

NEWS

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HARROUN PARK RIVER TRAIL BIORETENTION AND STREAM RESTORATION PROJECT

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The Ohio Lake Erie Commission has awarded a Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) subgrant to the City of Sylvania for a restoration project located within Harroun Park. The project aims to improve streambank conditions to make progress towards nutrient reduction efforts undertaken by the State of Ohio in an effort to help combat harmful algal blooms in Lake Erie.

Tenmile Creek runs adjacent to Harroun Community Park before it meets North Tenmile Creek to form the confluence of the Ottawa River, and is currently experiencing erosion, sedimentation and flashiness commonly seen in urbanized streams. The City of Sylvania has identified a segment of the stream, beginning near the crossing of the Main Street bridge, and ending near the pedestrian bridge connecting the new SOMO development to Harroun Park, in which integrated stream restoration components will help stabilize streambanks, decrease sediment and associated nutrient loss to the waterway and simultaneously increase habitat.

The stream restoration project is a complement to a recently completed project by the City of Sylvania, in conjunction with The Nature Conservancy that removed invasive species of plants, such as common buckthorn and bush honeysuckle, within Harroun Park. The project will incorporate rock vanes to help redirect high flows back to the center of the stream channel and will include natural products, such as toewood and native plantings, to secure the streambank. “The City is dedicated to improving and maintaining water quality both within the City of Sylvania and for our downstream neighbors. We’re excited to see these improvements along Tenmile Creek as it flows through Harroun Park and citizens can view the improvements as they walk on the River Trail. We look forward to a continued partnership with state agencies and local organizations to protect water quality for now and the future”, states Kevin Aller, Public Service Director. Project construction is slated to begin in spring 2021.

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