

Information

# FLOW



*Clockwise from left: RKW Blockwatch; Ohio Chapter of the Sierra Club members; Cub Scout Pack 466 of Lewis Center; a Sierra Club volunteer.*

## Adopt-an-Area Volunteers Make a Difference

On Earth Day, 87 volunteers made a difference at seven worksites along the Oolentangy River and its tributaries. Volunteers collected more than 50 bags of trash along with 3 old tires, 2 shopping carts, part of a set of bedsprings, and a garage door.

The April event kicked off FLOW's Adopt-An-Area of the Oolentangy Program, which is made possible by a grant from the Columbus Foundation. To participate in the program, businesses, schools, scouts, and neighborhood groups agree to adopt an area for clean-up. They may also conduct invasive plant removal and plant native trees and shrubs. Groups that conduct three or more workdays in a year will have a sign placed to recognize their efforts.

If your business or group would like more information about adopting an area, please contact [hdean@oolentangywatershed.org](mailto:hdean@oolentangywatershed.org) or 614-267-3386. Individuals and families are also welcome to participate in clean-ups and will be assigned to work at one of the existing sites. Thank you to the groups that have

already participated or have organized a clean-up in the near future:

- Aveda
- Battelle Rivers and Streams Team
- Cub Scout Pack 466 of Lewis Center
- Environment and Natural Resources Scholars
- Highbanks Metroparks Volunteers
- Isha Foundation
- RKW Blockwatch
- Serendipity Garden Club
- Sharon Heights Community Association
- Sierra Club, Central Ohio Chapter
- Taylor Tower Hall Council



EXPLORE



## Healthy Yards, Healthy Streams

Join FLOW for a six week course to learn how to protect our streams by making your own yard healthier, more beautiful, and safer for your family. Topics will include rain barrels, rain gardens, composting, low-impact lawn care, and backyard habitat. This program is made possible by a grant from the Columbus Foundation.

### Course dates:

- Section A: Full
- Section B: Monday evenings, from 6:30 to 8:30 PM, July 20 to August 24

Registration for section B will begin on June 30. No registrations will be accepted prior to that date. Based on previous years' experience, we expect that the demand for this course will be high, and registrations will be processed in the order in which they are received. Please go to our website at [www.olentangywatershed.org](http://www.olentangywatershed.org) to register by e-mail or call 614-267-3386 and leave your name and phone number. You will receive additional information, including locations, upon receipt of your registration.

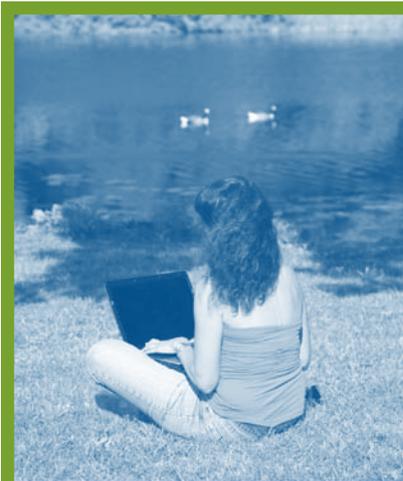
A \$15 fee course fee will cover six demonstration workshops and all written materials. The fee will be due within two weeks of registration. Participants who complete all six workshops will receive discount and cost share coupons with a value that exceeds the course fee. The cost share coupons may be applied to implementing any of the practices covered in the course (including rain barrels, rain gardens, composters, and native plantings). Course participants who are Columbus residents will also be eligible to receive a rain barrel at the cost share price of \$30.

## Rain Barrel Workshops

Rain barrels are a great way to conserve water and reduce your utility bills while at the same time helping to protect the Olentangy River and its tributaries. With funding from the City of Columbus, FLOW will once again offer our popular rain barrel workshops and cost share program.

The two-hour workshops are free and open to the public. Columbus residents who attend a workshop will be eligible to purchase a rain barrel at a cost share price of \$30. Residents of other municipalities may participate in the workshop, but, due to funding restrictions, they will not be eligible to receive the cost share price.

Due to the high demand in previous years, we have switched to a new registration system. Registrations will be accepted on a first come, first served basis. We recommend registering as early as possible in the process, as space is limited and workshops will fill quickly. Please go to our website at [www.olentangywatershed.org](http://www.olentangywatershed.org) to register by e-mail or call 614-267-3386 and leave your name and phone number.



