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## Butler County Stream Team

July News - 2016  
Next Sampling Day - July 9



**If you cannot sample, contact Teresa at 513-785-4142 or her cell at 513-706-8991.**

**Lynn is on vacation, so please don't call/email her as she will ignore you : )**

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### Lab Volunteers Needed for July

Looking at the lab sign up, we are short on volunteers this month. Anyone think you can join us? If so, add your name to the doodle list at <http://doodle.com/poll/hqe5ec6qfpxsn9mr>

You can sign up for a morning, afternoon, or double shift.

No lab experience is required.

Remember, the lab is in Rm 105 Pearson Hall (biology/zoology building) on the corner of Paterson and High.

### Ohio Pollinator Habitat Initiative Symposium

**July 31, 2016 at the Ohio Expo Center in Columbus**

Registration of \$35 includes access to the OPHI Symposium, a continental breakfast and a lunch. To Register, Please go to:

<http://ohio.apwa.net/EventDetails/9036>

### Stream Team Sampling Dates

July 9

August 13

Sept 10

Oct 8

Nov 12

Remember to let us know if you cannot collect your sample

### Save the Date: Picnic and hike at the Izaak Walton League

**Aug 6, 10 am**

450 Beissinger Rd, Hamilton.

Established in 1924, the Hamilton Chapter of the Izaak Walton League encourages the wise use of our land and its resources through conservation practices and educational means. The chapter members are active at the local, state, and national levels of the Izaak Walton League of America. Located on 35 acres, the club offers a pond for fishing, 2 shelter houses, several nature trails, a bird blind, archery range, turkey and trap shoots.

### Prairie Walk

**July 23**

Come visit Liberty Twp's recently planted (3<sup>rd</sup> year) butterfly gardens and native prairie at Allen Park on July, 23 from 9:00 am-11:00 am. The walk will be led by local naturalist and Master Gardener Jacob Hartman. Trails are either chipped or mowed grass, easy walking. Allen Park, 5440 Joann Drive, Liberty Township, OH 45044

### 2016 Webcast Series

These webcast at shown at the Butler County Engineers Office on Rt 4 in Hamilton. 1921 Fairgrove Ave. from 1 - 2:30 pm

- September 14, **Incentivizing BMP Installation in Communities with Stormwater Utilities**

## Kayak Trip Photos

Thank you to everyone that joined us on the float. Our biggest turnout yet of 19 people! We traveled from Miamisburg (mile marker 63.4) to Middletown (MM 54.2) for a total of 9.2 miles. Thank you to Susan and Bob for sharing their photos. Thank you also to Jim and Carla from Jimco's Kayak Livery for a fun outing. I have put some in the photo album available at

<https://goo.gl/photos/pUpdECpFzy7eN1CN8>



## Swimming Pools & Creeks

### Why is Swimming Pool Discharge Harmful?

If not properly handled, swimming pool water can harm our creeks and streams. The chemicals used in pool maintenance (e.g., chlorine, bromine, copper and silver) are designed to sterilize pools and will also kill fish, insects and plants in our waterways.

### What is an Illicit Discharge?

Federal regulations define an illicit discharge as "...any discharge to a municipal separate storm sewer system that is not composed entirely of storm water" (this does not include discharges from fire-fighting activities or permitted sources). Illicit discharges are considered "illicit" because storm sewer systems typically empty directly into local waterways -- not to a treatment facility.

### How Should I Discharge My Pool Water?

The preferred method is to discharge pool water to the sanitary sewer system. If discharging to a sanitary system is not possible, either because it is unavailable or not allowed, the next best choices are to discharge pool water onto your property or to the storm water system. However, only water that is clear, dechlorinated and of a neutral pH may be discharged from a pool to the street, storm sewer system or a

- October 12, **Retrofitting Revisited: Forward Into the Past**
- November 16, **Non-Traditional MS4s**

## Creeking Programs for Families

Butler SWCD and Metroparks of Butler County are hosting a number of creeking programs this summer. During these programs we look for aquatic creatures, and if the creeks are too dry, we look for fossils.

All programs being at 10 am

[Please see the program flier](#) for addresses for each location.

Shoes are required. Please no flip-flops.

- July 7, TimberHill Area, Rentschler Forest MetroPark
- July 14, Mill Race Preserve Area, 4-Mile Creek MetroPark
- July 21, Antenen Nature Preserve Area, 4-Mile Creek MetroPark
- July 23, Rentschler Forest MetroPark
- August 4, Governor Bebb MetroPark

## Invasive Plants: Poison Hemlock

### Description

- Highly toxic: Just ask Socrates!
- Poison ivy without the itch, scarring
- Purple splotches on stalk, finely divided leaves, white flower umbels

### Habitat

- Wood edges, roadsides, disturbed areas

### Control

- Biennial plant
- Responds to early spraying,
- Don't allow to produce seeds



stream.

When discharging pool water onto your property, the water should not flow off your property. Do not allow the water to pond for a prolonged period of time. This could create odors as well as fly and mosquito breeding conditions.

Pool discharges should be done slowly to prevent soil erosion, flooding or damage to adjacent properties. The recommended discharge rate is 25 gallons/minute or less.

Water containing cleaning chemicals, acid buffering compounds, algae and other substances may not be discharged to the street, storm water system or a stream. Test your pool water for chemicals and other pollutants before discharging.

### **When is it Safe to Discharge My Pool Water?**

Pool water should be essentially free of chlorine (less than 0.1 parts per million total chlorine), algaecides and other potential pollutants prior to discharge. Chlorine Neutralizer can be used to reduce chlorine levels and can be purchased at many pool supply stores.

As a general rule, a 10-day holding time after the last chemical treatment is usually adequate to dissipate chlorine prior to discharge.

Before discharging your pool water, pH levels should be within a normal range (6 to 9). pH adjustment chemicals, instructions and test kits are available at many pool supply stores.

### **Are there General Pool Maintenance Guidelines I should Follow?**

Make sure backwash filters are directly connected to your property's sanitary sewer connections.

Always rinse cartridge filters over soil, covering any residue with soil. Never clean a filter near a creek, stream, or storm drain.

Before using copper algaecides, try less toxic alternatives. Ask your pool maintenance service or store for help resolving persistent algae problems without resorting to copper algaecides.

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## **Sampling Reminders**

- Please mark the time and date on your labels of when you collected the sample. None of the sample times should be the same unless you are a time traveler
- Sign your sample into the cooler with the drop off time.
- Don't put the samples in the bag with the clean bottles
- Keep the cooler lid closed as much as possible
- Provide labels that say dry, or too low to sample, if that is the case.
- The combination of the cooler lock is 2278 which is BCST if you look at your phone keypad.
- Remember the cooler lock is weird, and that the numbers don't line up along the middle.
- **Duplicate samples** - when you sign them into the cooler, put the number "2" next to the sample ID.
- **Duplicate samples** - use the month that is on the label. Remember to talk to Teresa if you will be out of town that month and she can switch dates for you.

Butler County Stream Team Monthly Newsletter

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