



# Monday Creek Restoration Project

"We All Live Downstream"

A Project of Rural Action

## Up The Creek — eNewsletter

### Coe Hollow Project Site

The Wayne National Forest Watershed Group has helped to significantly improve water quality in Coe Hollow, by recently restoring the abandoned mine location in Athens County, York Township.

The project closed several subsidence's on the site and reduced the impact of acid mine drainage (AMD) by constructing four large limestone dams. The dams are helping neutralize AMD by discharging the water into a wetland area. The watershed restoration project is already seeing improvements in the quality of the water. The pH, once 3.0, is now at 6.0, a level that can sustain life for fish and other aquatic organisms.

Coal mining in Coe Hollow, as well as elsewhere in the Monday Creek Watershed, left scars and residual effects from mining activities that ceased prior to reclamation laws. The State of Ohio listed Coe Hollow as a priority watershed for reclamation in Monday Creek because it contributes roughly ten percent of the acidity found in the entire Monday Creek Watershed.

Coe Hollow includes 126 acres in the Monday Creek Watershed which was once part of an abandoned mine complex. Wayne National Forest manages all but six acres of Coe Hollow.

Financing for the Coe Hollow Project started in 2006 when the USDA Forest Service Eastern Region and the Wayne National Forest were successful in competing for national Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) funds. The CERCLA funds are intended to address abandoned mine land reclamation across the country.

Since 2001, the Wayne National Forest has completed 32 watershed restoration projects. The Forest currently has 5 projects underway, including the Upstream Rock Run Coal Mine Remediation Project near New Straitsville in Perry County.



### Upcoming Special Event!!

**We invite you to join us on Thursday, March 24, 2011 for a Friends of Monday Creek Meeting!**

Guest speaker Pat Quackenbush, Naturalist at Hocking Hills State Park, will present a **family-friendly** take on the life history and habitat requirements of Ohio's "Birds of Prey". If you have never heard Pat speak, we encourage you to come for the fun! Children will be sure to love the opportunity to view beautiful, live birds and hear about their unique behaviors.

The **pot-luck style** meeting will be held at Dunkle Hall in New Straitsville (SR 93, behind the Municipal building) from **6:30-8pm**. Please bring a dish to share. **ALL ARE INVITED AND ENCOURAGED TO COME!!**

### Future Events

**April 2** - Rural Action Adventure Auction, Hocking College Student Center 6:30-10pm

**April 28** - Friends of Monday Creek Meeting "Fishing the Creek", location TBA

**May 5** - Captina Creek Watershed Rally featuring Jack Hanna of the Columbus Zoo, St. Clairsville 4-7pm

**May 22** - Earth Day Green Event (EDGE), Athens 3-7pm

**May 13-15** - Nelsonville Music Festival, Robbins Crossing @ Hocking College

### March 2011



Coe Hollow limestone dams



Coe Hollow wetland area

### WATERSHED SUMMER DAY CAMP!!

It's time to start thinking about the Monday Creek Watershed Day Camp! This year's camp is July 18th to July 22nd and registration is limited to 50 participants. Youth will get to go fishing, take their own nature photography and learn about Monday Creek! Contact Education Coordinator Joe Brehm for more details at [joe@ruralaction.org](mailto:joe@ruralaction.org) or (740) 767-2225.

### Photo of the Creek

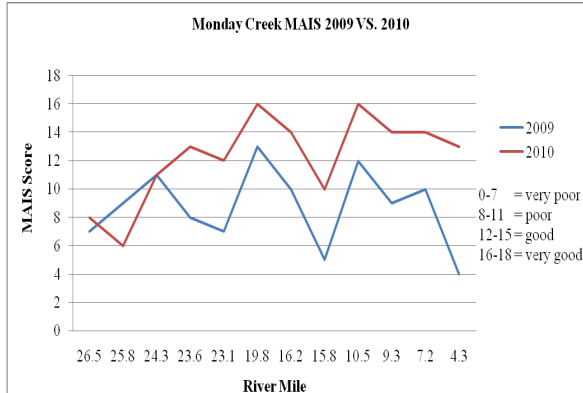


Former AmeriCorps members Matt Halfhill and Sarah Drerup and ODNR intern Derek Klein performing macroinvertebrate sampling during the 2010 season



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### Biological Improvements in Monday Creek



Improvements in the water quality in Monday Creek also mean improvements in the amount and type of aquatic life that inhabit the stream. Biological sampling conducted in 2010 showed significant improvements in the aquatic macroinvertebrate (insect) and fish communities. Aquatic macroinvertebrates are important indicators of stream quality because they are sensitive to changes in the ecosystem, many live in aquatic ecosystems for over one year, and they cannot easily escape changes in water quality. They help maintain the health of a stream by eating bacteria and dead, decaying plants and animals. Using the Macroinvertebrate Aggregated Index for Stream (MAIS)

sampling technique, several indicator species of high quality water, including stoneflies and mayflies, were found throughout most of Monday Creek.

Fish are also important indicators of water quality. By using an electrical current to briefly stun the fish (electroshocking), they can be easily captured and stored in a livewell before they are weighed, identified, and released back into the stream. Twenty-two native fish species (plus a couple hybrids) have been found throughout Monday Creek. These species include; redfin (grass) pickerel, rock bass, spotted bass, largemouth bass, bluegill, green sunfish, redear sunfish, white sucker, northern hog sucker, creek chub, spotfin shiner, striped shiner, silverjaw minnow, bluntnose minnow, central stoneroller, western blacknose dace, yellow bullhead, and five species of darters. The rainbow darter, an indicator of high quality water, was found for the first time in Monday Creek during the 2010 sampling event.



Rainbow Darter



### Support your local watershed, Become a Member!!

Fill out the following information, detach, and mail to MCRP Please make checks payable to Monday Creek Restoration Project

<b>MEMBERSHIP OPTIONS:</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> \$1000 Sustainer	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100 Supporting	<input type="checkbox"/> \$40 Individual
<input type="checkbox"/> \$500 Sponsor	<input type="checkbox"/> \$60 Family	<input type="checkbox"/> \$15 Basic Grassroots
<input type="checkbox"/> \$100 Business	<input type="checkbox"/> \$60 Nonprofit	
<b>PLEASE SPECIFY:</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> Donation	<input type="checkbox"/> Membership	<input type="checkbox"/> Both
<b>Name</b>		<b>Date</b>
<b>Organization</b>		
<b>Address</b>		
<b>Address 2</b>		
<b>City</b>	<b>State</b>	<b>ZIP</b>
<b>Phone</b>	<b>Email</b>	

To remove your name from our mailing list, please email [eliseq@ruralaction.org](mailto:eliseq@ruralaction.org)

Questions or comments? Contact us at [mcrp@mondaycreek.org](mailto:mcrp@mondaycreek.org), call 740-394-2047 or stop by the office at 115 W. Main Street, New Straitsville, OH 43766