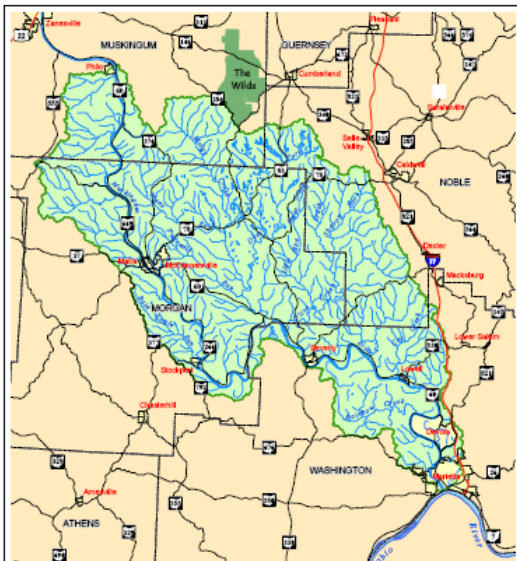


The Lower Muskingum Watershed

The Muskingum River drains the eastern third of the state of Ohio, and is the largest watershed within the state.

The Lower Muskingum River is arbitrarily defined as that portion of the river from Philo to Marietta, which is 68 river miles. The Lower Muskingum Watershed contains a drainage area of 638.1 square miles and includes parts of Morgan, Muskingum, Noble and Washington counties.

The watershed is primarily rural with villages and small towns comprising only 1% of the total land area, while forest covers approximately 60% of the watershed.



Mission

Friends of Lower Muskingum River is committed to improving water quality in the river, and co-operating with other organizations and individuals to achieve sound watershed management to protect the river while promoting economic development and recreational use.

Our educational outreach programs address the need to improve water quality, promote the use of best management practices, and encourage sustainable development along the river and its tributaries.

As a land trust, we are involved in acquiring land as well as land preservation agreements (conservation easements) from concerned landowners. In both cases, our objective is to restore, preserve and protect natural areas and farmland along the lower Muskingum.

To pursue this mission, Friends of Lower Muskingum River, Inc. was established as a 501(c)(3) IRS-qualified non-profit corporation, and as a land trust.

Meetings

FLMR holds monthly meetings to discuss issues pertinent to the watershed. Guest speakers often lead discussions about the Muskingum River and its surroundings. Anyone interested is encouraged to attend.

Meetings are held the 4th Thursday of the month at 7 pm at Washington State Community College, 710 Colegate Drive, Marietta, Ohio. Meeting times and locations may vary, so call FLMR at 740-374-4170 or Marilyn Ortt at 740-373-3372 for information.

Membership

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: (____) _____

E-mail: _____

Check if you would like to receive meeting announcements, newsletters, etc. We prefer to send them by email rather than postal mail.

<u>Membership Level</u>	<u>Annual Dues</u>
Individual	\$15
Family	\$25
Non-profit Organization	\$50
Corporate	\$100

Dues _____
 Donation _____
 Total enclosed _____

Please make checks payable to:
 Friends of Lower Muskingum River
 Mail to: Quincy Robe, Treasurer, FLMR
 P. O. Box 31, Malta, OH 43758



Volunteers are at the heart of our organization. If you are interested in sharing your skills, or learning new ones, please contact FLMR

A Local Land Trust

Land Trusts Have A Variety Of Functions:

- Work with landowners interested in conservation and preservation of natural areas.
- Acquire land through land donation, life estate plans, transfer-on-death deeds, direct purchase, or bargain sale.
- Hold and enforce conservation easements, which permanently limit how the land can be used, as directed by the landowner who created the easement.
- Serve as a tool for those private landowners who want to be stewards of the land, who understand the value of natural areas, and who want to leave an enduring legacy.

Friends of Lower Muskingum River, Inc. is a land trust. For more information, or to discuss the future of a piece of property, please contact Quincy Robe at 740-962-6511 or Marilyn Ortt at 740-373-3372.



The Muskingum River contains some of the largest and most diverse mussel beds in the United States. Photo by USFWS.

Rev. 01/2007

Achievements

In cooperation with the Institute for Local Government Administration and Rural Development (ILGARD), helped to create a management plan for the Meigs Creek watershed, one of the largest subwatersheds of the lower Muskingum River.

Acquired land that contains a breeding population of eastern spadefoot toad, which is designated as Endangered in Ohio.

Hosted numerous educational programs, including demonstrations of fish population sampling by means of electro-shocking, by Ohio EPA; and a presentation on the design and history of the Muskingum River locks, by the Muskingum River Parkway.

Offer classes for children, at local libraries, on various aspects of watersheds and conduct tours, open to the public, of various parts of the watershed.

Coordinated a number of clean-up events to pick up trash from selected areas of river frontage.

Received donation of a conservation easement protecting approximately 30 acres near Luke Chute Dam and, through Clean Ohio Conservation Fund, purchased another 30-acre tract on the Muskingum River near Luke Chute Dam, on State Route 266. Volunteers have developed several miles of beautiful walking trails, now open to the public.

Purchased through Clean Ohio Conservation Fund and manage a 16-acre tract and a 20-acre tract adjacent to the Muskingum River in Washington County.

Participated in a study designed to determine whether lay volunteers can reliably perform testing for water-borne bacteria, thereby speeding up the testing and reducing the cost. Results were positive.

In partnership with AEP Ohio, received a grant from the Ohio Environmental Education Fund of the Ohio EPA, for educational workshops and installation of identifying signs in the Meigs Creek watershed.

Friends of Lower Muskingum River, Inc.



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