

Alum Creek Sheets

FACT at a Crossroads — losing our Watershed Coordinator

By David Hohmann, FACT Chair

How are we doing? 2009 was a year of challenges for FACT. The economic downturn of the past 18 months has impacted our funding as the state grant which has supported our Watershed Coordinator staff position wound down. Our members had their own challenges with budgets which reduced some monetary contributions from average household members. For our Board, the turbulence and short term uncertainty over funding has been trying at times. I wish I could say we're through the rough patch and into calm waters, but we ARE talking about a river here, so maybe it's just where we are right now.

What I can say is that FACT continues to be strong in its member and community involvement in making a positive difference for the health of our river, Alum Creek. The restoration of sensitive river areas continues to grow with each month and each new project we take on. Community partnerships, as with Westerville Schools, are extending good results into other properties. FACT service projects in 2009—from coordinating **24 service events** at **12** different locations, **have surpassed** even 2008's lofty attendance numbers. We've **planted over 1,000 trees, shrubs, and perennials** while we continued to parry and joust with the ubiquitous Eurasian honeysuckle bush invasion.

FACT has increased its membership numbers another 10 percent over last year, even though we know there is much more potential to grow in that department. Some broadening support from business and institutional members is also helping us along. We need to involve many more households and businesses in the watershed area, to really succeed in the mission of FACT. We each have something very important in common: what we do affects the quality of our river and streams that drain to it. We live and work in a special place where Alum Creek flows and connects us with the landscape and wildlife, the drinking water and the recreation of an urban river. (Continued on next page 2).

Friends of Alum Creek & Tributaries

Celebrating over 12 years since 1998

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One Year Later After the Lowhead Dams

By Kimberly Williams, Watershed Coordinator

A little over a year ago—October 2008, FACT was overseeing the actual removal of two low-head dams located at Columbus' Academy Park and Nelson Park/Wolfe Park. According to historical records and local accounts the dams were built for recreational purposes, not to deter floods. Unfortunately, the dams created a large pool of calm water that was almost two miles in length. As a result of the murky (low oxygen + high sediment) water, this section of Alum Creek river was determined to be (polluted) in "non-attainment" of the Clean Water Act in 2000.

What lives in the river indicates the health of the river. In 2007, fish and macro invertebrates (small creatures such as aquatic insects and mollusks) were collected and surveyed by FACT's consultants to determine the number and variety of species. Although chemical studies can also be done, these pollutants may disappear before it is determined that they caused a problem. Thus, aquatic animals serve as important base-line scientific indicators of typical conditions. The fish and macros. that were found could tolerate polluted conditions, indicated there had been no substantial improvement since the 2000 survey.

The structure of the creek was also investigated. A healthy creek curves back and forth, provides shade and food from the trees lining the bank and forms pools and riffles. Again,

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FACT Mission Statement

The mission of Friends of Alum Creek & Tributaries (FACT) is to preserve and protect the quality and beauty of Alum Creek watershed and promote environmentally responsible recreation, educational opportunities, and citizen participation at many levels.



FACT at a Crossroads (continued from page 1)

Some transitions are coming for FACT effective January 1, 2010 since we can no longer financially support a full time Watershed Coordinator. The value of Kim's work on behalf of FACT since 2006 in this role, cannot be underestimated. On behalf of the FACT board, I pledge that we will keep working at the mission at hand with whatever resources we are able to bring to this essential effort. All manner of support for FACT will be needed and welcomed. We value our diversity of talents and abilities, no gift is too small. Many drops of water do indeed a river make.

Something I've always enjoyed about my own work with FACT, which began with service projects help, is that we make a visible difference each time we are out there. You will get your hands dirty, but you will feel better when you support FACT, and its stewardship of our local environment on which all depend for good quality of life. In getting connected with the creek up close and personally, you will see a dynamic system that human activities are definitely affecting-- for good or bad. Fortunately, we know what the problems are-- and have in the Watershed Action Plan, a ready roadmap to solve them. Lots of it comes down to education and practicing new behaviors that help protect the creek. What's good for the creek is good for all who live downstream, clear to the ocean! I believe that only through this kind of basic local work, will the seemingly intractable problems of our planet be solved.

Each dollar donated to FACT is leveraged over five times on average, in making other good things happen. The plantings and water quality improvements being achieved will yield priceless dividends to the local environment, even in the face of threats from climate change and invasive species. (Do you compost? Check out our next [workshop](#) on Feb. 24.)

