

Stormwater Watch: Winter 2018



City of
Delaware
Public Utilities
Department

This newsletter assists the City in meeting Minimum Control Measure (MCM) 1 as part of the stormwater permit issued by the Ohio EPA. It is funded through the City's storm water fund.

Upcoming 2019 Events:

Invasive Species Removal:
March 9, 10 am-noon at Mingo Park;
registration required to
ccicerchi@delawareohio.net

Earth Day Tree Planting:
April 22 at Mingo Park 4-6:30 pm

NOW Festival:
June 22, 2019

Olentangy River Sweep:
August 24, 2019

Watershed Resources:

[City of Delaware](http://CityofDelaware.org)
Delawareohio.net

[Olentangy Watershed Alliance](http://OlentangyWatershedAlliance.org)
Olentangyriver.org

[Delaware SWCD](http://DelawareSWCD.org)
Delawareswcd.org

[Sustainable Delaware Ohio](http://SustainableDelawareOhio.org)
Sustainabledelawareohio.org

[FLOW](http://FLOW.org)
olentangywatershed.org

6th Annual NOW Festival

The 6th Annual Northern Olentangy Watershed Festival will be held on Saturday, June 22, at Mingo Park, 500 E. Lincoln Avenue, Delaware. The festival encourages land and water stewardship with a focus on the Upper Olentangy River Watershed. The event will have food trucks, raffle prizes, information booths from environmental organizations, a rain barrel raffle, a rubber duck race on the Olentangy River, live river critters, and more! Please mark your calendar for this awesome, annual program.

Request for Rain Barrel Sponsors & Painters

As part of the NOW Festival, the annual rain barrel raffle will take place. The Public Utilities Department is now accepting requests to sponsor, sponsor and paint, or just paint rain barrels as part of the program. Rain barrels provide many benefits including:

- Reduced stormwater runoff
- A free/sustainable source of water for lawn and gardening care
- Reduced pollutants being carried into waterways
- Lower water bills
- They can be works of art!



The proceeds from the raffle will go to the Olentangy Watershed Alliance, a non-profit group dedicated to enhancing and preserving the Upper Olentangy River Watershed. The cost to sponsor a barrel is \$30, and there is no fee to be a painter. The City will assign each sponsored barrel to a local painter as needed. There are a limited number of barrels available, so requests will be taken on a first-come first-served basis. The deadline to submit a sponsorship form is April 12.

Please email Caroline Cicerchi at ccicerchi@delawareohio.net if you'd like to get involved in this opportunity!

Mingo Park Programs



On Saturday, March 9, from 10 am-noon the Public Utilities and Parks and Recreation Departments, in coordination with the Olentangy Watershed Alliance, will be hosting an invasive species removal event at Mingo Park. Invasive species are organisms that are not native to a particular area and typically cause harm to the ecosystem as a result. They are spread primarily by human activities, sometimes unintentionally. We will be removing bush honeysuckle at Mingo which was introduced in the mid-to-late 1800s from Europe and Asia for use as ornamentals, wildlife food and cover, and erosion control. These shrubs outcompete and shade out desirable native species. Honeysuckle is often spread by birds dropping seeds.

If you'd like to help improve park habitat, please register for this event by emailing Caroline Cicerchi at ccicerchi@delawareohio.net. Participants under the age of 18 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Supplies will be provided, but volunteers are welcome to bring their own gloves and handsaws. Please, no chainsaws. Close toed shoes are required.

Once the invasive honeysuckle is removed in March, Public Utilities, OWA, and Keep Delaware County Beautiful will be hosting a native tree planting event and litter clean-up in the same area of the park. This event will be on Earth Day, Monday, April 22, from 4-6:30 pm. Seedlings are being provided thanks to Green Columbus. All supplies will be provided. Participants under the age of 18 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Please contact the Watershed and Sustainability Coordinator with questions at the information below. Registration is required for this program.



Please register for this program following this link:

<https://earthdaycolumbus.givepulse.com/event/102921-Earth-Day-at-Mingo-Park>

Save the Date!

The Public Utilities Department will host two rain barrel workshops during First Fridays downtown on May 3 and June 7. Participants will receive coupons for 50-gallon EarthMinded barrels.



Tours

The City of Delaware's Public Utilities Department would like to extend an invitation to the public to tour our Wastewater and Water Treatment Plants. The Wastewater Treatment Plant is located at 225 Cherry Street and the Water Treatment Plant is located at 3080 US 23 North. The Water Treatment Plant is home to our **new** education center which supplements tours with an interactive exhibit detailing the history and science of an essential public utility. Please schedule your tour by contacting our Public Utilities Department at 740-203-1900.



*Protecting Public Health
Promoting Environmental Responsibility*

**City of Delaware
Public Utilities Department
MS4 Program**

For watershed information, contact:
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740-203-1905