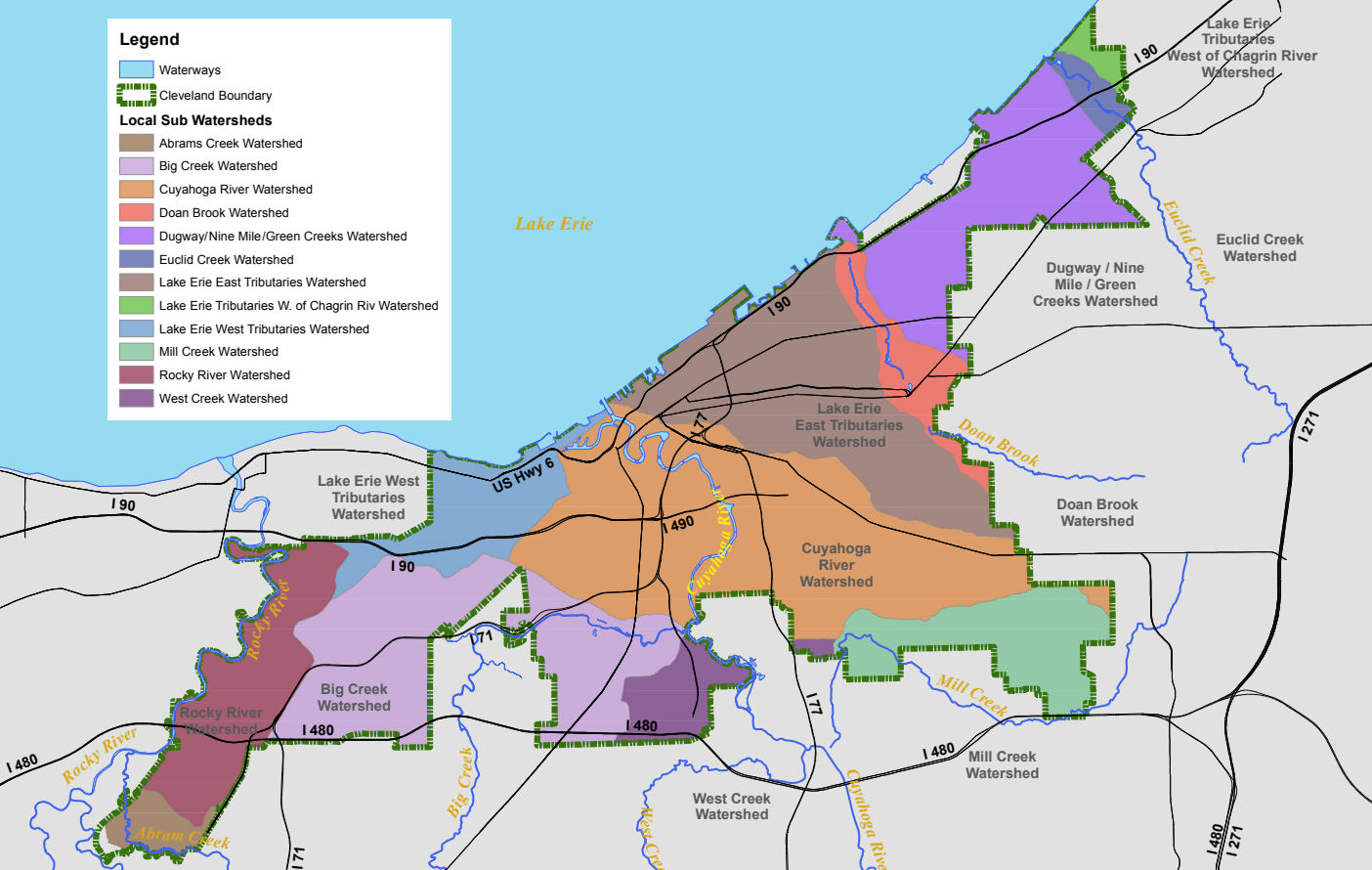


**Legend**

- Waterways
- Cleveland Boundary
- Local Sub Watersheds**
  - Abrams Creek Watershed
  - Big Creek Watershed
  - Cuyahoga River Watershed
  - Doan Brook Watershed
  - Dugway/Nine Mile/Green Creeks Watershed
  - Euclid Creek Watershed
  - Lake Erie East Tributaries Watershed
  - Lake Erie Tributaries W. of Chagrin Riv Watershed
  - Lake Erie West Tributaries Watershed
  - Mill Creek Watershed
  - Rocky River Watershed
  - West Creek Watershed



# WATER POLLUTION CONTROL

## DOAN BROOK WATERSHED



“Doan Brook Stream Enhancement Project could serve as a model for other communities seeking to create healthier streams in urban areas”

– Victoria Mills, Executive Director, Doan Brook Watershed Partnership.

To learn more about stormwater management, visit the Cleveland Water Pollution Control website at [clevelandwpc.com](http://clevelandwpc.com)



### WATER POLLUTION CONTROL

12302 Kirby Avenue • Cleveland, Ohio 44108  
216.664.2513 | [clevelandwpc.com](http://clevelandwpc.com)



[CLEVELANDWPC.COM](http://CLEVELANDWPC.COM)

Cover photo courtesy of Doan Brook Watershed Partnership.

## WHAT IS A WATERSHED?

A watershed is an area of land that drains, or sheds, rain and snowmelt into a specific larger waterway, such as a river or lake. Everyone lives in a watershed, and our actions on the land have a significant impact on water quality.

The largest watershed in Northeast Ohio is Lake Erie Watershed, which is made up of dozens of smaller watersheds. Protecting the Lake Erie watershed is important to the environment, public health and the economic well-being of Greater Cleveland. Lake Erie is Northeast Ohio's source of drinking water and major fishing and water recreation area.

Non-point source water pollution is the biggest threat to watersheds. When stormwater (rain or snow melt) flows over the ground it carries away natural and human pollutants from sidewalks, parking lots, yards and construction sites. That water flows to a nearby waterway and eventually makes its way to Lake Erie. Common non-point source pollutants are automobile fluids, paint, pet waste, cigarette butts, and even soil.

Stormwater runoff can result in flooded streets and properties, sewer overflows, land erosion, and polluted waterways.

