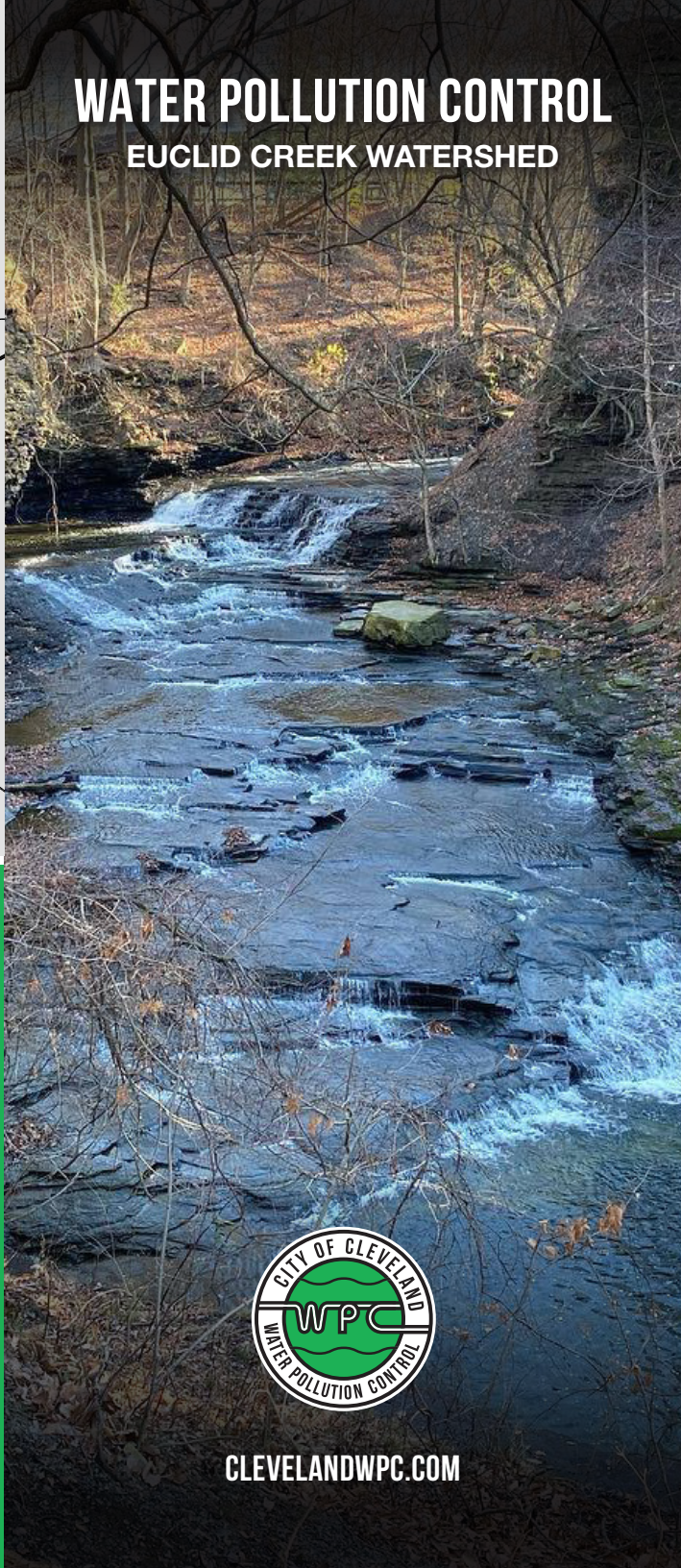
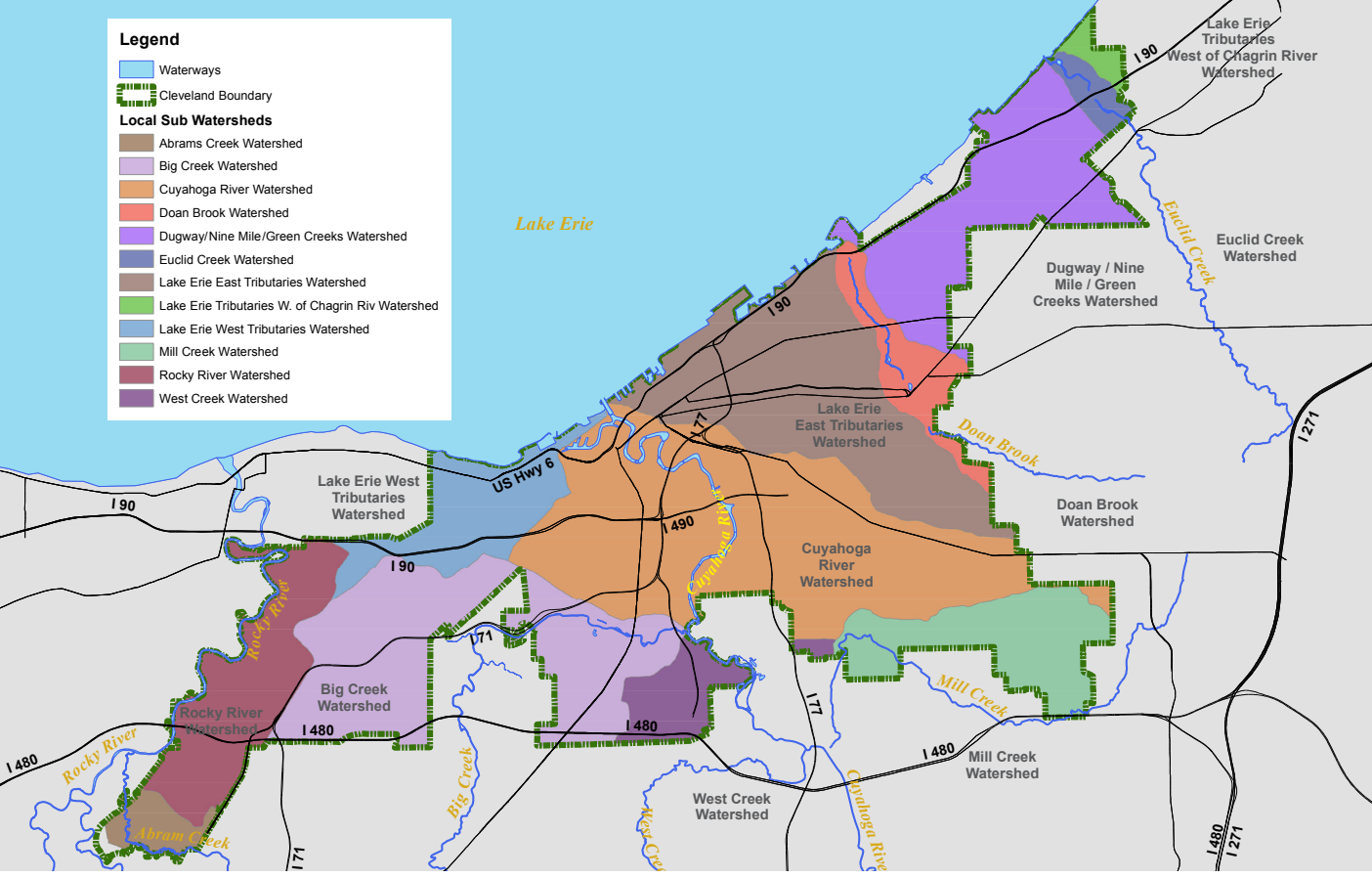


