

# Annual Report 2011



Huff Run Watershed Restoration Partnership



# From the Coordinator

## Huff Run Watershed Restoration Partnership

**Watershed Coordinator:**  
Maureen Wise

**Environmental Education AmeriCorps member 2010-2011:**  
Emily Ankney

**Environmental Education AmeriCorps member 2011-2012:**  
Teresa Arey

**Water Quality Intern/Secretary:** Marissa Geib

**President:** Ed Taggart

**Vice President 2010-2011:**  
Bo Hysong

**Vice President 2011-2012:**  
Nick Lautzenheiser

**Treasurer:** Belle Everett

The Huff Run Watershed Restoration Partnership is sponsored by Rural Action.

Our fifteenth year of working to restore Huff Run has been an exciting one!

We won a national Office of Surface Mining award for our Thomas Restoration Project! This is quite an honor – no other project has been so recognized in Ohio before and only five were given out in 2011.

We held a big celebration for our 15 year anniversary in August with a swanky dinner and a silent auction. It was a great time and a profitable fundraiser. Thanks to all who attended! Let's look forward to an even better party for 20 years!

Our Lyons Phase II Project was constructed this year with plans for some more grant projects on the horizon.

A new program was started in 2011: we are now holding monthly environmental story time at the Mineral City Nicole Donant Library. This program will replace our dwindling Environmental Explorers Club.

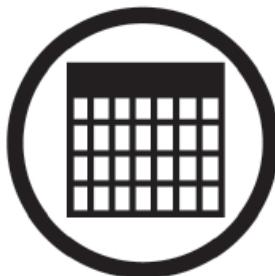
We're seeing even more Northern Pike in Huff Run now and some new fish, Molted Sculpins and Central Mudminnows. This is why we're in existence – to see fish return to our stream and to see acid mine drainage diminish. We're well on our way. Thank you for your part in this effort!



Maureen Wise  
Huff Run Watershed Coordinator



# Major Events



- The 2011 Huff Run Awareness Days were held on May 6th, 13st, 20th and 26th. Partners from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources – Division of Mineral Resources Management (ODNR-MRM), Ohio EPA – Division of Surface Water, Carroll Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD), Tuscarawas SWCD, Rural Action, Yellow Creek Watershed, local Township Trustees, local Village Council members, and Huff Run members volunteered and held demonstrations for over 340 students. Classes from Bell-Herron, Tusky Valley Middle School, Sandy Valley Middle School, and Sherrodsburg and Bowerston Elementary Schools attended.
- The Mineral City Party in the Park was held on August 21st. Huff Run's tent attracted children and parents alike to the craft table and acid mine drainage tie dying.
- During Party in the Park, Huff Run raffled off a kayak. The winner was Nancy Trbovich from the Waynesburg area.
- The ninth annual Huff Run Photo Contest was also held during the summer. This year the contest had 26 entries. The first place winner is the cover of this report.
- The Huff Run Fall Watershed Tour was held on October 14th. The tour was very successful; about 20 guests came and toured two projects: Lyons Phase II and Thomas.
- The Environmental Explorers Club held its last meeting in December of 2011. The program was ended due to lack of attendance. An environmental story time at the Mineral City Library was started as the new monthly environmental education program.

# Awards

- The Office of Surface Mining recognized the Partnership with one of five national Abandoned Mineland Reclamation Awards for 2011. The award was for the Thomas Acid Mine Drainage Reclamation Project.

# Actions Taken to Restore Issues in the Watershed:



## Acid mine drainage

- Fourteen completed reclamation projects (Mineral Zoar, Thomas, Belden [including Belden Gob Pile and the slag addition], Fern Hill [including June's Pond], HR-22 AML, HR-25 AML, Harsha North, Lyons [Phase II], Lindentree, HRWRP Acid Pit, Linden, Farr, Huff Run AML Project and Jobes) are all working to increase pH, reduce iron and manganese loadings and add alkalinity.
- The Lyons Phase II Project was constructed in 2011. The Phase II project consisted of additions to Phase I of the project, including a settling pond, to improve the effectiveness of the original reclamation project.

## Illegal Dumping

- On June 11th, Huff Run volunteers participated in a clean-up day for their two miles of adopted highway. The Huff Run Watershed Restoration Partnership (HRWRP) is a member of ODOT's Adopt A Highway Program in which they have adopted a stretch of State Route 800 south of Mineral City. The Partnership also helped with the Sandy Township Clean Sweep on April 30th.

