

# Brook Notes

A publication of the  
DOAN BROOK WATERSHED PARTNERSHIP

SPRING 2006

## Event Highlights Include Successful *Annual Partners Dinner* and Overflow Crowd for *Gardens for the 21st Century*

The Doan Brook Watershed Partnership (DBWP) gathered some 90 supporters for its annual reporting out to the community on October 20, 2005, hosted at Shaker Heights



Guest speaker Jim White discusses efforts to restore the neighboring Cuyahoga River Watershed at the Annual Partners Dinner at Shaker Heights Country Club

Country Club in the upper Doan Brook Watershed. A buffet dinner, music by the Cleveland Heights High Jazz Ensemble, a raffle and corporate sponsorships added to the evening. Plans to restore a portion of Doan Brook on the Country Club property were unveiled and highlights of 2005

and goals for the coming year outlined.

On February 18, 2006, a crowd of over 200 gardeners and landscapers interested in incorporating natural, sustainable design into their projects gathered at the Cleveland Botanical Garden. The overflow crowd networked and heard the latest from experts in this emerging field. The



Victoria Mills of The Nature Center at Shaker Lakes addresses an enthusiastic audience at the Cleveland Botanical Garden

event was sponsored by the Garden Society of NE Ohio with funding support from the DBWP, CBG and others. A success to build upon!



Doan Brook after it emerges from the University Circle culvert, flowing below the Cleveland Museum of Art. This is the upstream end of the 2-mile long City of Cleveland 'Rockefeller Park Doan Brook Restoration Project.' One of the largest urban stream restorations in the U.S., the project will restore the ecology of Doan Brook (Doan Creek) while protecting the unique cultural and historic features of Rockefeller Park.



Doan Brook in Rockefeller Park in the Cleveland portion of the Doan Brook Watershed, just downstream (north) of Wade Park Avenue. The stone wall on left will remain. The concrete check dams and damaged stone wall on right will be removed.

The non-profit Doan Brook Watershed Partnership's 11-member Board of Trustees provides for broad representation throughout the watershed and includes:

- Darnell Brown (President) and Sabra Pierce Scott, City of Cleveland
- Nancy Dietrich (Vice President) and Carl Czaga, City of Cleveland Heights
- Laura Gooch (Treasurer), Citizen at-large, upper watershed, Cleveland Heights
- Nancy Moore (Secretary) and Martin Reese, City of Shaker Heights
- Dorothy Adams, Citizen at-large, lower watershed, Cleveland (Glenville)
- Steven Cadwell, The Nature Center at Shaker Lakes
- Lester Stumpe, Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District
- Bob Reeves, University Circle Incorporated



# Director's Report

Greetings and Happy Spring!

The Doan Brook Watershed Partnership is making progress protecting and restoring some of our most valuable community resources: Doan Brook, the Shaker Parklands, Shaker Lakes, and the string of parks in Cleveland that include Rudy Rodgers Memorial Scout Park (at Ambler Park), Wade and Rockefeller parks, and Dike 14 at Lake Erie. While much of our current work centers on the upper portion of the Doan Brook Watershed, we know that "all water flows downstream" and that improvements made in Shaker Heights and Cleveland Heights ultimately benefit downstream neighbors in Cleveland.

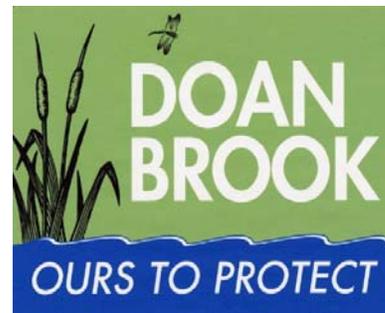
Through work on our mailing list by our new Administrative Assistant, Helen Wolfe, we welcome over 2000 residents of the Glenville neighborhood in Cleveland adjoining Rockefeller Park. If you have questions about the Partnership, please don't hesitate to call or visit our website for more information.

We are a lean 501(c)(3) non-profit, with the equivalent of one (1) full-time staff person. Funded primarily by our watershed cities, we are forever on the hunt for additional support to fund our operations and projects to protect and restore Doan Brook and its watershed. Our 2005 Doanations request returned over \$7,000 from generous supporters of our work, over twice what was received in the previous year. Also in 2005, we received funds from the Mandel Foundation and had two donor-directed gifts through The Cleveland Foundation. Thank you all!

