

Green Infrastructure Champions Mentoring Network Webinar

January 18, 2018



Rain garden at The Enclave at Victoria Hills,
Ingersoll, ON



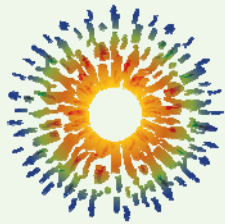
Green alley at Green Garage Detroit, Detroit, MI

Green Infrastructure Champions



Green Infrastructure Champions Mentoring Network

- Connects experienced green infrastructure practitioners with individuals that would like to bring green infrastructure to their communities
- Purpose: to foster the transfer of knowledge from experienced green infrastructure practitioners (*Pioneer Champions*) to a broader network of *Emerging Champions* who are eager to remove barriers and build capacity for GI but lack capacity or experience.
- Part of a Green Infrastructure Pioneer Champions Pilot Program
 - Funded by the Erb Family Foundation.
 - Included mini-grants for 5 Emerging Champions...we'll hear from them today
 - 11 other communities have joined the Mentoring Network.



Fred A. and Barbara M.
Erb Family Foundation

Green Infrastructure Champions



Refresher:

Who are the grantees?
Where are they?
And what are they doing?

We developed a [Story map](#)



Chagrin River Watershed Partners, OH

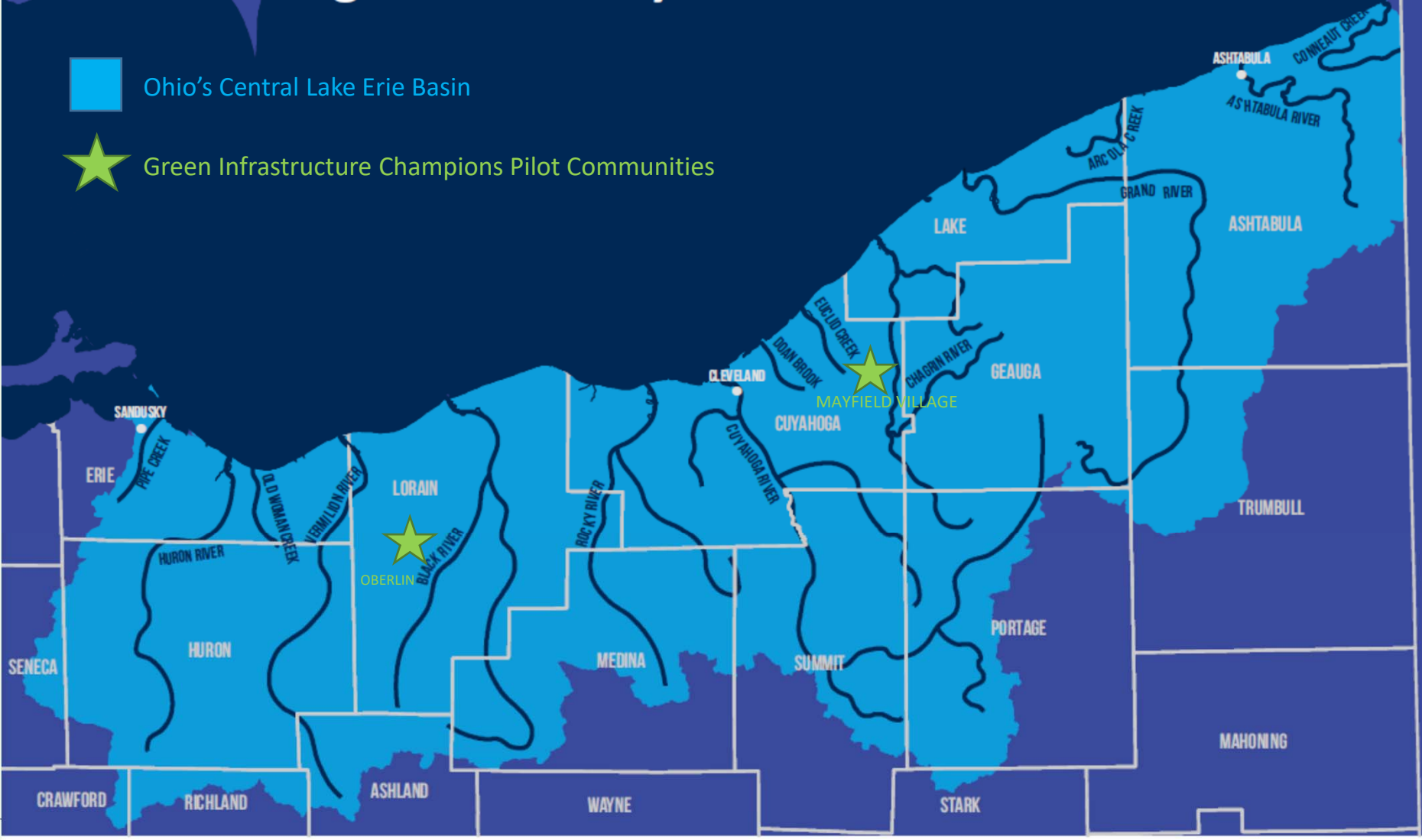
- Contact: Keely Davidson-Bennett
- Pioneer Champion (mentor): Bryan Stubbs, Cleveland Water Alliance, OH