**Legend**

- Waterways
- Cleveland Boundary
- Local Sub Watersheds**
  - Abrams Creek Watershed
  - Big Creek Watershed
  - Cuyahoga River Watershed
  - Doan Brook Watershed
  - Dugway/Nine Mile/Green Creeks Watershed
  - Euclid Creek Watershed
  - Lake Erie East Tributaries Watershed
  - Lake Erie Tributaries W. of Chagrin Riv Watershed
  - Lake Erie West Tributaries Watershed
  - Mill Creek Watershed
  - Rocky River Watershed
  - West Creek Watershed



# WATER POLLUTION CONTROL

## EUCLID CREEK WATERSHED

“While many big-ticket items, such as updating septic systems and sewers have been addressed, Euclid Creek still has water quality impairments typical of a highly developed watershed. People need to understand how their actions on the land affect water quality.”

– Elizabeth Hiser, Euclid Creek Watershed Program Coordinator.

To learn more about stormwater management, visit the Cleveland Water Pollution Control website at [clevelandwpc.com](http://clevelandwpc.com)



**WATER POLLUTION CONTROL**

12302 Kirby Avenue • Cleveland, Ohio 44108  
216.664.2513 | [clevelandwpc.com](http://clevelandwpc.com)



[CLEVELANDWPC.COM](http://CLEVELANDWPC.COM)

Cover photo courtesy of Friends of Euclid Creek.

## WHAT IS A WATERSHED?

A watershed is an area of land that drains, or sheds, rain and snowmelt into a specific larger waterway, such as a river or lake. Everyone lives in a watershed, and our actions on the land have a significant impact on water quality.

The largest watershed in Northeast Ohio is Lake Erie Watershed, which is made up of dozens of smaller watersheds. Protecting the Lake Erie watershed is important to the environment, public health and the economic well-being of Greater Cleveland. Lake Erie is Northeast Ohio's source of drinking water and major fishing and water recreation area.

Non-point source water pollution is the biggest threat to watersheds. When stormwater (rain or snow melt) flows over the ground it carries away natural and human pollutants from sidewalks, parking lots, yards and construction sites. That water flows to a nearby waterway and eventually makes its way to Lake Erie. Common non-point source pollutants are automobile fluids, paint, pet waste, cigarette butts, and even soil.

Stormwater runoff can result in flooded streets and properties, sewer overflows, land erosion, and polluted waterways.