There is no better way to practice caring for the earth, for ourselves and future generations, than by working locally in the watershed context. FACT invites all in this community to join and support us in this mission. **Thank you!**

Streamside Forest, Backyard Conservation and River Corridor Protection

By Kimberly Williams, Watershed Coordinator

The Lower Alum Creek watershed (south of the Alum Creek reservoir) is primarily urban. We have built houses and commercial centers close to or over streams and wetlands. We have straightened streams and put them underground via concrete pipes. By undertaking these land use development practices communities have interrupted the natural mechanisms that handled surface water. Instead of wetlands and headwater tributaries holding water after a rainstorm or spring melt of snow, the water now quickly travels over dirty hot pavement and rooftops into the stormwater drains carrying dirt, oil, garbage, etc... Traveling fast and at higher volumes, the water erodes the banks of Alum Creek and its tributaries thus increasing the amount of sediment. While erosion is a natural process in the formation of stream channels, this urbanized erosion is excessive--polluting the natural habitat. Simultaneously, our waterways are receiving too many chemical nutrients, e.g. nitrogen and phosphorus, from lawn fertilizers, as well as pesticides. Yet, despite these different problems there are a number of things that we can do to protect and restore Alum Creek!

FACT this past year has continued our efforts to widen the streamside forest. Not only will this increase the habitat for wildlife and improve aesthetics, but it will help address erosion issues. The roots of native trees, shrubs, grasses and wildflowers travel deep and wide in contrast to the turf grass which is essentially "green concrete" with only an inch or two of roots. October 24th and 25th, FACT was at Casto Park and Strawberry Farms respectively, planting more trees along Alum Creek's tributaries. Since 2008, FACT volunteers have helped plant nearly FOUR acres of streamside forest!

Along similar lines, FACT has asked schools and cities and other property owners with streamside property simply **not to mow the grass near floodplains or streambanks** of Alum Creek or any tributaries. This can help prevent future problems for Alum Creek as well as the property owner, who may eventually discover sections of property disappearing. Also, FACT has proposed stream corridor protection policies to the City of Bexley that will help protect the remaining streamside trees and shrubs. We are at a crossroads where we are learning that being environmentally friendly means avoiding the problem experienced by a Columbus condominium development which had to pay \$200,000 for streambank stabilization work.

In addition to streamside forest expansion and protection, we have been educating the public about different backyard conservation practices. FACT members, Otterbein College, Ohio Dominican University students and volunteers, planted

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both a rain garden and prairie garden with 78 wildflowers and grasses at Casto Park in September. By creating these two gardens, we will demonstrate the usage of native vegetation—to increase habitat/decrease turf lawns; and how surface water can be naturally handled—from utilizing temporary pooling of water. Plus, FACT held two successful composting workshop where some 75 participants learned the simple steps to recycle leaves and grass into 'black gold' to use for gardens, etc. The resulting homemade organic fertilizer materials reduce costs, waste and transportation.

Thank you volunteers and the following for funding and in-kind support to make these various projects possible:

- Little Garden Club of Columbus for awarding FACT funds to continue streamside riparian corridor tree planting efforts.
- Ohio American Water Company for funding our Casto Park rain garden installation and tree planting.
- Solid Waste Authority of Central Ohio (SWACO) for providing funds to FACT to purchase compost bins and reference wheels.
- City of Bexley, Genoa Township, Inniswood Metro Gardens for venue hosting our compost workshops.
- ReStore Habitat for Humanity (Westerville Rd.) for donating ten very large trees for Casto Park.
- Topsoil Direct (Walt Reiner) for compost; Home Depot (I-270/Cleveland Ave) for loaning chain saws, Deck Masters (John Stark) for earth moving equipment prep work; Mark Fellows and Duncan Campbell for each of their pick-up trucks.
- Franklin Soil & Water Conservation District and Columbus Recreation & Parks Dept for assistance on the projects.

PUTTING OUR GREEN THUMBS IN ACTION FOR ALUM CREEK



Rain and Prairie Garden creation at Casto Park on September 12. Otterbein College students and various FACT volunteers.



Over 45 participants attended FACT's composting workshop at Inniswood Metro Gardens on October 8.



Planting native trees along Spring Run West tributary in Casto Park on Make a Difference Day, October 24.



Oct. 25th Strawberry Farms Park helps planting trees & bushes along a storm water ditch/tributary leading into nearby Alum Creek.