Improving Green Infrastructure Policy & Planning in Ohio's Central Lake Erie Basin

Collaborating for a Healthy Lake Erie

- Ohio's Central Lake Erie Basin
- ★ Green Infrastructure Champions Pilot Communities



Improving Green Infrastructure Policy & Planning in Ohio's Central Lake Erie Basin

- Completed Tasks:
 - Kickoff meetings with Oberlin & Mayfield Village
 - Commented on Oberlin's stormwater regulations & provided draft stormwater ordinances
 - Drafted mailing for Mayfield Village businesses to increase participation in NEORSD's stormwater fee program



Improving Green Infrastructure Policy & Planning in Ohio's Central Lake Erie Basin

- Next steps:
 - Seek Mayfield Village & NEORSD feedback on business letter
 - Follow up with Oberlin
 - Review & comment on comprehensive plans & codes
 - Review & comment on proposed stormwater utility incentives for Oberlin



Improving Green Infrastructure Policy & Planning in Ohio's Central Lake Erie Basin

- Lessons learned:
 - Legal review is a major consideration for Oberlin's ordinances
 - Presenting to Mayfield Village's Chamber of Commerce is not an effective way to increase participation in NEORSD's fee credit program



Sanitary District of Michigan City, IN

- Contact: Michael Kuss
- Pioneer Champion (mentor): Elaine Sterrett Isely, Western Michigan Environmental Action Council (WMEAC), MI



Rainwater Rewards for Michigan City, Indiana

Engagement

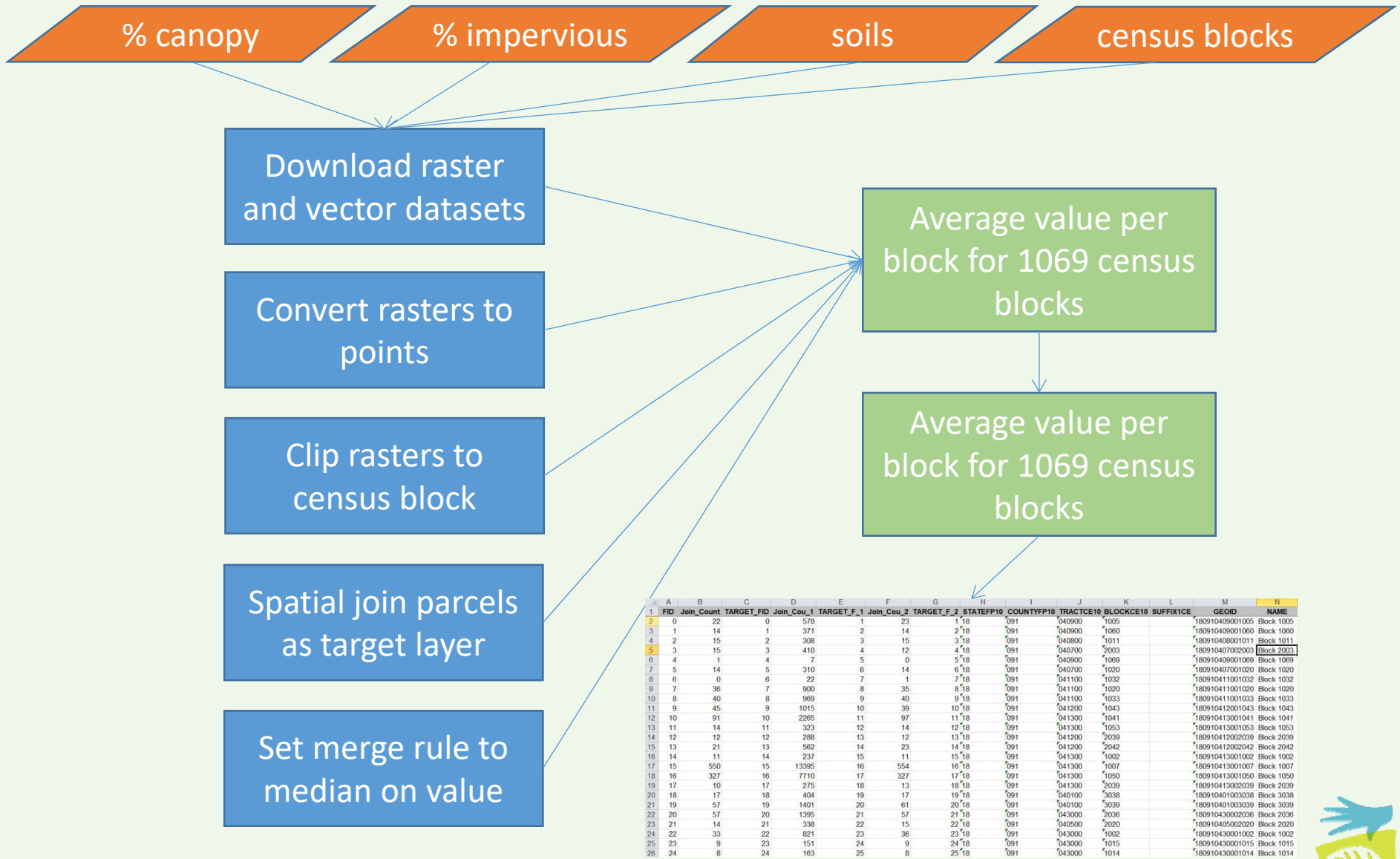
- Project Kick-Off and Team Introductions 12/8/17
- Team Meeting 2/1/18
- Project Introduction to Trail Creek Watershed Partnership 2/14/18
- Workshop, 5th Conference on the Environment 6/8/18



