NOAA - GREAT LAKES COMMISSION

Regional Partnership

Maumee Area of Concern Habitat Restoration

The **Collins Park Stream Restoration Feasibility project** will plan for the restoration of a degraded watercourse and wetland habitat on a portion of Duck Creek within the Maumee River watershed.

Photo of one of several culverts in Duck Creek on the project location

Project Highlights

Produce plans for the restoration of fish and other aquatic habitat by completing baseline, chemical, geotechnical, hydrologic, and ecological evaluations

Produce a final feasibility report for the project

Solicit feedback from the local community

Funding is provided by the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency through the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) - Great Lakes Commission (GLC) Regional Partnership

The City of Toledo is implementing this project

Environmental Benefits

New fish and wildlife habitat

Reduced sedimentation

Economic Benefits

Enhanced opportunities for public recreation

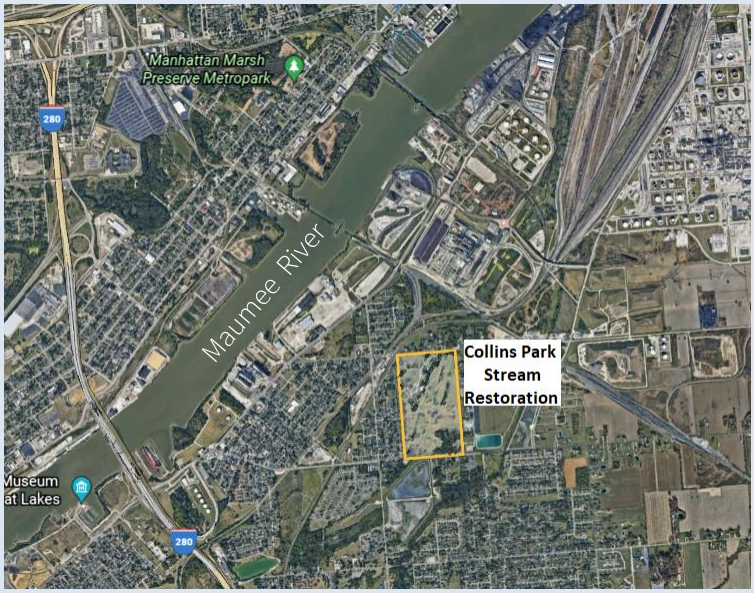
Improved fishery

Community Benefits

Improved urban nature space

Improved water quality and ecosystem health

Background of the Area of Concern (AOC)



Designated as an Area of Concern (AOC) under the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement in 1987, the Maumee is one of the largest AOCs in the United States. The area has a two-century history of development, contamination, and degradation that led to the impairment of water flowing into Lake Erie and the need for focused restoration efforts. Located in Northwest Ohio, the Maumee AOC comprises 787 square miles that includes approximately 23 miles of the lower Maumee River downstream to Maumee Bay, as well as other waterways such as Swan Creek, Ottawa River (Ten Mile Creek), Grassy Creek, Duck Creek, Otter Creek, Cedar Creek, Crane Creek, Turtle Creek, Packer Creek, and the Toussaint River.

The AOC enjoys strong support from federal, state, and local agencies, as well as stakeholder forums that support and guide habitat restoration projects, including technical assistance for monitoring.

History of Collins Park

Established in 1932, the nine-hole, roughly 90-acre Collins Park Municipal Golf Course is located in eastern Toledo, Ohio. Duck Creek runs through the middle of the course and has been significantly altered through subsurface culverts, resulting in degraded fish and wildlife habitat. The site has significant potential to provide improved habitat for a variety of native species while addressing the Loss of Fish and Wildlife Habitat and Degradation of Benthos Beneficial Use Impairments designated for the Maumee AOC.

Project Progress

The Collins Park stream restoration project began its feasibility study phase in late 2021. A consultant was selected in fall 2022 and the feasibility study is anticipated to be completed by fall 2023. The engineering and design phase of this project is expected to begin by early 2024, followed by implementation beginning in spring/summer 2025. A project management team for this project has been meeting since late 2021 to provide the City of Toledo with professional advice and experience.

Funding and Partners

Approximately $200,000 is available for the feasibility study portion of this project through the GLRI, a regional program that is supporting implementation of a comprehensive restoration plan for the Great Lakes, including cleaning up AOCs. An additional $200,000 has been made available to fund the engineering and design phase of the project. The project funding comes from NOAA through a Regional Partnership with GLC. The project is being managed locally by the City of Toledo.

For More Information

Jill Estrada, Habitat Restoration Senior Program Specialist
Great Lakes Commission, 734-396-6059, jestrada@glc.org

Edith Kippenhan, Stormwater Coordinator,
City of Toledo, (419) 936-3764, Edith.Kippenhan@toledo.oh.gov

City of Toledo