

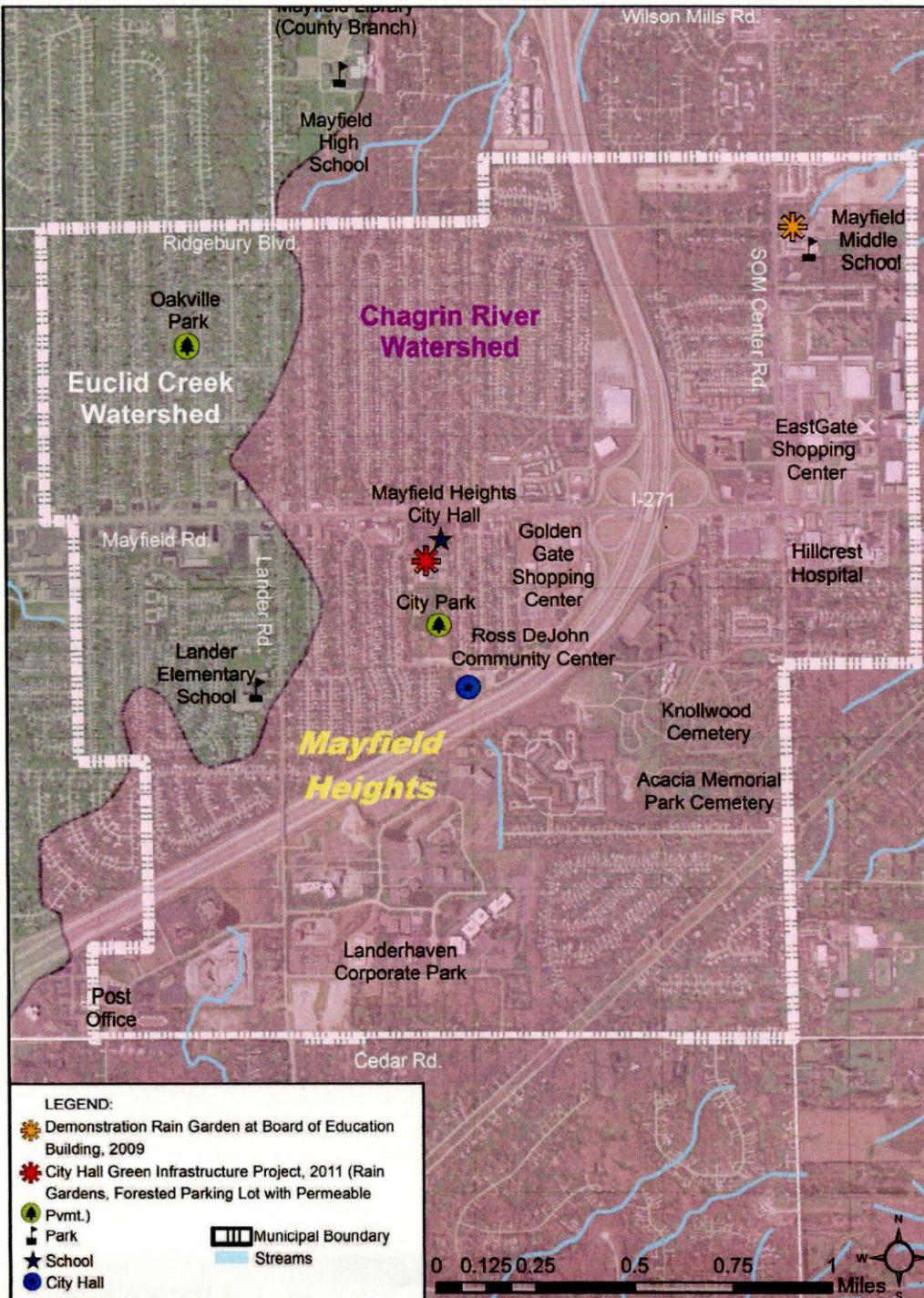
City of Mayfield Heights Watershed Fact Sheet



Mayfield Heights is in 2 watersheds!

Euclid Creek drains an area of approximately 24 square miles from 12 communities in Cuyahoga and Lake Counties.

Chagrin River drains 267 square miles from 22 municipalities and ten townships within four Northeast Ohio Counties.



BOTH of these waterways drain directly into Lake Erie— Mayfield Heights' source of drinking water. Protecting these watersheds from runoff pollution also protects Lake Erie and YOU!

- Did you know???**
- Mayfield Heights has **0.48 miles** of streams above ground with an estimated **2.2 miles** of additional streams that have been channeled underground in pipes/culverts.
 - As water moves across lawns and hard surfaces into storm drains, pollution is picked up and sent untreated to creeks and rivers which eventually empty into Lake Erie.
 - Vegetated surfaces, like rain gardens, help water soak into the ground which allows for natural filtration of polluted runoff.
 - The rate of extinction for freshwater animals is 5 times greater than that for land animals.
- Only Rain Down the Drain!*

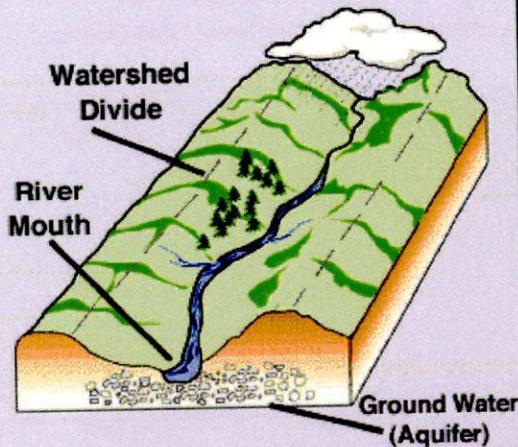
What is a watershed????
Flip to find out!

