



OUR MISSION

To restore the Huff Run watershed by improving water quality and enhancing wildlife habitat, through community support and involvement.

Huff Run Watershed Restoration Partnership, Inc. meetings are typically held the third Tuesday of each month at the Mineral City American Legion Hall at 5:30 pm. Please join us!

www.huffrun.org

Vegetative Buffers: Stream Defense

The HRWRP's mission is to restore Huff Run. We have focused on and cleaned a significant amount of acid mine drainage problems. There are other problems facing Huff Run though. One of these problems is the broken vegetative buffers along the stream, called riparian corridors. These buffers, which can include trees, brush or anything with deep root systems, are the lifelines of streams. Not only are they buffers for pollution, but they also stabilize the stream bank and lower water temperature. A low water temperature is important to fish and bugs. The sticks and foliage that enter the water from buffers make homes and food for aquatic life. The vegetation also creates land dwelling habitat for wildlife. Without a strong riparian corridor, a stream is no more than a ditch. Are you a streamside landowner? It's very cheap to help us restore broken buffers by planting trees or brush along your stretch of Huff Run. Inquire at the Huff Run office for more information.



This newsletter is paid for through a grant from the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency.

www.huffrun.org

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CROSSROADS RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, INC. 277 Canal Avenue SE, Suite C New Philadelphia, OH 44663



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# WaterMarks

Spring/Summer 2005

Volume VIII, Issue II

*"Preserving the Past, Healing the Scars, Protecting the Future"*

## New Sponsor



Rural Action of Trimble, Ohio has become the new sponsor of the Huff Run Watershed Coordinator grant. In turn, the non-profit agency has also picked up sponsorship of the Huff Run Watershed Restoration Partnership and will administer future grants the group pursues. "Partnership with Rural Action puts us in connection with many other watershed groups and at a better place to obtain grants and additional funding," Maureen Wise, Huff Run Watershed Coordinator says. Rural Action is a membership-based non-profit organization promoting social, economic and environmental justice in Appalachian Ohio. Rural Action takes a comprehensive, integrated approach to rural community development that creates economic opportunities, preserves and restores the environment, and strengthens communities. This approach builds on the assets of the region to create long-term solutions for problems. Learn more at [www.ruralaction.org](http://www.ruralaction.org). Crossroads RC&D has contracted with Rural Action to help pay for the Watershed Coordinator's salary which is also paid for from a joint grant from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources and the Ohio EPA.



*HRWRP President, Ed Taggart and Mike Steinmaus, Rural Action's Sustainable Watersheds Director*

## Huff Run's New Office

*Huff Run's side entrance at 8728 High Street, Mineral City.*



The HRWRP now has its own office! The Huff Run Watershed Coordinator's office has moved from the Tuscarawas Soil and Water Conservation District in New Philadelphia to the Mineral City Village Hall on State Route 800. This puts the headquarters inside the watershed and closer to all the activities of the HRWRP. The new number is 330-859-1050. To visit, enter the white door adjacent to the Mineral City Park parking lot between 8am and 4:30pm. Crossroads RC&D has contracted with Rural Action with the EPA 319 grant Crossroads administers for the HRWRP to make this office space and equipment possible. Thanks go to the Mineral City Village Council for opening their building to us and to Ed Taggart and Phil Rufener for their help in putting the office together.



Water Marks  
Huff Run Watershed  
Restoration Partnership

A COLLABORATION OF PEOPLE  
WITH CONCERNS FOR HUFF RUN

Spring/Summer 2005  
Volume VIII, Issue II

Editor/Publisher  
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Contributing Writers

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OSM/ VISTA

Heidi Burton  
HRWRP Member

**Water Marks** is a free publication. It is distributed throughout the Carroll and Tuscarawas County area. The purpose of the publication is to provide vital information and to help educate citizens so that they can take an active role in protecting and restoring the Huff Run Watershed.

**Water Marks** is published two times a year by the Huff Run Watershed Restoration Partnership, Inc.

Submissions of articles, artwork and photos are welcome.

Editorial contributions from our readers sharing knowledge, experiences and/or opinions are invited. However, **Water Marks** cannot assume any responsibility for statements and opinions expressed by contributors. All materials in **Water Marks** have been prepared by the staff unless otherwise attributed.

Water Marks

P.O. Box 55  
Mineral City, OH 44656

# Lyons Ground Breaking

The Lyons project, which in a southwest section of the watershed, is under construction this summer. On May 17, a Ground Breaking Ceremony took place with many partners, group members and government officials present. The project will reclaim 21 acres of gob piles and regrade and fill of four acidic ponds. Limestone channels with steel slag will be installed along with slag embankments in good quality ponds to boost alkalinity, lower pH and lower metal loadings. Red Malcuit, Inc. from Strasburg won the lowest bid and is on schedule to complete the project in November 2005. The project is paid for from a 319 EPA grant administered by Crossroads



*An acidic pond before construction.*

RC&D. A wildlife-planting project will commence after reclamation funded by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, with contributions from Pheasants Forever and the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Abandoned Mine Lands.



Earth moving on the south east end of the Lyons Project in mid June.



**Ground breaking:** Bo Hysong, Sandy Township Trustee; Chris Abbuhl, Tuscarawas County Commissioner; Carl Harsha, HRWRP VP; Ed Taggart, HRWRP President; Dan Imhoff, Ohio EPA; Maureen Wise, Huff Run Watershed Coordinator; Lesley Applegarth, District Representative for Congressman Bob Ney; Bert Dinsio, landowner; Paul Fanti, Crossroads RC&D Executive Board member; Jim Gue and Cheryl Socotch both of the Ohio Department of Natural Resources Division of Mineral Resources Management.