## Contributors Needed for Watershed Wiki

FLOW's website has a new addition — a watershed wiki. Just like Wikipedia.org, the new site allows you to read articles, edit, and post information about the Olentangy River and its tributaries. This project is an evolving work in progress. Because we're just getting started, we are in need of volunteers to write articles, collect information, share observations, and contribute photos. Check it out at <http://wiki.olentangywatershed.org/home>. To become a volunteer wiki collaborator, please contact [hdean@olentangywatershed.org](mailto:hdean@olentangywatershed.org) or 614-267-3386.

# FLOW Calendar of Events, Meetings, and Volunteer Opportunities: Summer 2009

All times and dates are subject to change. Please confirm time, date, and location by calling our office at 614-267-3386 or on our website at [www.olentangywatershed.org](http://www.olentangywatershed.org)

## Rain Barrel Workshop – July 14

**What:** Workshop on installing and utilizing rain barrels. Participants who are residents of the City of Columbus will be eligible to purchase a barrel for \$30.

**When:** July 14, 7-9 PM

**Where:** Location in Columbus to be announced

Registration is required. Please go to [www.olentangywatershed.org](http://www.olentangywatershed.org) or call 614-267-3386 to register.

## Training for Stream Monitors in Qualitative Habitat Evaluation Index (QHEI) – July 18-19

**What:** Two-day training for stream monitors who will conduct habitat evaluation of streams in Delaware County as part of FLOW's MONITOR program.

**When:** July 18-19, all day

**Where:** Location in Delaware County to be announced

Registration is required and space is limited. Current MONITOR volunteers will be given preference, and remaining spaces will be filled based on the order in which registration was received. Please contact [hdean@olentangywatershed.org](mailto:hdean@olentangywatershed.org) or call 614-267-3386 for more details.

## Healthy Streams, Healthy Yards – July 20

**What:** First in a six week series on how to protect our streams by making your own yard healthier, more beautiful, and safer for your family.

**When:** July 20, 6:30-8:30 PM, and subsequent Monday evenings for six weeks

**Where:** Location to be announced

Registration is required. Please go to [www.olentangywatershed.org](http://www.olentangywatershed.org) or call 614-267-3386 to register.

## Rain Barrel Workshop – Aug. 13

**What:** Workshop on installing and utilizing rain barrels. Participants who are residents of the City of Columbus will be eligible to purchase a barrel for \$30.

**When:** August 13, 7-9 PM

**Where:** Location in Columbus to be announced

Registration is required. Please go to [www.olentangywatershed.org](http://www.olentangywatershed.org) or call 614-267-3386 to register.

## Rain Barrel Workshop – Sept. 19

**What:** Workshop on installing and utilizing rain barrels. Participants who are residents of the City of Columbus will be eligible to purchase a barrel for \$30.

**When:** September 19, 10 AM - Noon

**Where:** Location in Columbus to be announced

Registration is required. Please go to [www.olentangywatershed.org](http://www.olentangywatershed.org) or call 614-267-3386 to register.

JULY

AUGUST

SEPTEMBER

Understand

# FLOW

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Friends of the Lower Olentangy Watershed is a non-profit organization dedicated to keeping the Olentangy River clean and safe for all to enjoy through public education, volunteer activities, and coordination with local decision makers. FLOW is registered with the IRS as a tax-exempt, nonprofit charitable organization under Section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code. Donations are tax-deductible.

**Because FLOW is a small organization, we rely heavily on volunteer participation to create positive change in our watershed.** Please contact us for more information about how you can volunteer. We have a wide variety of opportunities to fit your schedule that will match your skills and interests.

FLOW is a member of Earth Share Ohio. You may donate to FLOW through Earth Share's workplace giving campaign, available at numerous private companies, state and municipal government agencies, and Combined Federal Campaigns. For more information about workplace giving, please contact us.



THE COLUMBUS FOUNDATION

**YES! I want to support FLOW for cleaner water!**

**Choose a membership:**

- Individual ..... \$25
- Family ..... \$40
- Supporting ..... \$50**
- River Steward ..... \$100
- Business Basic ..... \$175
- Bronze ..... \$200
- Silver ..... \$300
- Gold ..... \$500
- Sustaining ..... \$1,000

- Please check here if you would like more information about volunteering with FLOW.
- Please check here for more information about including FLOW in your estate planning.

**Return this form to:**

FLOW  
 3528 N. High St., Suite F  
 Columbus, OH 43214

Or give securely online at:  
[www.olentangywatershed.org](http://www.olentangywatershed.org)

**Fill in the following:**

- New Member
- Renewal
- Gift

Name(s):  
 Organization/Business:  
 Address:  
 City:  
 State:  
 Zip:  
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By providing your email, you will save resources and stay up-to-date on news and events.



Explore. Discover. Understand.

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