

# What is happening with

**Project Partners:**



—grant funding assistance, engineering/design/permitting



—construction contractor

**Defiance County Metro Parks Board**  
—owner of Pontiac Park



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Many of you have seen and commented on the work taking place on our riverbanks at Pontiac Park and along Fort Street, near the library.

The efforts to date have been equivalent to pulling weeds and tilling up your garden before you get it ready to plant. Most of the smaller, volunteer trees as well as several different invasive species have been removed in order to make room for the next phase of the project. (See page 3 for more information on invasives that have been outlawed!)

ERC will be replanting many native trees, shrubs and flowers along both sides of the riverbank in the fall of 2018. Think of this as phase three; these plants, in carefully selected locations, will provide numerous benefits: creating habitat, soil stability and providing a planned aesthetic that will require regular maintenance, as an important aspect of the City’s Riparian Management Plan. We won’t do this planting until the summer weather subsides and the perennial plants can enjoy the cooler nights.

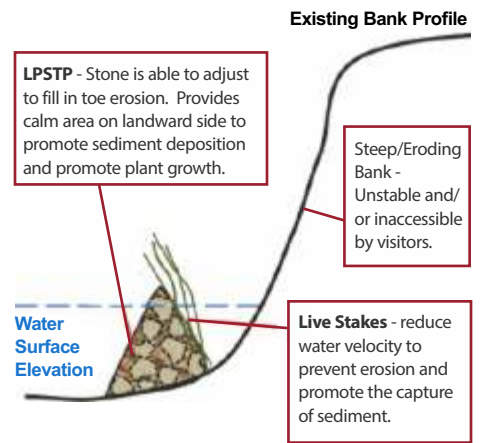


The US Army Corps of Engineers requires no in-stream work during April 15 – June 30.

Once the fish are done spawning; right around the dog days of summer, when the river is low and the flow is slow, ERC will begin to construct the longitudinal peaked stone toe protection on the Pontiac Park side of the project. (See Figure A)

This work is phase two and will hold soil in place and provide the ultimate goal of sediment reduction in the river. This rock berm will protect the existing bank and keep erosive flows from scouring away the soil that is exposed.

**Figure A**  
**Stone Toe Protection**



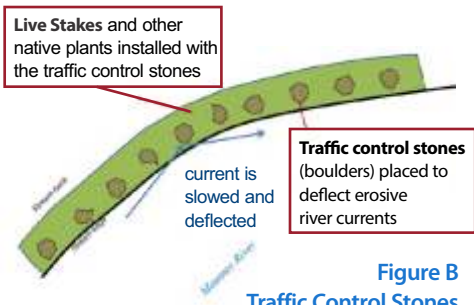
# the Riverbanks!?



On the Fort Street side of the project, the summer phase of work will include traffic control stones. (See Figure B) These large boulders will be placed along the water's edge in the area between the bridge and retaining wall roughly parallel with the river. They will help to direct the fast-moving currents of water away from the riverbanks during periods of high flow during and after heavy rainfalls; this also helps to achieve our primary

goal of bank stabilization through sediment reduction. During periods of dry weather and low flows, they will be accessible to the public, for those who are adventurous to get a more up-close and personal view of the river.

The Mannik & Smith Group has provided assistance at every stage of the project, including grant writing, site assessment, design, archaeological services, permitting, and construction observation.



*Sediment reduction is the primary goal of the funding agencies—Ohio and US EPA—in order to achieve water quality improvement. The property owners—City of Defiance and the Defiance County Metro Parks Board—also have a vested interest in keeping the soil in place; it will protect utilities and investments that have been made over the years in infrastructure. Added benefits of the project will include reduced maintenance requirements and improved visibility!*

## Native Plants Incorporated into the Pontiac Park project :

### Native Trees:

- River Birch
- Eastern Redbud
- Tulip Tree
- Black Gum
- Sycamore
- Swamp White Oak

### SHRUBS:

- Ninebark
- Sumac
- Meadowsweet
- Buttonbush
- Red Osier Dogwood
- Pussy Willow
- Silky Willow

### FORBS:

- Wild Columbine
- Swamp Milkweed
- Flat-top Aster
- Common Grass-Leaved Goldenrod
- Blue Flag Iris
- Marsh Blazing Star
- Great Blue Lobelia
- Orange Coneflower
- Heath Aster
- Brown-Eyed Susan
- Side-Flowering Aster
- Common Spiderwort

### SEDGES/RUSHES:

- Bristly Sedge
- Crested Oval Sedge
- Bristly Cattail Sedge
- Porcupine Sedge
- Bottlebrush Sedge
- Field Oval Sedge
- Brown Fox Sedge
- Path Rush

### GRASSES:

- Virginia Wild Rye
- Fowl Mannagrass

