

OHIO STREAM PRESERVATION

CONSERVATION EASEMENT DOCUMENTATION

Documentation Report for

Stonebridge Creek
Avon, Ohio



2007 Monitoring

PROPERTY LOCATION

Permanent Parcel #: 0400003101189, 0400003101207, 0400003101222,
0400003101312

Address: French Creek Road

Municipality: City of Avon

County: Lorain

Acres Preserved: 40

CONSERVATION EASEMENT DETAILS

Purpose:

Preserving, protecting, and maintaining as a scenic natural habitat for plants, animals, wildlife, and together with the right of visual access to and view of the Protected Property in its scenic, natural, and open condition.

Specific Restrictions:

(For a complete list of specific restrictions, refer to the Conservation Easement)

Specific Reserved Rights:

(For a complete list of specific reserved rights, refer to the Conservation Easement)

CONSERVATION EASEMENT INVENTORY :

List and describe existing structures:

There appears to be no existing structures within the conservation easement.

Describe land cover (approximate percent forest, field, yard, etc.):

The protected property is approximately 48% upland forest, 50% old field, 1% open water, and 1% riparian corridor.

Condition of watercourses or water bodies:

There are four (4) streams located within the conservation easement. Three (3) of the four (4) streams have been channelized.

Power lines present? If so describe location and condition of Right-of-way:

One (1) powerline corridor was present within the conservation easement.

Describe existing trails or access roads and note condition:

There appears to be no trails or access roads throughout the easement.

Existing dumps/disturbances?

Disturbances were noted within the easement. Please see the included Prohibited Action/Issue list.

Industrial or Commercial Activity?

There was no industrial or commercial activity found within or around the conservation easement.

Encroachment from adjacent property?

Disturbances were noted within the easement. Please see the included Prohibited Action/Issue list.

Note presence or absence of tree stumps, other signs of recent cutting:

Disturbances were noted within the easement. Please see the included Prohibited Action/Issue list.

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION OF CONSERVATION VALUE OF THE PROTECTED PROPERTY

On May 31, 2007, Chagrin Valley Engineering Staff, Consultants for Ohio Stream Preservation, visited Stonebridge Creek for the purpose of establishing a documentation of said conservation easement. Specific criteria were examined to include vegetation, hydrology, presence or absence of disturbances, existing structures, and any other significant features of the property that enhance or degrade the ecological value of the property.

Site Location

Stonebridge Creek is located in the City of Avon, Lorain County, Ohio. Interstate 90 is located to the northwest of the subdivision. French Creek is the main road located on the south side of the subdivision.

Site Background

The SCS Map taken from the *Soil Survey of Lorain County, Ohio* indicates two (2) soil types occurring within the protected property:

- 1) Fitchville silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes (FcA)
- 2) Lorain silty clay loam (Ln)

The 1987 US Department of Agriculture publication entitled *Hydric Soils of the United States*, as well as the Lorain County SCS office publication entitled *Lorain County, Ohio, List of Hydric Soils*, recognizes one of the map units, **Ln**, as a hydric soil. In addition, the Soil Survey indicates that **FcA** can contain hydric inclusions. The National Wetland Inventory Map does not indicate the presence of any wetland types within the conservation easement.

Site Description

The conservation easement contains secondary growth forest in which the dominant species is *Acer rubrum* (red maple). Some larger *Quercus palustris* (pin oaks) were observed scattered throughout the protected property. Areas of the easement contain a dense scrub/shrub understory of *Viburnum recognitum* (northern arrowwood). The protected property that falls within the existing power line easement is dominated by herbaceous field vegetation.

Habitat Assessment

Invertebrates such as dragonflies and butterflies were observed throughout the field portions of the conservation easement. Although smaller, the fragmented forested blocks throughout the easement still offer habitat for a variety of native animal species.

Ecological Value

The conservation easement contains multiple habitats including an old field that contains a scrub/shrub component, secondary growth forest, and a riparian corridor. These features make this property well worth protecting.