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Butler County Stream Team

June 2016

Volunteer Stream Monitoring in
Southwest Ohio

Next Sampling Day - June 11



If you cannot sample, contact Lynn at 513-615-2538. Teresa is on vacation, so please don't call/email her.

In July the reverse if true, Lynn is on vacation and Teresa will be at Stream Team.

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Lab Volunteers Needed for June & July

Looking at the lab sign up, we are short on volunteers this summer. Anyone think you can join us? If so, add your name to the doodle list at

<http://doodle.com/poll/hge5ec6qfqsxn9mr>

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.

Stream Team Sampling Dates

June 11

July 9

August 13

Sept 10

Oct 8

Nov 12

Remember to let us know if you cannot collect your sample

Pond Clinic

Thur, June 8, 6 - 8:30 pm

At Butler SWCD, 1802 Princeton Rd, Hamilton, OH 45011

Learn about pond construction, maintenance, weed ID, fish stocking, and even about decorative garden ponds during this short workshop. Free to attend.

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

Free Kayak Trip in June Last chance to sign up

June 25, 10 am -

whenever we finish. This will be related to flow and the route we take.

Location: Jimco's Kayak Livery on Carmody Blvd next to the Germantown (rt 4) bridge in Middletown.



The Route: If the water is not too high, we will paddle on the Great Miami from Franklin to Middletown,. If the water is high, we will paddle on Twin Creek. If the water is dangerously high we will reschedule for fall.

Cost: Free kayak/canoe rental for stream team volunteers. Family are welcome, but they may have to rent a boat themselves. [Contact Lynn for more details.](#) If you have your own boat, we will haul it to the put in/ take out point for you for free.

Registration Required: [Please contact Lynn by June 11 to register.](#) Please make sure to provide Lynn with your cell number in case weather/river conditions are unfavorable near the time of the trip.

Mosquitoes & Stormwater

"If you are concerned for your health and well-being and the excitement over Zika carrying mosquitoes makes you ready to drain the swamp, step back and take a breath. Clean your gutters, flush your



birdbath, encourage your neighbors to do the same and relax. Take the usual precautions to avoid mosquito bites and enjoy being outside." -Ohio Wetlands Association Newsletter; May 2016.

There are over 2500 different kinds of mosquitoes in the world. OSU entomologist, Dr Piermarini says "Zika virus is transmitted by species of Aedes mosquitoes. Aedes aegypti appears to be the most efficient at spreading

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.

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

- June 15, **Green Infrastructure, Green Jobs: The Latest Trends**
- September 14, **Incentivizing BMP Installation in Communities with Stormwater Utilities**
- 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.

- June 16, Forest Run MetroPark Wildlife Preserve Area

Zika. *Aedes aegypti* is **not** found in Ohio, but it is common in the southern U.S." Some other *Aedes* species are rarely in Ohio, but their capacity to transmit the Zika virus is not well described, and it's unlikely they would bring the virus into Ohio.

Aedes mosquitoes are *not* known to breed on surface waters; however they do lay their eggs in tiny 'divots' of water, thereby associating themselves with urban environments. By draining wetlands, we are not removing *Aedes* breeding grounds, instead we actually removing dragonflies and other mosquito predators, allowing the mosquito population to multiply.

So although we are unlikely to catch Zika, there are other diseases that our local mosquitoes are known to carry. Several precautions can be taken as a homeowner to reduce the likelihood of mosquito reproduction in the area. Inviting their predators to your back yard is a great start. Bats can consume up to 1,000 mosquitoes in 24 hours, dragonflies too can eat hundreds within a day. Bat houses are widely available for purchase online and at many local supply stores.

Rain barrels are a very useful tool for alleviating storm water issues around building foundations and for watering flower beds. Although many systems are "closed", like the ones for sale at the Butler SWCD office, several do-it-yourself styles should be inspected for the likelihood of rain accumulation on the lid, and ease of insect access. A few small drainage holes can be drilled around the barrel lid, or spray foam to fill the lid, to better prevent puddle formation.

Be sure to keep a few kinds of repellants on hand this summer, especially when spending long periods of time outdoors. Useful insect repellents come in several forms today, and are easy to make at home as well. A few repellents include citronella candles, chemical bug sprays, travel wipes, sunscreens, wrist bands, homemade lavender oil sprays, neem oil, and natural incense.

Lastly, there are a lovely variety of plants and herbs that may help repel these pests including: citronella, lemon

- June 23, Indian Creek MetroPark
- June 30, Sebald MetroPark
- 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

Storm Drain labels



Now that the weather is warming up,

if you are interested in labeling your neighborhood storm drains with "No Pollution: Drains to Creek" signs [please let Lynn know](#). I have the labels for most of the townships, and can get you the contact for the cities: Middletown, Oxford, Hamilton, and Monroe to receive the supplies from them.

balm, catnip, marigold, basil, lavender, peppermint, pennyroyal, rosemary, geranium, and feverfew.

Ohio Wetlands Association May 2016 Newsletter - <http://tinyurl.com/zrp88mn>

Great Miami River Named a National Water Trail System

The Great Miami Watershed Water Trail has been named a National Water Trail System by the Secretary of the Interior—a designation that could lead to more riverfront investment. The water trail includes the Great Miami, Stillwater and Mad rivers and is the only national water trail in Ohio, and one of only 22 in the nation!

The national trail designation assures paddlers that the water trail incorporates best management practices in a variety of areas including trail design, maintenance, recreation, conservation and public information. Water trails are recreational routes on waterways, such as rivers, with a network of public access points. The Great Miami River Watershed Water Trail boasts 291 miles of waterway accessible to recreational boaters, anglers and wildlife watchers.

The program is jointly administered by the National Park Service and the U.S. Forest Service, in conjunction with a number of federal and not-for-profit partners.

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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