WATER—THE ULTIMATE RESOURCE!

What is a watershed? A watershed is an area of land that drains rain and snow to a common body of water such as a stream, river, or lake. Our landscape is made up of interconnected watersheds.

We all live in a watershed!

A Watershed



The City of Mayfield Heights

- The population of Mayfield Heights is 19,155 (Census 2010 data).
- 2011 is the 60th anniversary of becoming a City.

Mayfield Heights within Euclid Creek Watershed

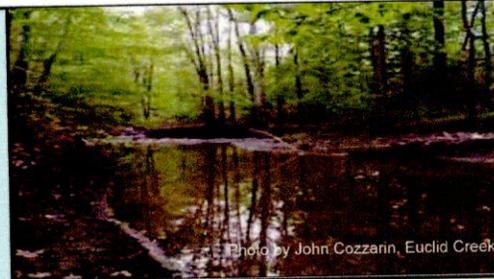
- Mayfield Heights makes up 3.2% of the entire Euclid Creek Watershed—or 0.78 square miles.
- 18% of residents from Mayfield Heights live within this watershed.
- 21.2% of land area of Mayfield Heights is within the Euclid Creek Watershed—or 0.89 square miles.
- Small swales and creeks beginning in Mayfield Heights may have fed Euclid Creek at one time, but there is no evidence of such stream origins today. These 'headwater' streams would join together to form larger streams and are important to water quality and stream health, but may have been paved over unknowingly through years of development.

Mayfield Heights within Chagrin River Watershed

- 78.8% of land area of Mayfield Heights is within the Chagrin River Watershed—or 3.31 square miles.
- 6.8% of lands within this watershed are protected from development.
- There are only 0.35 miles of streams in Mayfield Heights.
- 25.5% of this community within the Chagrin River Watershed has impervious surfaces (hard surfaces such as pavement).
- Due to the high level of impervious surfaces, streams in Mayfield Heights within this watershed have poor quality aquatic habitat for fish and bugs to thrive.

Major water quality issues

- **Excess nutrients**, such as phosphorous and nitrogen, caused by urban pollution and fertilizers from gardens, lawn and turf maintenance practices.
- **Low fish populations** due to poor water quality as well as loss of habitat and man-made barriers (e.g. dams).
- After major storms, high intensity stream flow (called *flashy flows*) increases **stream bank erosion**.
- **Loss of greenspace and loss of headwater tributaries** (where streams begin).



How the CITY protects your water

- Active member of the Chagrin River Watershed and the Euclid Creek Watershed Council.
- Hosts Rain Barrel Workshops.
- Works with Cuyahoga Board of Health on public health concerns.
- Offers household hazardous waste (and other) recycling for residents.
- Offers free chipping for tree limbs, branches and brush, leave on curb on your regular trash collection day.
- Picks up leaves in fall to prevent clogging of storm drains.
- Implemented a **Green Infrastructure Project utilizing \$231,900 Ohio EPA, Surface Water Improvement Fund (SWIF) grant in 2011**. The project is located at City Hall and consists of rain gardens, a forested parking lot and permeable pavement. These practices reduce the quantity of rain water runoff and flooding in the community by allowing it to soak into the soil and vegetation. Soil and native vegetation filter pollutants and sediment from runoff, improving water quality.

How YOU can protect your water

- Don't litter, and pick up litter where you see it.
- Keep grass clippings, paper and other waste out of storm drains.
- Report illegal dumping! Call the Service Dept. (440-442-2626 x 285) or the County Board of Health (216-201-2000).
- Install a rain barrel and/or plant a rain garden.
- Pick up outside pet waste and put it in the trash.
- Reduce hard surfaces. Replace your driveway and walkways with permeable paving.
- Clean paint from brushes, rollers and pans in the sink.
- Wash your car on the lawn or at a carwash.
- Reduce toxic substance usage around your home and on the lawn and garden.
- Never put motor oil, antifreeze, pet waste or anything else in storm drains.
- Reduce your use of fertilizers, pesticides and other chemicals on your lawn and garden.
- Keep your lawn 3 inches or higher to aid in water filtration.

Get involved with your local conservation / watershed group and take part in keeping your watershed clean and healthy.

Euclid Creek Partners

Euclid Creek Watershed Council

(Mayfield Hts. is a Watershed Council member)

Friends of Euclid Creek

Cuyahoga Soil & Conservation District

Euclid Creek Watershed Coordinator



Claire Posius

6100 West Canal Road
Valley View, Ohio 44125

216-524-6580x16; cposius@cuyahogawcd.org

Euclid Creek Website: www.cuyahogawcd.org

Click on Services - Watershed Programs - Euclid Creek



City of Mayfield Heights

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www.mayfieldheights.org