Highlights to come

in 2006 include completion of work under our 3-year Ohio EPA Sec. 319 grant (see stories herein), development of a management plan for Green and Marshall lakes in Shaker Heights., on the ground restoration and water quality improvement projects, enhanced fundraising, outreach events and efforts to bring more volunteers into our work. Please contact us if you want to help improve the watershed we all share.

Yours on the brook,  
Keith Jones  
Executive Director  
DBWP



Our sign project is now funded and city clearances are in hand. Look for these attractive signs to appear at 15 locations where streets cross over Doan Brook throughout the watershed. Locations range from Warrensville Center Rd. on the Shaker Hts./Cleveland Hts. border to Superior and St. Clair Avenues in Cleveland. Special thanks to Carl Czaga and Pam Raack of the City of Cleveland Heights and Tori Mills of The Nature Center at Shaker Lakes for their assistance.

## Management Studies Completed for Upper Watershed

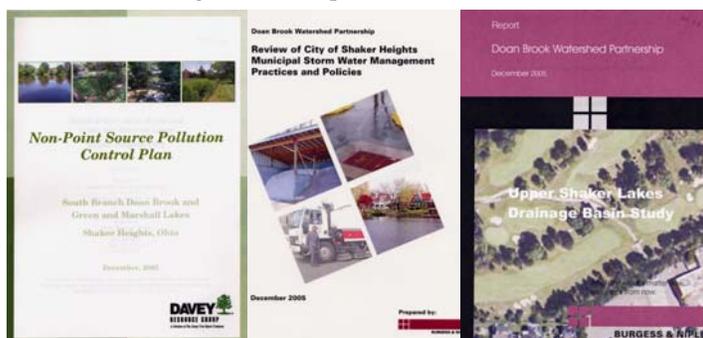
Three important studies that will guide future Doan Brook protection and restoration efforts were completed in December 2005.

With Ohio EPA grant and City of Shaker Heights funds provided to the DBWP, the consulting firms Davey Resource Group and Burgess and Niple Inc. studied the hydrology of the upper Doan Brook Watershed (Canterbury Country Club in Beachwood to the Shaker Heights Country Club) and ways to reduce pollutants by constructing innovative storm water best management practices (BMPs).

Several BMPs will be constructed before July 2006 and studied over the next 2-3 years.

Burgess and Niple Inc. worked with

operations that will protect water quality in Doan Brook, the Shaker Lakes and, ultimately, Lake Erie. Recommendations center on:



- ✓ erosion and sediment control
- ✓ grounds maintenance
- ✓ street sweeping
- ✓ road de-icing
- ✓ storm water system inspection/maintenance
- ✓ storm water retention and treatment
- ✓ fleet and yard operations maintenance.

the City of Shaker Heights Department of Public Works and DBWP to assess improvements to city

# Work Begins on Doan Brook Restoration Project at Shaker Heights Country Club

Several years of planning have borne fruit with the recent groundbreaking of an exciting stream restoration project on the South Branch of Doan Brook at Shaker Heights Country Club (SHCC).

The project applies *natural stream restoration* techniques over its 500-foot length and will allow SHCC members and management to decide if similar techniques could be used to improve other portions of the brook on the property. Over a mile of the



South Branch Doan Brook flows through the club, from near the Van Aken shopping area to Green Lake. Project goals are similar to those for the schools campus project (see below) and the DBWP's contractor is Oxbow River and Stream Restoration of Delaware, Ohio. Ohio EPA Sec. 319 funds are matched with DBWP, City of Shaker Heights and SHCC resources to complete what is believed to be the first stream restoration project of this type constructed on a golf course in Ohio!

## WHAT'S WRONG WITH THIS PICTURE?



Sediment (soil, dirt) is a pollutant that is harmful to aquatic life (insects and fish) in Doan Brook and the Shaker Lakes. Sediment from bare lawn areas flows into storm inlets that drain to Doan Brook, even from many blocks away. Lawns should be seeded or landscaped to prevent this form of *nonpoint source pollution*.