Fundraising and Membership Development Committee Needs Your Help

By Margaret Ann Samuels, Fundraising and Membership Development Chair

Hey, members and friends – we REALLY need your help to raise money. Although FACT membership levels have not gone down, our financial needs have gone up. During 2009, FACT fell behind on our funding plans to the tune of over \$9,000. Every membership, every donation, and increased giving helps to move us toward this goal.

The FACT organization has existed since 1998. In 2001 we were able to employ a watershed coordinator through a grant from the US Environmental Protection Agency, to help prepare the Alum Creek Watershed Action Plan. In 2004 we received a watershed coordinator grant through the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR), in part to help implement the Watershed Action Plan. That limited grant, given in decreasing amounts, expired at the end of 2009 when FACT was responsible for 50% of the coordinator's salary and benefits.

Simply put, our organization continues to be successful in many ways in advancing the goals of protecting and preserving the Alum Creek watershed. Witness the hundreds of hours devoted each year to removing trash along the banks and within our waterways, hundreds of trees planted, thousands of invasive honeysuckle shrubs removed – and the free flowing stream where two lowhead dams were removed from the areas that formerly had the lowest water quality on Alum Creek. FACT is one of the few, if not the only, grassroots watershed organization to achieve such dam removal. (While we had the critical assistance of many partners, FACT was the responsible managing entity).

Despite our best efforts, however, FACT continues to have difficulty raising funds to enable retaining our watershed coordinator to direct our ongoing programs and efforts. While we have obtained several specific grants recently, in most cases we **cannot use the funds for staff salary** to carry out the grant's purpose. Our watershed coordinator has the expertise to identify and direct programs that result in improved water quality. Without her expertise, many activities simply will not happen since most volunteers do not have sufficient time or knowledge to manage these efforts.

FACT is now part of [EarthShare](#), and will receive any designated contributions from employees who have that option at their workplace. Look for the opportunity to support FACT through workplace giving! We are exploring potential options for expense sharing with other watershed advocates in central Ohio. FACT's board is updating our strategic plan and seeking to improve our fundraising capabilities.

Please promptly follow-up to FACT's annual [membership letter](#), sent in November. Meanwhile, all ideas and suggestions and financial donations are welcome!



FACT's Outreach & Events Educate Many More

By Jerry Holloway, Education Chair

On June 24th, as part of Westerville School's Summer Enrichment program, FACT conducted a presentation to about 15 fifth and sixth grade students. Amy Frankenberg, their teacher, had organized a week long event that included a walk along Alum Creek at the Alum Creek Park in Westerville where I joined the class. Across the Main Street bridge I showed them the intake area for Westerville's water treatment plant. The students learned that this creek was the source of their drinking water, a surprise for even their teacher. We then continued to the treatment plant where I gave a 30 minute presentation on the creek and the volunteer work that FACT conducts along the waterway. We ended with a brief tour of the water plant area by Dick Lorenz, Westerville's Water Utility Manager (and FACT Board member), and an explanation of the value of our Alum Creek watershed. The students learned a lot about FACT and were interested in future cleanup activities that FACT organizes.

The outreach continued with FACT's free Vernal Pool tour in Westerville, our exhibit presence at WessieFest, Westerville's Uptown 4th Friday's event, The Genoa Trail Fest, Wetland Tour at Westerville Heritage Park, Capital University's Fall Community Service day, two composting workshops, and more. It's wonderful that Ohio State University student Claire Paisley Jones updated FACT's trifold display board that we show at various events. We hope to use the different demonstration kits from Franklin Soil and Water Conservation District to further engage the local public. In mid January we look forward to speaking to Westerville Sunrise Rotary Club members. If you're interested in helping FACT to get the message out on how to protect/restore our watershed or to request us to speak to your group or business, e-mail Jerry.holloway1@att.net.

Service Efforts Yield Record Year of Results

By David Hohmann, FACT Chair

FACT service efforts in 2009 have continued positively connecting hundreds of area residents to Alum Creek for the good of our local community and sustainable environment. Our work in this sector of FACT's mission is highly leveraged through the contributed time and energy of many hundreds of annual volunteers. Some **24 events** held at **12 different** locations in 2009 with **624 participants** have netted **251** bags of trash, **107 tires** and **87** oversize items from sensitive areas in and near Alum Creek. Our shovels and muscles have planted **924** native trees and shrubs, and **281** native perennials to enhance public creek- and trail-side buffer areas, including a splendid demonstration rain garden at Casto Park. Our saws, muscles and weed wrenches have also **removed over 4,500** more invasive Eurasian bush honeysuckles from along the creek banks, restoring more of the ecological balance in those locations.



