FISHING THE OLENTANGY
About Mike

- Central Ohio native
- 14 years of employment with City of Columbus
- Watershed Management Section
- Illicit Discharge & Elimination Group
- Wastewater Pretreatment & Stormwater Compliance

- Fishing since I was 8.
- Happily married with 4 kids
- Northland resident
PROTECTING YOUR STREAMS

- 614-645-STREAM (7873)

- PUP Initiative

- Olentangy Watershed special concerns:
  - Waterline breaks
  - Road & highway improvement
  - Utility projects
Water Leak Discharge (2014)
Olentangy Fishing +’s and –’s

“Think globally, Fish locally,”
- Joe Cornwall

Focus Area: Metro Columbus
(Powell Rd to Scioto Confluence)
OLENTANGY PLUSSES

- Quality
  - FISH OHIO Certificate – 3 likely species

- Access
  - Parks
  - Water trail
  - Openness of riverbanks (FLYFISHING)

- Safety
  - Few entrapments
  - Few log jams
  - Mostly wadable
Olentangy Minuses

- “Urban” Stream
- Fishable/Swimmable attainment
- Forage/Food limited by habitat and sediment

BUT The Good News Is.....

THE FISH ARE STILL THERE!
“First Flush” .25” Rain Event
Locating Fish To Catch

- “90/10” Principal

- 3 NEEDS (bass fishing)
  - Current
  - Depth – 3 feet
  - Rock
Locating Catchable Fish

3 “WANTS”

- Weeds And Roots
- Shade
- Variation (Bottom & Flow Variety)
Constructed “Wood Cover”
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Dams, Dam Removal & Gradient Controls

- Dams (2 near Antrim Park, 1 near North Broadway, 2 north of Dodridge Rd)
- Dam Removal (5th Avenue & Main Street (Scioto))
- Gradient Controls - 1 set in Worthington/ I270
  - 1 set near Broad Meadows Blvd.

• CONSIDER THE “3 NEEDS” and “3 WANTS” !!!!
5th Avenue Dam Removal

9/12/12
Dam Removal - Aftermath
Main Street Dam - Scioto River

DECEMBER 2013
Main Street Dam Removal

April 22, 2014
Nationwide Blvd Boat Ramp

5/24/2016
Gradient Controls
Gradient Control - Upstream
Bottom Composition- Rock Size
Gradient Controls – Bank Side
Gradient Controls - Downstream
SPECIES AND DISTRIBUTION


- Smallmouth Bass
  - Keeper size 12”
  - Fish Ohio Size 18”
  - Best Spot: Behind Antrim Lake.
SPECIES AND DISTRIBUTION

- Freshwater Drum (Carp)
- Fish Ohio 20”
- Best Spot: King to Lane Ave
SPECIES AND DISTRIBUTION

- Rock Bass
  - Fish Ohio Size: 9”
  - Best Spot: Park of Roses south to the dam

- Sunfish
  - Fish Ohio Size: 9”
  - Best Spot: Broad Meadows
Species and Distribution

- Saugeye

- Fish Ohio Size:
- Best Spot: Dodridge Dam
- Runner up: Nationwide boat ramp & north
General Fishing Tips

- Sunrise = Breakfast & Sunset = Dinner
- Water Clarity of 1 foot visibility or greater
- Water Temps in the 60’s and 70’s.
- Keep it simple
- MOVE
- TIGHT LINES
- ATTITUDE
  “YOU’RE FISHING, NOT CATCHING!!”
Basic Tackle Setups

- Rod Setups
- Live Bait
- Artificial Lures
Canoe and Kayak Fishing

- Anchors/Drags
- Safety First!
THE END