## ABOUT DOAN BROOK WATERSHED

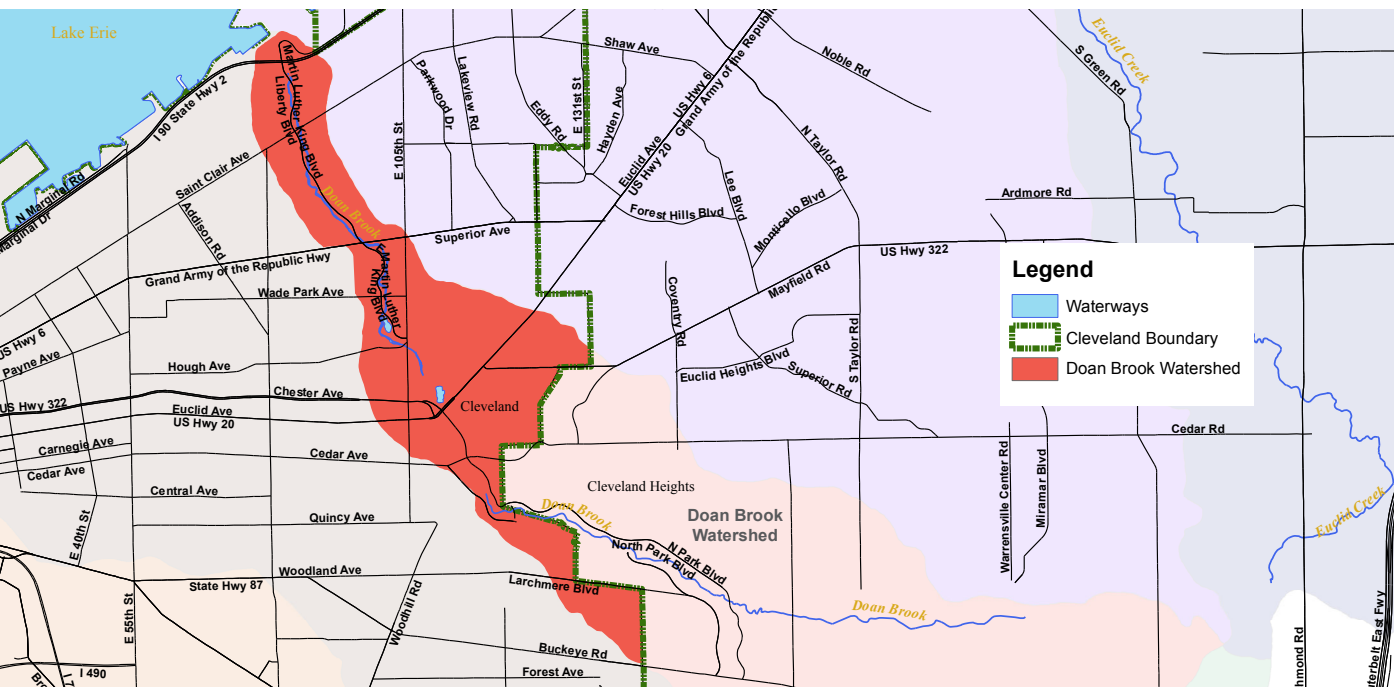
Doan Brook Watershed encompasses about 12 square miles in the eastern metropolitan area of Cleveland. Besides Cleveland and some of its neighborhoods—Buckeye, Shaker Square, Larchmere, University Circle, Fairfax, Hough, Glenville and St. Clair-Superior—the watershed drains parts of several other cities, including Shaker Heights and Cleveland Heights.

About 65,000 people live within the watershed, in which waters from Doan Brook flow from Shaker Lakes in Shaker Heights, north along Martin Luther King Jr. Drive (MLK Drive), through Rockefeller Park, the Cleveland Cultural Gardens and the Cleveland Lakefront Nature Preserve before entering Lake Erie near Gordon Park. Parts of Doan Brook flows openly while other parts are culverted to channel the waterway underground, below the mostly urban landscape.

In 2013, the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District worked with the city of Cleveland and Doan Brook Watershed Partnership on the Doan Brook Stream Enhancement Project. Portions of lower Doan Brook were restored to stabilize the open stream through Rockefeller Park along MLK Drive. The project reduced erosion along the stream banks, created a channel to eliminate stagnant water and reduce flooding.

## HOW YOU CAN HELP PROTECT YOUR WATERSHED

- Treat waterways with respect—all life depends on it.
- Pick up trash, such as snack wrappers, Styrofoam and plastics.
- Avoid using pesticides, herbicides, and anti-bacterial products—they end up in water and harm wildlife.
- Reduce pervious pavements and create more green spaces to let the rain soak into the ground so soil bacteria can break down pollutants.
- Remove invasive weeds without using pesticides.
- Use native plants in your garden.
- Pick up your dog and cat poop and dispose of it in the trash.
- Wash vehicles at a car wash so detergents and toxins can drain into a bay.
- Recycle used oil, paint and other hazardous materials properly. Do not pour them down house or street drains.
- Use a rain barrel to capture rainwater and gray water for landscaping and gardening.
- Plan and/or participate in water quality events, such as stream or neighborhood cleanups.
- Join a watershed group; learn more and help educate others.



## DOAN BROOK WATERSHED PARTNERSHIP

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Explore *How's My Waterway?* at  
<https://mywaterway.epa.gov> to learn about the current  
water quality of Doan Brook Watershed.