FACT helpers at Academy Park, National Public Lands Day, Sept 26

Outstanding volunteer participation on Earth Day, National Public Lands Day, Ohio River Sweep, the Bexley Spring Festival, Community Care Day, Jewish Federation of Columbus 'Mitzvah Day', and special individual service events with Westerville Central High School, Trinity Lutheran Seminary, visiting Israeli high school students, and even my son's birthday party (his idea!) contributed to great FACT service project results in 2009. FACT's steady commitment to our Adopted Area in Academy Park and along Nelson Road south of E. Broad Street has been practiced through five restoration and enhancement events there.

Partnership support and sponsors assisting FACT in these efforts have included the City of Columbus Recreation and Parks Division, Keep Columbus Beautiful, Ohio-American Water Company, The Little Garden Club of Columbus, Westerville Schools, and student environmental clubs from Otterbein College "Plan-It Earth", Ohio Dominican University, Bexley High School, and St. Charles. FACT provides opportunities for meaningful service learning experiences, as we connect individual behavior with watershed stewardship.

Despite severe financial challenges FACT faces, **our service results have been as strong as ever**, and participation rates have increased another 30 percent over last year. According to FACT's consistent records since 2001, over 50 percent of our total service volunteer person-hours, and 80 percent of our total net "productivity" (weighted values of different improvements calculated for the long term benefit of the watershed) have been obtained from 2007 through 2009. We're strategically doing more of what matters most, and we believe it's having a measurable positive impact on the health of our river and natural environment! Thanks to all (specifically named above or otherwise) who continue to make this possible with your valuable contributions of all kinds! Please continue to support FACT however you can, now and in the future.

Communication News Noteworthy items

By David Roseman, Communications Chair

FACT's calendar of events is being posted on and hosted gratis via www.franklincountyevents.com. Visit that site whenever you'd like &/or subscribe to it—for FREE—to receive their once weekly email listing of all local non-profit group activities, including FACT. As always FACT's specific activity plans can be found on FACT's web "[calendar](#)" section.

In order for FACT to cost effectively mass communicate with our members, prospects, supporters, and affiliates we need to have your **current email** address & phone number(s). Please keep us updated with any contact changes, to ensure you routinely hear from FACT and to help us our reduce printing, paper, postage, and related overhead costs.

Utilize FACT's website www.friendsofalumcreek.org for additional information and resources—to view [photos](#) from past events, download [archived](#) newsletters, read related news stories, and to access many [links](#) for local, regional, national watershed, [backyard conservation](#) environmental materials plus [watershed watchdog](#) government contacts. While our site is functional, we'd like your volunteer web expertise to help enhance it's appearance, format, and capabilities.



FACT's Annual Recognitions, Awards, Board Installation — Nov. 12

By David Roseman



Guest speaker Brad Westall (top left), Greenway Planner, Columbus Recreation & Parks Dept. presents updates & latest construction plans for the Alum Creek Greenway trail expansion—between Easton's soccer fields & Ohio Dominican University.

FACT held our annual potluck dinner for recognitions, awards, and installation of 2010 FACT Board members and officers on November 12 at Leslie Fowler's residence in Bexley, OH. It's always amazing what a tasty balance of various food—main, sides, desserts—randomly come about. Brad Westall was our guest speaker presenting an informative slide show of the current Columbus Park's Greenway trail systems, featuring the 4-mile expansion plans (now underway) for completing our beloved Alum Creek trail.

The FACT Board awarded the "Volunteer FACT Member of the Year" to Kellie Chenault (Columbus) and Dennis Bitter (Westerville). Each became new FACT members in early 2009, spending many weekend hours volunteering at our various service projects. Otterbein College received our Community Organization Environmental Stewardship award for their triannual student "Plunge" volunteer program, along with their Plan-It Earth campus environmental group, chaired by Patricia Jimenez. Kim bestowed honorary certificates of recognition for in-kind service assistance with lowhead dam removal project to Columbus Recreation and Parks Dept. (Maureen Lorenz & Brad Westall); Katherine Fontaine, Mitch Strain, and posthumously to Malcolm Jeffrey with his daughter Ms. Jeffrey accepting.



Katherine Fontaine (c) special FACT Recognition recipient, with Dave Hohmann & Kim Williams.