## ABOUT EUCLID CREEK WATERSHED

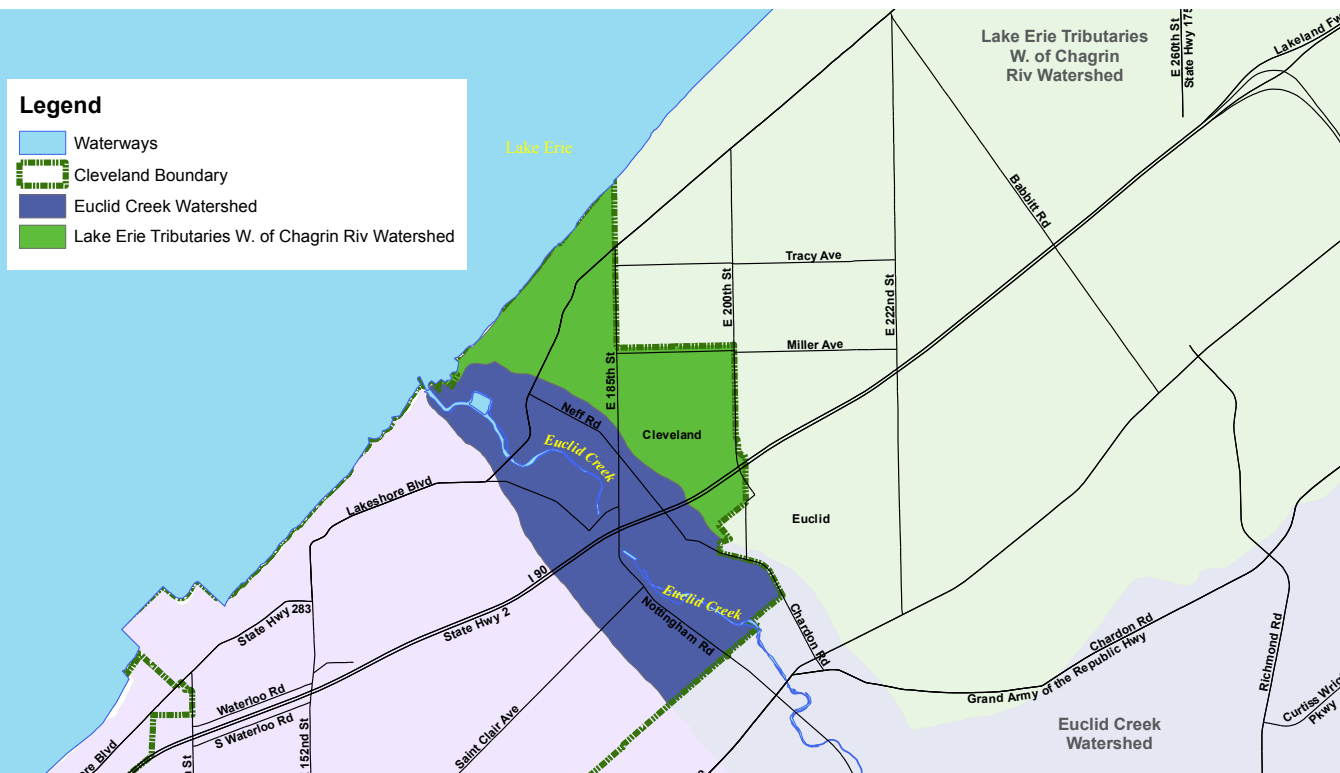
The Euclid Creek Watershed is one of the most densely populated and highly developed watersheds (85%) along Ohio's Lake Erie coastline. Cleveland makes up only about one square mile of the watershed, but because of the large urban landscape of impervious/impenetrable surface, stormwater runoff creates poor water quality, and flooding and erosion are major concerns. Some areas of the watershed drain directly to Lake Erie or its tributaries untreated.

Cleveland is one of 11 communities located within the Euclid Creek Watershed, which encompasses 24 square miles in northeastern Cuyahoga County and a part of Lake County. The Euclid Creek itself includes more than 40 miles of stream (30 miles open channel and 10 miles culverted/underground).

Explore *How's My Waterway?* at <https://mywaterway.epa.gov> to learn about the current water quality of Euclid Creek Watershed.

## HOW YOU CAN HELP PROTECT YOUR WATERSHED

- Treat waterways with respect—all life depends on it.
- Pick up trash, such as snack wrappers, Styrofoam and plastics.
- Avoid using pesticides, herbicides, and anti-bacterial products—they end up in water and harm wildlife.
- Reduce pervious pavements and create more green spaces to let the rain soak into the ground so soil bacteria can break down pollutants.
- Remove invasive weeds without using pesticides.
- Use native plants in your garden.
- Pick up your dog and cat poop and dispose of it in the trash.
- Wash vehicles at a car wash so detergents and toxins can drain into a bay.
- Recycle used oil, paint and other hazardous materials properly. Do not pour them down house or street drains.
- Use a rain barrel to capture rainwater and gray water for landscaping and gardening.
- Plan and/or participate in water quality events, such as stream or neighborhood cleanups.
- Join a watershed group; learn more and help educate others.



## FRIENDS OF EUCLID CREEK

Friends<sup>of</sup>euclidcreek@gmail.com

P.O. Box 21384  
South Euclid, OH 44121

[www.friends<sup>of</sup>euclidcreek.com](http://www.friends<sup>of</sup>euclidcreek.com)