

STORMWATER BASIN IMPROVEMENTS

West Creek Veterans Basin



West Creek was named after Thomas West who received 180 acres of land in this area after the First US Congress granted land to Revolutionary War soldiers on August 10, 1790. At that time, the Parma area was well-forested, with abundant wetlands and meandering streams. Over the past 200 years, as population increased, those streams and wetlands were removed or modified to make way for new development, impacting nature's ability to manage the effects of stormwater runoff.

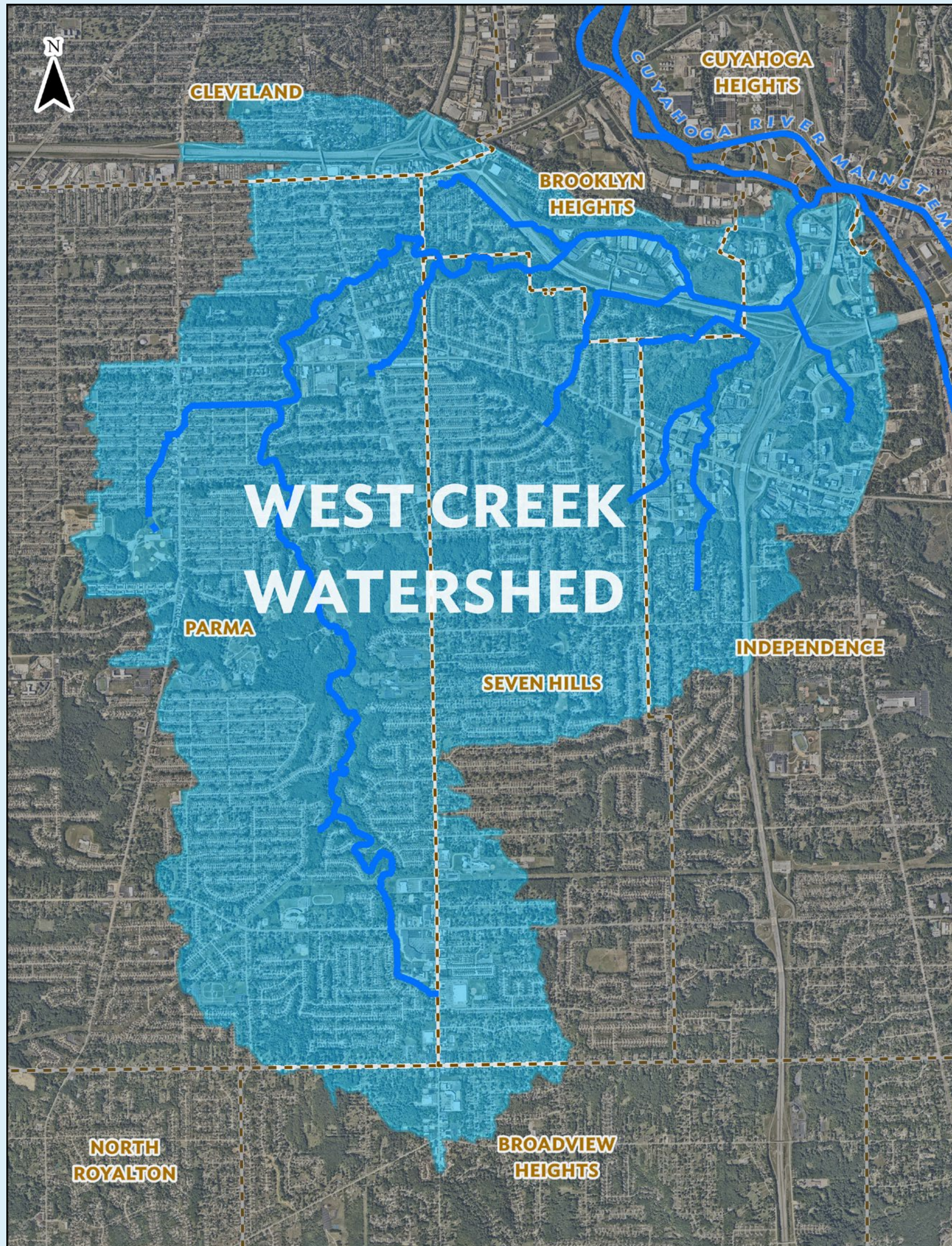
This project features constructed wetlands that will naturally filter out pollutants from stormwater runoff. The larger size of the basin also allows for more stormwater storage during rain events, reducing flooding to the north. The new path surrounding the basin connects the northern neighborhood to park amenities while offering scenic views of the diverse plants and animals that call these wetlands home.

 **Northeast
Ohio Regional
Sewer District**

**STORMWATER
MANAGEMENT
PROGRAM**

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When rain falls to the ground it moves downhill to the lowest point. That lowest point could be a river, creek, or lake. The area where water flows into the same lowest point is called a watershed. Right now, you are standing in the West Creek watershed, shown in blue to the left.

West Creek, which flows through Veterans Basin in front of you, eventually flows into the Cuyahoga River, and the Cuyahoga River flows into Lake Erie. Watersheds do not follow community boundaries, and so we manage our streams and rivers regionally.

What does that have to do with me?

Did you know that the water on Earth is older than the sun? We need it and rely on it for our existence. It's very important! You can help protect our waterways by throwing trash away in garbage cans to reduce pollution, picking up after your dogs, and using sidewalk salt in the winter only when necessary.