# DBWP Receives Ohio Lake Erie Commission Grant To Restore Doan Brook at Shaker Schools Campus

The Doan Brook Watershed Partnership was successful in its quest for a \$7,700 grant through the Ohio Lake Erie Commission (OLEC) and will add over \$60,000 from its Ohio EPA Sec. 319 grant to restore 350 feet of the South Branch Doan Brook at the Shaker Schools Campus.

The project is an important step in the overall plan to restore Doan Brook and its watershed, from its source in Beachwood, through the Shaker Lakes in Shaker Hts. and Cleveland Hts., and down through University Circle and Rockefeller Park before entering Lake Erie.

Work will begin in May 2006 and plans are being made for 1-2 work

days to involve teachers, students and other community members with planting grass, trees and shrubs to stabilize and beautify the site.



The DBWP's contractor, Oxbow River and Stream Restoration, will remove the concrete and stone walls upstream of the South Woodland Rd. bridge and recontour the stream

channel.

The project will reduce soil erosion, provide habitat, create an overflow floodplain (the sledding hill will not be affected!), improve water quality and provide an outstanding opportunity for education in environmental science, biology, botany and engineering.

In addition to OLEC and Ohio EPA, project partners include the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District, the City of Shaker Heights, The Nature Center at Shaker Lakes, Woodbury PTO, teachers and School District managers, and the Cuyahoga County Engineer's Office. In addition, funds were provided through a donor-directed fund of The Cleveland Foundation.



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 protecting and restoring Doan Brook  
 and its watershed"*

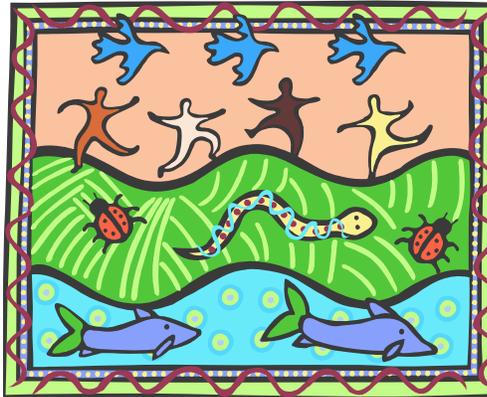
DOAN BROOK—OURS TO PROTECT

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

## Doan Brook Watershed Events Coming Your Way!

✓ **4th Annual Doan Brook Community Cleanup.** Earth Day - Sat. April 22, 9:00 am - Noon. In partnership with The Nature Center at Shaker Lakes. Adults and kids, students, civic and church groups, scouts and businesses invited. Give the brook and parks a much deserved spring cleaning! Arrive anytime to either work location: The Nature Center or the gazebo at the Rockefeller Park lagoon. Refreshments, gloves and trash bags provided. Prizes for the strangest items found and for the most trash collected. Contact us at 216-291-3304 to let us know you'll be there, or simply show up (rain or shine).

✓ **Celebrate the Earth.** Earth Day - Sat. April 22, 1:00 - 5:00 pm at The Nature Center at Shaker Lakes, 2600 South Park Dr. Family fun, environmental games, displays, music and more. 216-321-5935.



✓ **2nd Annual Environmental Fair.** Rudy Rodgers Memorial Scout Park at Ambler Park. Sat. April 29, all day. 216-721-0880.

✓ **Community Work Day:** Shaker Schools Campus at Doan Brook restoration site, S. Woodland Rd., Shaker Hts. Day(s) in May to be announced. 216-291-3304.

✓ **Workshops and more at The Nature Center at Shaker Lakes:** Volunteer Stream Monitoring May 7, Native Plant Sale May 13, Compost June 6. 216-321-5935

✓ **Migration Mania at the Dike 14 Preserve:** Sat. May 20, 7:30-11:00 am. View migrating birds and hike one of the newest nature preserves in the Cleveland area. 216-524-6580.

✓ **DBWP Annual Partners Dinner:** Join us in late October to celebrate our progress and accomplishments. Date and location to be announced. Interested in helping plan this event? Call Nancy Dietrich at 216-371-9379.

Contact us by phone at (216)291-3304  
 or visit our website at [www.doanbrook.org](http://www.doanbrook.org)