

Ted Strickland, Governor  
Ed Hammett, Executive Director

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**For Immediate Release**

August 31, 2009

**COASTWEEKS CLEAN-UPS WILL IMPROVE WATERWAY HEALTH,  
BEAUTIFY ERIE SHORE**

*Clean-ups slated throughout September, including International Coastal Clean-Up Day September 19*

**TOLEDO, OH** - During the 2009 Coastweeks observance, Ohioans will focus on the preservation and protection of Lake Erie and its watershed through a variety of cleanup events along the shoreline and throughout its watershed. Many clean-ups are scheduled for International Coastal Clean-Up Day, September 19, when people around the world will remove trash and debris to promote waterway health and improve the natural beauty of the shoreline.

Coastweeks is a celebration of Lake Erie's diverse coastal region and the cultural and economic resources that contribute to the quality of life and vitality of the region. Lake Erie has influenced the growth of Ohio through productive agricultural lands, industries, international harbors and as a recreational destination.

This year, Coastweeks focuses on the theme, "I Can Help Lake Erie." The program encourages people to give back by recognizing and advocating resource protection while balancing economic, cultural and environmental interests.

Special Coastweeks clean-ups include:

**September 12** - 13th Annual Clean Your Streams Day, 8 a.m. [www.PartnersForCleanStreams.org](http://www.PartnersForCleanStreams.org).

- Highland Park Shelter House, Toledo
- Olander Park Shelter House, Sylvania
- University of Toledo Library, Toledo
- St. Frances DeSales High School, Toledo
- International Park, Toledo
- Lake Township Friendship Park Shelter House, Millbury
- Oregon Municipal Building, Oregon
- Washington Twp. Fire Station, Toledo

**September 12** - Walnut Beach Cleanup in Ashtabula, 9 a.m. Contact: [zarap@earthlink.net](mailto:zarap@earthlink.net).

**September 12** - Brunswick Area Stream Cleanup in Brunswick, 9 a.m. Contact: Ed Kelly, [edkelly2005@msn.com](mailto:edkelly2005@msn.com) or Andy Hudak, 330-558-6835.

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**September 12** - Maumee Bay State Park in Oregon, 10 a.m. RSVP 419-836-9117. Contact: [dkbollin@accesstoledo.com](mailto:dkbollin@accesstoledo.com).

**September 12** - Euclid Creek Cleanup in Cleveland, 10 a.m. Event co-sponsored by Cuyahoga County SWCD. Contact Carol: [clsp.naturalist@dnr.state.oh.us](mailto:clsp.naturalist@dnr.state.oh.us) or 216-881-8141 x 3001.

**September 12** - Magee Marsh Beach Cleanup in Oak Harbor, 10 a.m. Lunch sponsored by Friends of Magee Marsh. Contact Mary Warren at [mary.warren@dnr.state.oh.us](mailto:mary.warren@dnr.state.oh.us) or 419-898-0960 ext. 31.

**September 19** – Euclid Beach Cleanup organized by Cleveland Metroparks Zoo Crew in Euclid, 9 a.m. Contact D’Edra: [det@clevelandmetroparks.com](mailto:det@clevelandmetroparks.com) or call 216-661-6500 x 4009. This cleanup will also feature the Adopt-A-Beach Monitoring Program with the Alliance for the Great Lakes.

**September 19** - Mentor Marsh Trails Cleanup in Mentor, 8 a.m. Contact Becky: [rdonalds@cmnh.org](mailto:rdonalds@cmnh.org) or call 440-257-0777.

**September 19** - Keep Mentor Beautiful in Mentor, 8:30 a.m. Contact Bonnie: [rice@cityofmentor.com](mailto:rice@cityofmentor.com) or 440-974-5780.

**September 19** - Old Woman Creek and Erie County Streams Cleanup in Huron at 9 a.m. Contact Phoebe: [phoebe.vanzoest@dnr.state.oh.us](mailto:phoebe.vanzoest@dnr.state.oh.us) or 419-433-4601.

**September 19** - Rockefeller Lagoon Cleanup in Cleveland, 10 a.m. Contact Victoria: [mills@shakerlakes.org](mailto:mills@shakerlakes.org) or 216-321-5935 x 234.

**September 19** - Sheldon Marsh Beach Cleanup in Huron, 10 a.m. Contact John McFadden, 440-839-1561

**September 19** - Beach Blitz-2009 in Lakeside, 10 a.m. Contact Dave: [dave.ferguson@dnr.state.oh.us](mailto:dave.ferguson@dnr.state.oh.us).

**September 21** - Put-in-Bay Clean-Up at 9 a.m. Wanted: Scuba Divers and Land Volunteers. Additional info at: <http://www.diveputinbay.com> or call Samantha at 330-819-4696.

The Ohio Lake Erie Commission coordinates Ohio’s observance of International Coastal Clean-Up Day and Coastweeks 2009. Through these programs, thousands of Ohioans find solutions for litter that pollutes beaches, streams and tributaries.

Environmental organizations, schools, scout groups, clubs, community groups and individuals throughout Ohio’s Lake Erie watershed are encouraged to get involved in this year’s Coastweeks by participating in or organizing an event.

Visit the [OLEC Web site](#) or call 419-245-2514 to learn more about the 2009 Coastweeks program and how you and your community can get involved.

The Ohio Lake Erie Commission was established for the purpose of preserving Lake Erie’s natural resources, protecting the quality of its waters and ecosystem, and promoting economic development in the region. The director of the Ohio Department of Natural Resources serves as the commission’s

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chairman. Additional members include the directors of the state departments of Transportation, Health, Development, Agriculture and the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency.

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