FACT honorees, from left: Dennis Bitter, Malcolm Jeffrey (posthumous), Kellie Chenault, Patricia Jimenez, Maureen Lorenz, Brad Westall.

Ohio American Water environmental grant award presentation ceremony for Casto Park area restoration project. Funding finances FACT rain garden, prairie and tree planting along West Spring Run. Columbus dignitaries praise FACT on August 18, 2009. FACT event also receives local TV and radio coverage.



From left: David Roseman, Columbus Councilmember Priscilla Tyson, Kim Williams, Ohio American Water Superintendent Tom Schwing, Columbus Recreation & Parks Director Alan McKnight.



Westerville Central High School science class adopts adjacent Spring Run for restoration site Westerville School District lets it grow - cuts back on some mowing practices

By David Roseman



Background:

Westerville school district is Ohio's 10th largest educational agency, that owns hundreds of acres of land in northern Franklin & southern Delaware county with 23 schools. Much of their properties immediately impacts Alum Creek headwater tributaries, including branches of Spring Run.

History:

- I initiated discussions beginning in late 2008; included 5 meetings commencing with Westerville City Schools' Superintendent Dr. J. Daniel Good, Jeff LeRose, Chris Wanner, Kenny Nichols' maintenance staff, various school leaders, teachers, etc. plus several on-site walking tours.
- Toured Westerville Central High School (WCHS), Westerville North High (WNHS), Genoa Middle, Alcott Elementary, Pointview Elementary.

Success:

- Maintenance crew agrees to no longer mow grass around/within side banks slopes of multiple sections of Spring Run along Alcott-WCHS.
- Westerville Central High School science teacher Erik Ekis champions and adopts FACT restoration project for neighboring Spring Run —on both sides of Mt. Royal Avenue in Genoa Township, Delaware County.
- WCHS kick off project on May 15, 2009: stream clean-up by Erik Ekis' Biology/Zoology class volunteers of 40+ students (top photos).
- FACT's inspiration recognized within Westerville School District's community reports.

Plans & Goals

- Ultimately notch out an upper portion of existing manmade earthen levy/dike, that presently channels small headwater stream - to allow flood waters to overflow into adjacent large depression ~ 1 acre (north side of Mt. Royal Ave., see top left photo) creating a wetland area.
- Mark Dille of MAD Scientist & Associates and Kathy Fontaine of Burgess & Niple continue to provide some gratis consulting input.
- WCHS Erik Ekis seeking OEEF grant to financially support restoration project plans.
- Westerville South High School (Beth Eddy teacher champion) plans to help in 2010, Huber Village Park stream starting at Pointview school.



One Year Later (continued from page 1)

there was no substantial improvement since the conditions that was causing the impairment continued. The structure of a creek is fundamental to its ability to provide habitat for wildlife. A straight, treeless concrete ditch may convey water, but it cannot support life. When our waterways cannot sustain life, there is a problem.

By removing the lowhead dams, FACT expected that water quality would improve within the year. Well, it has improved! Ohio Environmental Protection Agency returned to analyze Alum Creek in 2009, and discovered more LIFE! **The number of fish had increased as well as the variety.** In 2007, 15 species of fish could be found upstream from Academy Park; and during 2009—in the same location, 33 species were found! Now, this section of Alum Creek has banded darters, silver redhorses, golden redhorses, and northern hogsuckers. Small mouth and large mouth bass were in this section of Alum Creek before the removal, but now there is more of them. The same increase in number and diversity of fish species has occurred at Nelson Park as well.

The results on the macro invertebrate survey will be forthcoming, but it is expected that they will show positive results as well. Once tabulated we will know this two mile section is re-designated as being in “attainment” with water quality standards. *For related photos, videos, and news, visit <http://www.friendsofalumcreek.org/sitev2/lowheaddamremoval.html>.*

THANK YOU FOR BEING A FACT MEMBER IN 2009!*

Student, Senior, Individual, & Family Members:

Lawrence Abramson
Virginia Antle
Arlene & Mike Armstrong
David Baker
Helen Barber
Dennis, Darlene, David, & Doug Bitter
Nancy and George Boas
Charlotte & Andrew Bobay
Joe Bonnell
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Robert Bostard
Judy & Merom Brachman
Lindalee Brownstein
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Organization/Business Members:

Acorn Farms Inc.
City of Bexley
Coca-Cola
Columbus Dept. Public Utilities
Columbus State C'mty. College
Del-Co Water
Franklin Soil and Water Conservation District
Genoa Township
MAD Scientist and Associates
Mira Cit Development Corp
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Morrow Gravel Co.
National Ground Water Assoc.
Ohio American Water Company
Otterbein College
Plaza Properties
Saint Mary of the Springs
Stantec Corp.
Weisenbach Specialty Printing
Westerville Sunrise Rotary Club
Whitehall-Bexley Rotary Club

Supporting Personal Members:

Bill & Phadia Adams
Barbara Chuko
Lisa Dahill
Kitty Morton Epler
Gloria Higgins
Gretchen Hummel
Malcolm Jeffrey
Maureen & Dick Lorenz
Susan & Kenneth Quintenz
David Roseman family
Margaret Ann Samuels
Jeanne Schmitt
Shirle Westwater

Supporting Organization/Business Members:

The Monte Foundation
Westerville Service Dept.

Lifetime Members:

Roberta Cook
Paige & Michael Crane
David & Becky Hohmann
Robert Jeffrey.

Please [join FACT](#) for 2010!

* FACT 2009 membership year effective Oct. 1, 2008–Sept. 31, 2009



Friends of Alum Creek & Tributaries

2820 Watkins Road, Columbus, Ohio 43207 ~ (614) 409-0511

Email: info@friendsofalumcreek.org Web: www.friendsofalumcreek.org



2010 FACT Board of Directors:

David Hohmann.....**Board Chair**; Watershed Watch Chair

Jerry Holloway..... **Vice-Chair**; Education Chair

Leslie Fowler.....**Treasurer**

Dick Lorenz.....**Secretary**

David Roseman..... Communications Chair

Joe Bonnell..... Past Chair

Margaret Ann Samuels.....Membership Chair

Barbara Bhattacharya.....Recreation Chair Member

Tamara Evans.....Service Committee Chair

Staff: Kimberly Williams....Watershed Coordinator

Current and Past Board Members



Front row from left: **Leslie Fowler, Kim Williams (outgoing Staff), Jerry Holloway, Tamara Evans, Margaret Ann Samuels.** Back row: **David Roseman, Carol Elder (former), Joe Bonnell (outgoing), Chad King (outgoing), David Hohmann, Dick Lorenz.** Not pictured: **Barbara Bhattacharya.**



Support the Friends of Alum Creek & Tributaries – Become a Member!

Your contribution is tax deductible and enables FACT to pursue its mission of stewardship and citizen enjoyment of Alum Creek. Please make checks payable to **FACT**, return with this completed form to: FACT, 2820 Watkins Rd., Columbus, Ohio 43207. Our 2010 membership year runs from October 2009 through September 2010.

Choose a Membership Category:

- () Lifetime Personal Member \$500+
 () Supporting Business \$500+
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Name(s) _____

Organization/Business _____

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* Please provide your **email** address to help FACT expedite news & conserve our resources.

Save paper! Use **PayPal** on-line payment feature on the FACT website to join & donate with your credit card:

<http://www.friendsofalumcreek.org/sitev2/ShoppingCart.html>

(You do not have to be a member of PayPal to utilize this secured service).

**Composting Workshop: Turn Yard Waste into Black Gold****February 24, Wednesday 7:00—8:00 PM****Genoa Township hall 5111 S. Old 3C Highway** (SE corner of Big Walnut Rd.) Westerville, OH 43082

Learn how to easily compost and get all of your questions answered. Participants will receive a portable Presto GeoBin Composter (1 cubic yard capacity) that can be easily assembled AND a composting reference wheel that can be used to troubleshoot and look up quick tips.* These items are valued over \$40.00 and are provided to registered participants as part of discounted workshop fee thanks to the Solid Waste Authority of Central Ohio (SWACO) General Grant. Workshop registration fee per person: FACT member: \$10.00, non-member: \$15.00, at the door: \$20.00 (if space permits). To register please mail check payable to 'FACT' along with your contact information to: **FACT, 2820 Watkins Road, Columbus, OH 43207** or to RSVP call us **614-409-0511** (leave message).

*One reference wheeler and composter bin per household; space is limited; FACT membership must be current for 2010 year.

For more information on these and other future events, check out www.friendsofalumcreek.org
<http://www.friendsofalumcreek.org/sitev2/calendar.html> or call our FACT office: 614-409-0511.



*Scenes from annual wetland workshop & restoration
planting at Westerville's Heritage Park on May 2, 2009*

**Friends of Alum Creek & Tributaries**

2820 Watkins Road
Columbus, Ohio 43207