**RAINWATER
REWARDS**
presented by WMEAC



Data Workflow



Existing Green Infrastructure

Michigan Blvd Planters



Wabash Street
Rain Gardens



Village Green
Permeable Pavement



Upper Thames River Conservation Authority, ON

- Contact: Teresa Hollingsworth
- Pioneer Champion (mentor): Christine Zimmer,
Credit Valley Conservation, ON



LID School Installations and Stream of Dreams Program

Project:

- 1) to install 2 LID projects (swale and raingarden) in elementary school yards and 2) involve the students in these schools (3 in total) in the Stream of Dreams stormwater education program



Location of raingarden at Jeanne Sauve School



Location of swale between Louise Harbour and Northbrae Schools



Stream of Dreams – in the paint room



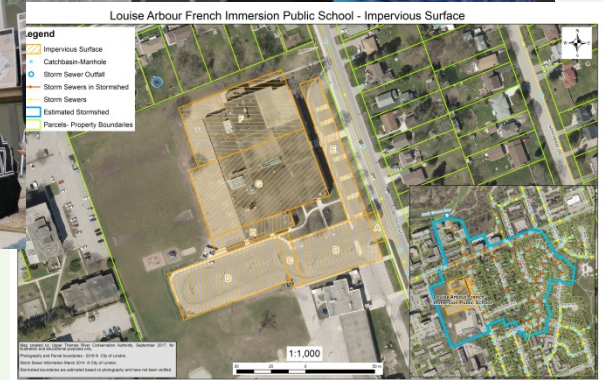
LID School Installations and Stream of Dreams Program

- Site visits with TVDSB representatives and school administration and custodial staff
- Surveys and site plans completed at each of the sites
- Meetings with community groups that support the Stream of Dreams Program



LID School Installations and Stream of Dreams Program

- Stream of Dreams program implementation at Louise Arbour and Northbrae Public Schools



LID School Installations and Stream of Dreams Program

Next Steps:

- Stream of Dreams at Jeanne Sauve Public School.
- Installation of the LIDs (end of March, early April) with involvement of students
- Professional development workshop for Grade 7 & 8 teachers (local impacts of climate change and the LID projects) LIDs as a teaching tool; lesson plans

Challenges encountered:

- Manager of facilities with TVDSB has left the position; new set of planning meetings
- Liaison with the City of London, permits, asphalt removal



City of Dearborn, MI

- Contact: Jeff Polkowski
- Pioneer Champion: Brandy Siedlaczek, City of Southfield, MI



Other Emerging Champions

Emerging Champion (Mentee)	Pioneer Champion (Mentor)
Friends of Grand Rapids Park, MI	Genesee/Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council, NY
CJDL Engineering, ON	Toronto Region Conservation, ON
Building Better, ON	REEP Green Solutions, ON
Long Point Region Conservation Authority, ON	Credit Valley Conservation and Upper Thames River Conservation Authority, ON
MTE Consultants, ON	Toronto Region Conservation, ON
Southwest Michigan Planning Commission, MI	FTCH and Drummond Carpenter, MI
Friends of the Rouge, MI	Drummond Carpenter, MI
City of Flint, MI	City of Toledo, OH
City of Berkely, MI	Friends of the Rouge, MI
City of Ashland, WI	Genesee/Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council, NY
City of Huntington Woods, MI	Tetra Tech, MI



Open discussion

- What community are you representing?
- What challenges to implementing green infrastructure are present in your community?
- What are you hoping to gain from the mentoring network?



How does public perception help
(or hinder) your GI initiatives?



How does municipal leadership affect implementation of GI in your community?



Does the technical staff in your community have confidence in the effectiveness of GI? In how to best maintain GI features once they are installed?



Mentoring network timeline

- Continue monthly check-ins
- Second quarterly webinar first week of April
- Third quarterly webinar mid-July
- Switch from quarterly reports to “interim reports”
 - Second interim report due March 15 (to cover January and February)
 - Third interim report due June 15 (to cover March, April, and May)



Thank you for joining us!



Rain garden in Memorial Park, Sturgis, MI



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