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Have you seen any of these pollinators?

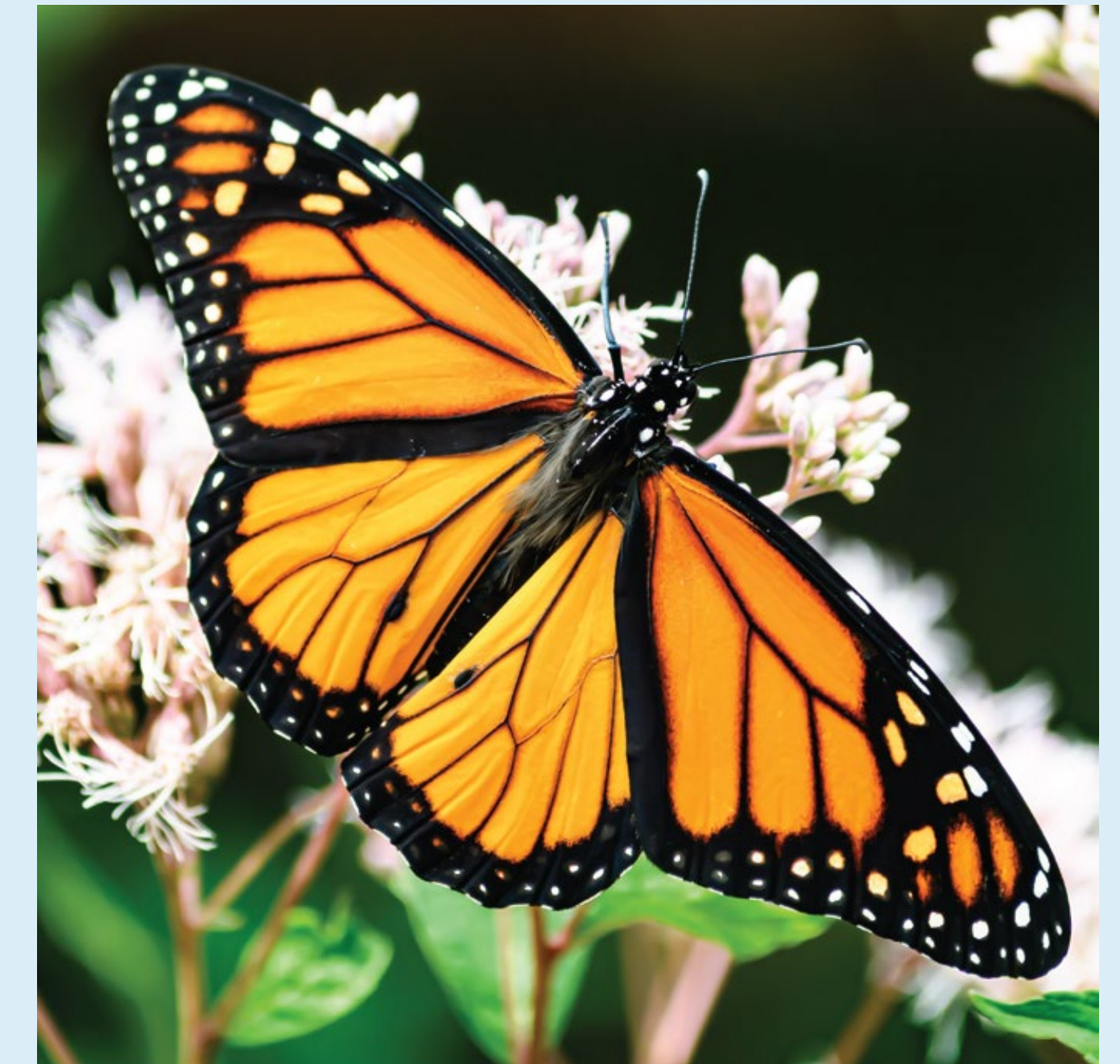
Bees, butterflies, beetles, birds, and bats are all pollinators and rely on plants that are native to their region for food. These plants rely on pollinators to transfer pollen from plant to plant to reproduce. Pollinators are vital in sustaining our local ecosystems and food crops.

While this stormwater basin's primary purpose is to collect and filter stormwater, it is also home to dozens of species of native plants, which will provide food, shelter, and habitat to these pollinators.

You can help support pollinators at home by landscaping with plants native to Ohio, avoiding the use of insecticides, and providing a water source like a shallow dish of water with rocks.



STRIPED SWEAT BEE



MONARCH BUTTERFLY



**RUBY THROATED
HUMMINGBIRD**



LO MOTH

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Wild about wetlands!

Wetlands are areas of land that have water covering the soil for all or part of the year. They provide habitat for a diverse ecosystem of plants and animals.

To create this wetland habitat in front of you, over 50 native species were planted, totaling 4,000 wetland plants, including a variety of wetland seedlings, seeds, trees, and shrubs.

Wetlands play an important role by capturing and filtering stormwater, storing carbon instead of releasing it into the atmosphere as carbon dioxide, and more. This wetland was carefully designed to function as a natural treatment system within this stormwater basin.

Can you spot any of these plants or animals?



GREAT BLUE HERON



GREEN FROG



BLUE DASHER DRAGONFLY



SWAMP MALLOW