

# WOLF CREEK STREAM TEAM

# Stream Team Times

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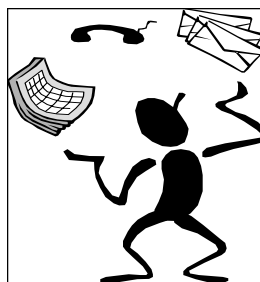
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## Members Lending More Skills, Time

One of the many ideas that came out of our December meeting was creating additional volunteer jobs in addition to stream monitoring. A short job description for each of these has been published on the District web site, and will be included on the updated Stream Team web site.

Members have stepped up to assist with some of these extra job duties. Rich has taken an interest in examining zoning issues pertaining to Low Impact Development. As I've begun finishing out the revamped web site, Steve Krieg has provided lots of timely advice to help me learn about some of the new features.



*Multi-Tasking: the new lifestyle of our technical culture....*

Nancy Bain attended a meeting with me and two Ohio EPA staff to start organizing our collected stream data for analysis. Gus Kamphaus and Trish Brechlin want to help the data analysis. But of course electronic data entry comes first.

Deb Hull and Meko Boose are going to help with that. Once we secure some nonpoint source pollution brochures, they will be printable from the web site, and Mary Ann Moore is interested in helping with distribution.

Nancy Bain has offered her talents as a former English teacher; see her most interesting contribution to Creature Corner on page 3.

As always, I think we have a lot to be proud of and a lot to look forward to. It will be increasingly important to highlight our accomplishments to the SWCD Board of Supervisors as budgets get tighter.

## Meko's Pictures

Most of you haven't met Meko yet. She's from Brookville, and saw a newspaper article about us last year. We did some one on one training for stream monitoring, and she then accompanied Steve and Rich last fall.

This year, she's probably going to 'float' between the Westbrook and North Branch sites (you all know how it is with schedules!)

Meko is also interested in photography. For that matter, Steve Krieg is too. Some of you may know of his Natural Moments web site. How fortunate we are to have two folks on our team

who are interested in photography (Do you think we might designate them our official public relations staff?) Visual images are a powerful way to get our message out to the larger community about watershed stewardship.

So, if any other team members come up with ideas on good subjects for photographs that can help the public better understand water quality issues, then you need to let us know. Such photographs would be used on the Stream Team web site and newsletter, MSWCD newsletter and/or newspaper feature articles.



Steve and Rich at the Westbrook site last season



The Westbrook site is at the corner of Westbrook and Wolf Creek Pike in Brookville



This is the new logo on the Stream Team website home page

*“More than a thousand U.S. water bodies have been identified as impaired, and in many cases the cause is unknown.”*



Building Community  
Protecting Water

## Stream Team Web Site

It's coming along slowly but surely—really! Besides, good things take time (ok I'm out of clichés).

After some electronic issues, I finally had UD Student Muhtadi Islam just send me the web site files on a CD through regular mail. Well, now there's a copy of that on its way to Steve Krieg so that we can figure out how to create some web pages for members only that are password protected. These pages would contain things like Stream Team member contact information, and a bulletin board for

posting messages to which everyone on the team could read and respond. This is affectionately referred to as a web log or blog... It's kind of like a big group email, but better. The members pages can also contain our current season data sheet for each site, so you can see what's going on elsewhere in the watershed. This would be “raw” data of course, that wouldn't make sense to the general public; underscoring the difference between data and information. Raw data needs to be analyzed

and interpreted for it to be useful to the larger community. Anyway, here's the really good news: we now have the official registered domain name of [www.wolfcreekstreamteam.org](http://www.wolfcreekstreamteam.org)! How's that for name recognition? And it only costs an extra \$15 per year because we are using the same web hosting service that Montgomery SWCD uses. It's actually on the same account, but the stream team now has its own stand-alone web site. Note that the address on the back page of this newsletter won't be published for at least a few more weeks.

## EPA Releases New Tool that Examines Causes of Stream Impairment

To improve the nation's waters, EPA has released a new web-based tool, the Causal Analysis/Diagnosis Decision Information System (CADDIS) which simplifies determining the cause of contamination in impaired rivers, streams, and estuaries. An impaired body of water does not meet the state or federal water quality standards for one or more pollutants. More than a

thousand U.S. water bodies have been identified as impaired, and in many cases the cause is unknown. There are many possible sources of pollution such as industrial waste, municipal sewage, agricultural runoff, naturally occurring mineral in rock and sand, and biological materials. Before restorative or remedial actions can be taken, the cause of impairment must be determined. By helping to find

the source of contamination, state and local organizations will be better able to implement the Clean Water Act. The version of CADDIS just released is the first of three. Future versions will include modules to quantify stressor-response relationships, and databases and syntheses of relevant literature on sediments and toxic metals. CADDIS is available on EPA's website at <http://www.epa.gov/caddis>

## District Promotes Low Impact Development (LID)

It all began with the May 27th, 2004 flood event, south of Brookville. Of course that wasn't the only place in the watershed that had flooding. But that's where Chris D'Amico lives, and she decided to take action. What started as a concern for protecting her own property has turned

into a full-scale initiative to begin working with local governments in the Wolf Creek Basin to address water quantity and quality.