### Huff Run Watershed Plan Submitted

The Huff Run Watershed Plan has been revised as requested by the Ohio EPA (OEPA) and Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR). This document is a comprehensive inventory of the watershed's characteristics and its problems plus proposes ways to remedy the problems. After the OEPA and ODNR review the plan, they may ask for more revisions. When approved, the endorsed plan will place the HRWRP in a stronger position to receive future funding.

**What this means to you:** With a more detailed inventory and stronger solutions to problems in the watershed, additional programs will be popping up at the Huff Run office. New programs may include streamside vegetative buffer set backs, illegal dumping removal, alternative water sources for livestock and others. Be on the look out for flyers and mailings. The Watershed Plan will be put on our website shortly but for now, visit Maureen at the Huff Run office to obtain a copy.

### Mineral-Zoar Road Project Underway Soon

*By Ilona Volker*

An area north of Mineral City Park will soon be undergoing a transformation. A stretch of land near the intersection of Mineral-Zoar Road and Sandyville Road is currently an acid mine impacted wetland with iron rich, orange water. Recently, through the work of Crossroads RC&D's OSM/VISTA, Huff Run Watershed was awarded a \$105,000 Office of Surface Mining Clean Streams grant for the project. The total cost is \$263,000 and will be completed with support from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources/Mineral Resource Management. Work on this project is proposed to start in the Fall of 2005 and should be completed in six months.



*Acid mine drainage on the site.*

Plans for the project include an interceptor drain, a reverse alkalinity producing system, and aerobic and an anaerobic wetland, along with an aggregate mine drain. The system design will improve water quality flowing through the Huff Run tributary that runs through the Park. By eliminating 100% of the acid mine water from the unnamed tributary, water quality of Huff Run main stem is anticipated to improve significantly.



### Clean Sweep

On April 23, members of the HRWRP joined forces with the Sandy Township Trustees to do some good for our watershed. A group from Huff Run picked up 10 bags of trash along Huff Run Road, finding tires, bottles from the 1970s and even an old wallet. The Sandy Township Trustees sponsored the event and worked with other groups to conduct a clean sweep across all of Sandy Township.

*The tributary runs through Mineral City Park on State Route 800.*





## Field Trips to Bring Awareness

No one can actually remember how many Huff Run Awareness Days there have been - some say as many as eight. However many there have been, the Awareness Days have always brought area schools into the watershed to learn about the problems here and how the HRWRP is fixing them. This year, two classes from Sherrodsville Elementary attended along with a large group of home school classes. There was a demonstration on good water quality in the headwaters of Huff Run using aquatic bugs, a site tour of the Lyons Project, a water chemistry demonstration with pH meters in the damaged part of Huff Run and a hands-on display of how pollution enters streams. We are thankful to the many HRWRP members who helped during the day and the people from the EPA, ODNr and the Tusc. SWCD for their demonstrations. Part of the event was funded by the 319 EPA grant that Crossroads RC&D administers.



Heidi Burton's plea: We need to clean up! Heidi will be a student at Tusky Valley Middle School this Fall and has been active with the group for some time.

## Get Involved This Summer!



### Enter the Third Annual Photo Contest

Entries due July 29  
Theme: Hope for Huff Run



### Run the Second Huff Run 5K

Distance: 3.1 miles  
Cost: \$10/ individual, \$20/families, \$50/teams  
At the Huff Run Fun Day



### Attend the Huff Run Fun Day

When: August 27 10am- 3pm  
Where: Mineral City Park  
Why: Learn about Huff Run, other green causes and your community

*"Water is the most critical resource issue of our lifetime and our children's lifetime. The health of our waters is the principal measure of how we live on the land."*

*- Luna Leopold*



# STAFF News



## New Huff Run VISTA

Help us welcome Terri Sponaugle-Shrock to the HRWRP family! Terri will be serving as an Americorps \*VISTA volunteer from July 2005 through July 2006. She will be working on environmental education in our local schools, our new watch dog program, water sampling and many other projects. Sponaugle-Shrock graduated from OSU's Agricultural Technical Institute with an Associate's of Applied Science Degree in Environmental Resources Management. Terri is originally from Mineral City and now lives in Sugarcreek with her husband Josh. Americorps \*VISTA is a federally funded program. Rural Action will sponsor Terri's VISTA position.

## Thank You, Ilona

The HRWRP would like to thank Ilona Volker, Crossroads RC&D's OSM/VISTA, for her work with Huff Run. During her term, Ilona worked diligently to author the Mineral Zoar OSM Clean Streams grant awarded the Spring 2005, create of a Huff Run Water Quality Database storing over 25 years worth of data, publish of the Fall 2004 newsletter, conduct water sampling and field assessments, and an educational presentation on Huff Run to over 60 college students. She will attend the West Virginia University College of Law in the fall. We wish her luck in her future pursuits!



### Members Receive Window Decals

**Yes!** I want to become a *member* of the Huff Run Watershed Restoration Partnership! Enclosed is my yearly membership dues of

- \$5 Individual     \$10 Family

Please put me on your contact list:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State \_\_\_\_\_

I understand that I will be contacted about the next meeting.

Make checks payable to HRWRP and send to:

**Huff Run Watershed Restoration Partnership, Inc.**

P.O. Box 55 • Mineral City, Ohio 44656



### Donors Receive Huff Run Paper Tablets

**Yes!** I want to *contribute* to the Huff Run Watershed Restoration Partnership! Enclosed is my tax-deductible donation of

- \$25 Partner     \$50 Affiliate  
 \$100 Supporter     Other \_\_\_\_\_

Please put me on your contact list:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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