or feel free to call us at 216.321.5935 ext. 234. Thanks for your participation..... and your patience!

The Doan Brook Watershed Partnership regrets that we will not host our Annual Family Fishing Day at Rockefeller Park Lagoon in 2013.

Though public access to the Lagoon will be reduced to about 50%, we still encourage you to head to Rockefeller Park and enjoy some fishing.

Thanks again to generous support from the Holden Parks Trust, the DBWP will stock the Lagoon with farm-raised bluegill and catfish through October. So perfect that casting technique and we'll see you all at next year's Family Fishing Day!

Storm Drain Stenciling Saturdays begin in July

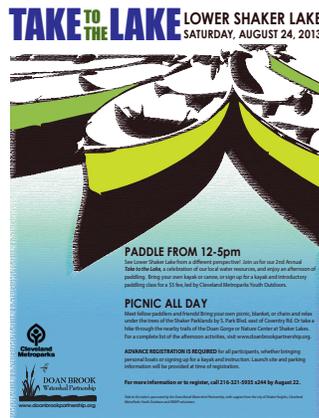
The DBWP is hosting a community program to help reduce pollutants in the Doan Brook watershed and ultimately Lake Erie. We are looking for volunteers to "paint the town" on Storm Drain Stenciling Saturdays, to be held this year on Saturday, July 13 and Saturday, September 7, from 9:00-12:00pm, in the communities of Cleveland Heights and Shaker Heights.

Participants will mark curbs next to residential storm drains with a weatherproof marker or stencil the message "Lake Erie Starts Here" on pavement. Individuals, Families, and organizations are welcome to sign up for one session or both. All will meet at the Nature Center at Shaker Lakes, 2600 S. Park Blvd., Cleveland, for a short stenciling demonstration and to pick up all needed supplies and street assignments. Refreshments will be provided.

Advance sign-up is requested ; contact Mary Ryan at 216.321.5935 x244 or ryan@shakerlakes.org.



Take to the Lake, our community paddle & picnic is Saturday, August 24



See Lower Shaker lake from a different perspective! Join us for our 2nd Annual Take to the Lake, a celebration of our local water resources, and enjoy an afternoon of paddling on Saturday, August 24 from 12:00-5:00pm.

Bring your own kayak or canoe, or sign up for a kayak and introductory paddling class for a \$5 fee, led by Cleveland Metroparks Youth Outdoors.

Meet fellow paddlers and friends! Bring your own picnic, blanket or chairs, and enjoy relaxing under the trees of the Shaker Parklands by S. Park Blvd. east of Coventry Rd. Or take a hike through the nearby trails of the Doan Gorge.

ADVANCE REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED FOR ALL PARTICIPANTS, whether bringing personal boats or signing up for a kayak and instruction. Call 216.321.5935. x244.

Beyond the Brook: Images of an urban watershed seeks YOUR photos

Northeast Ohio residents are invited to submit photographs and short videos which reflect their views of the Doan Brook watershed -- whether natural, urban or industrial landscapes, portraits of its inhabitants (flora, fauna or human) or their actions and impact in this place we all love.

Entries of print and electronic photos, or videos under three minutes will be accepted for the juried exhibition during early September, with the opening reception and awards to be held on Friday, October 4. The show will run through December 30 at the Nature Center at Shaker Lakes. More details and entry forms are available online through the DBWP website or www.shakerlakes.org.

A joint program of the Nature Center at Shaker Lakes and the Doan Brook Watershed Partnership

...And the Community Survey Says!?

The Doan Brook Watershed Partnership is always eager for feedback and ideas from our community. In the Spring of 2013, we surveyed our online friends for what elements of the Doan Brook watershed both inspire and concern them. The results and following survey summary will serve as a litmus test to guide the Partnership's work. In addition to hearing from you, we'd like to thank you. The majority of our respondents have volunteered for the Doan Brook at an event or stewardship activity in the past last year.

Thanks to the Cleveland Museum of Natural History, University Circle, Inc., and the Nature Center at Shaker Lakes for forwarding the survey via e-news.

Which parks are our favorite along the Doan Brook?

- 11% of all respondents use/visit Wade Park **more** than once a week, followed in order by Horseshoe Lake, Lower Shaker Lake and Cleveland Cultural Gardens. With this result, these particular parks are the most visited sections of the entire stream corridor between the Heights and Lake Erie.



- Conversely, 69% of all respondents have **never** been to Rudy Rodgers Memorial Park, followed by 47% to Doan Gorge. These parks, located at the heart of the stream corridor, are the most pristine but also the least accessible.



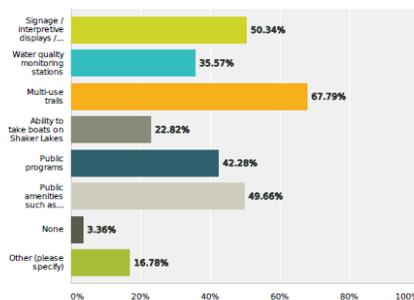
Why is the Doan Brook stream corridor important to us?

When asked what we most value open space for, we were THRILLED to learn that our community recognizes and supports the stream corridor's important role in stormwater management, flood control, and absorption of polluted runoff.

- Recreational opportunities -- 81%
- Ecosystem services provided by the Doan Brook--76%
- Stormwater management--70%

What resources would strengthen a connection to the Brook or its lakes?

You responded:



- Multi-use trails - 68%
- Signage / interpretive displays / cell phone tours – 50%
- Public amenities, such as benches, parking, shelters, boat landings – 50%
- Public programs – 42%

Issues of concern for the Doan Brook and its public open spaces, in order of importance:

- Pollution from chemical runoff from lawns, animal waste, cars, etc.
- Pollution from combined sewer overflow systems
- Degraded biodiversity and habitats
- Loss of riparian corridor vegetation (or water's edge buffer zone)
- Litter
- Infrastructure, such as dams and culverts, that alter the Brook

- Stream channel & bank erosion
- The Shaker Lakes filling in & becoming shallow
- Safety
- Limited public access

Which potential watershed projects top your list?

The Partnership also wanted to know which of our current projects and future goals are your biggest priority. As you can see, the results are only incrementally different. Our community feels equally strong for all aspects of our work.



Again, with much gratitude, we are happy to report that many of you offered to volunteer with Doan Brook initiatives. Unfortunately, we did not include a text box for your address. Please call us at 216.321.5935, x234 so we can connect you to fun and meaningful volunteer opportunities.

2012-13 Supporters of the Doan Brook

We gratefully acknowledge the families, businesses, and individuals who help us fulfill our mission with their generous gifts during our annual fund drive. "Doan-ations" help support all of our watershed restoration projects and community programs. Listings reflect contributions made from November 1, 2012 through June 1, 2013.

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