We all know how land use affects our stream. The next challenge is to educate the development community about designs

that actually save money and do a better job of infiltrating and storing storm water. MSWCD is partnering with Miami Conservancy to work with our local governments; we will be providing assistance and other incentives to implement LID designs into new development projects.

# Creature Corner :

# Mayflies

## TEN REASONS TO LIKE MAYFLIES

By Nancy Bain

1. They come in three dandy shapes: 1) a tiny nymph stage (less than 1/2 inch) that lives underwater with some species climbing around plants and others clinging to objects on the bottom of ponds or streams; 2) a dull subimago form that occurs when the nymph matures, floats to the surface, and sheds its first skin; 3) then a second moult revealing the imago (adult) that is a sexy shiny lacy-winged reproduction-crazy insect (about 1") that stream waders love to see.
2. They aren't really flies.
3. They have their own order (Ephemeroptera) in which about 500 species occur in North America.
4. You can truthfully call them "pond scum." In some areas around the beginning of June so many imagos die after reproducing that their bodies pile up to as much as a foot deep.
5. You can call them spineless--because they are! We call them macroinvertebrates because although tiny creatures, they are big enough to be seen with the naked eye and lack vertebrae (bony or cartilaginous segments composing the spinal column).



**Order**  
**Ephemeroptera**  
**Class I – Pollution**  
**sensitive**

6. You can clap your hands with glee whenever you see mayflies. Since they're intolerant to water pollution, mayflies mean the water is clean—good for the mayfly and good for you

7. The nymph can flatten itself like Spiderman against a rock and hold on to slick surfaces with the strong claws they have on their feet to keep from being washed away in a strong current.

8. The nymphs can increase oxygen absorption by moving the gills found alongside their abdomen.

9. Adult mayflies are lovely to behold! They hold their lacy, translucent wings together over their backs and display feathery tail appendages, called cerci, that they inherited from their nymph stage and probably use for reproduction. Nymphs and imagos have usually three, but sometimes two, cerci.

10. They taste yummy—at least to fish and insect predators.

## Issues of Concern

Like *Creature Corner*, this piece has potential to become a regular feature in *The Stream Team Times*. Jim Henderson brought the following items to my attention.

The Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) has begun using a new de-icing chemical that can be described as a brine solution.

Jim said he might make some phone calls to find out why ODOT changed to this chemical, and what the environmental impact might be.

Secondly, ODOT is widening I-70 to 3 lanes all the way out to Brookville. By paving over the median strip, how will this extra impervious surface affect the amount of runoff in the Wolf Creek Watershed?

Is this being addressed? As usual, these are complex questions, the answers to which will require some research and networking. The same methods would be needed to find ways to mitigate negative impacts, presumably through LID type designs.



**Problem Solving**  
**Begins with Asking**  
**Questions.**



## Wolf Creek Stream Team

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*The Wolf Creek Stream Team is **citizen stewards** joined by our common concern for the health of the Wolf Creek watershed. We are committed to providing long term monitoring data and learning opportunities to the communities of the Wolf Creek Watershed. We are working to **raise public awareness** of and involvement in **water quality issues**, in order to protect, restore and enhance our common water resources for public health, recreation, and wildlife habitat.*

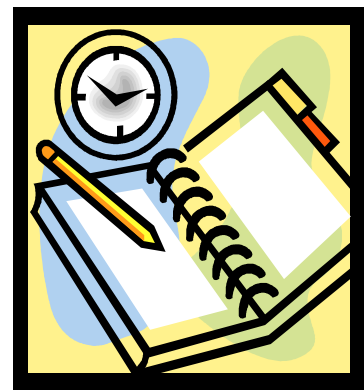


## Next Quarterly Volunteer Meeting Friday March 3rd

As of press time, 11 of 13 members have responded, 10 of which are planning to attend. The consensus for our meeting place is Rob's Restaurant in Brookville. We'll plan to get together at 6:30 pm.

Sorry about the long drive for Nancy and Trish - you're such good sports! I'm sure we will have lots of things to talk about, but don't forget to bring your calendars so we can schedule dates for monitoring our sites.

If you come into Brookville on Wolf Creek Pike—just stay on that street until you come to a 'T' at Arlington Rd. Veer right and go through the light at Upper Lewisburg-Salem Rd. The restaurant is on the left side just past the light.



**See You at Rob's  
Restaurant!**