## Programs

- Eleven Environmental Explorers Club meetings were held with an average of three children present. Highlight meetings include hearing from Elizabeth Krahel about chickens and ducks, visiting the Arrowhead Orchard and hearing from Nancy Owens of Turtle Spring Farm and Rehabilitation Center about owls, bats and hawks.

## Volunteering

- Between clean up days, Party in the Park, Awareness Days, administrative work and meetings, Huff Run volunteers donated a total of 506 hours to the work of the Partnership!





## Grants

- In 2011, Rural Action was awarded an ODNR Watershed Coordinator grant that will fund much of the Coordinator's salary from 2012 through 2015.
- Rural Action administered a grant from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources to fund a Huff Run summer intern. (Awarded and closed in 2011)
- Rural Action administered an Ohio EPA 319 grant to complete funding for the Thomas Project. (Closed in early 2011)
- Rural Action administered a Watershed Coordinator grant to fund much of the Coordinator's salary through 2011.
- Rural Action administered an Office of Surface Mining Appalachian Clean Streams Initiative grant to pay for Phase II of the Lyons Restoration Project.
- Rural Action administered a Muskingum Watershed Conservation District grant to fund environmental education. (Through May 2012)
- The Huff Run Watershed Restoration Partnership administered a Norcross grant to fund a new computer for the AmeriCorps member and a new swoffer for water quality monitoring. (Awarded and closed 2011)
- Thrivent Financial for Lutherans awarded a grant to match the amount raised by the Partnership's summer fundraisers. (Awarded in 2011)

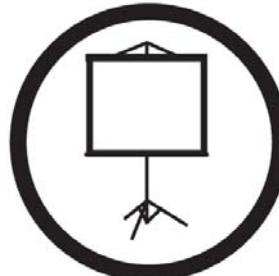
## Press

- One Water Marks issues was published and distributed.
- Eleven press releases sent to local news outlets.
- One interview on WJER.



## Displays

- Agricultural Natural Resources Expo
- Mineral City Nicole Donant Library Family Fun Day





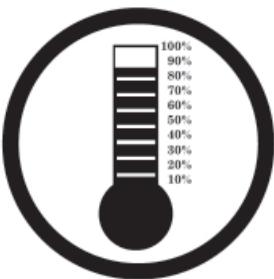
## Presentations

- Bell-Herron Seventh Grade
- Sandy Valley Fifth Grade
- Tusky Valley Seventh Grade
- Sherrodsburg Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Grades
- Bolivar Elementary
- Kent State Tuscarawas and Stark Campuses



## Memberships, Sponsors & Donors: (2010-2011 to date)

- Seventy HRWRP members
- Five Business/Nonprofit memberships
- Eight sponsors for the 15th Anniversary Dinner
- Fourteen donors for the silent auction at the 15th Anniversary Dinner



## Fundraising

- The total profit from the 15th Anniversary Dinner was \$1470
- A total of 60 Huff Run Hoodies were sold in 2011. A profit of about \$522 was made.
- The total profit from the kayak raffle was \$800.



## Meetings

- Ten HRWRP regular meetings were held with an average of nine people present.
- Four Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) meetings were held.
- Eleven Environmental Explorers Meetings were held.

# Water Quality Sampling

- Two hundred seventy-nine (279) chemical water quality samples were taken by the Huff Run staff and ODNR-MRM at a total of 13 projects/sites including Belden, Fern Hill (HR-42), Lyons, Linden, Lindentree, Farr, Mineral Zoar, Harsha North, Thomas, the HR-38 site, the Acme Restoration Site (HR-36) and former AMDAT sample points and Reach Long Term sampling.
- A streamwide macroinvertebrate study was conducted in conjunction with ODNR with a total of eight sample sites.
- A streamwide fish study was conducted in conjunction with ODNR with a total of six sample sites. The study resulted in many of the lower and more polluted sites within Huff Run to go up in water quality status.
- A bacteria study was conducted in conjunction with the Tuscarawas County Health Department and ODNR with a total of ten sample sites.



Huff Run Watershed Restoration Partnership  
8728 North High Street  
PO Box 55  
Mineral City, Ohio 44656  
330-859-1050  
[www.huffrun.org](http://www.huffrun.org)



**Design & Layout** by Sarah Warda

**Cover Photo:** *Relishly Delicious* by Cheri Harris , 2011 Huff Run Photo Contest Winner