



**Chagrin River Watershed Partners, Inc.
Stream and Wetland Mitigation Banking Project**

The Chagrin River Watershed Partners, Inc. (CRWP) has received a grant from the Ohio Water Development Authority through the Ohio Lake Erie Commission to establish a stream and wetland mitigation bank. The goal of the initiative is to keep all mitigation of stream and wetland impacts within the watershed. The grant funding will be used to research the feasibility of establishing a mitigation bank, develop a mitigation banking instrument, select potential mitigation sites, and develop detailed site plans for at least two mitigation sites, development of a sustainability plan for the mitigation bank, and create a website to advertise the bank.

CRWP plans to establish a mitigation bank and promote development of additional mitigation sites in the future. As CRWP does not manage any property, nor do we intend to own or manage property or to hold conservation easements, we are looking for interested property owners. Property owners could include communities, park districts, non-profit organizations, or private residents that have an interest in completing stream or wetland restoration on their property. Please note any property used for mitigation must be protected in perpetuity with a conservation easement or similar mechanism. To facilitate identification of potential mitigation sites, CRWP has created a Stream and Wetland Restoration Site form which can be found on our website at http://www.crwp.org/mitigation/crwp_mitigation_bank.htm. ***If your community or organization has property with stream, wetlands, or other water resources which may be potential mitigation sites, please fill out the form and return it to CRWP by June 30, 2009.*** CRWP will continue to accept potential sites throughout the process, but the initial site selections may determine sites that will receive design assistance through the grant. A presentation about the CRWP mitigation effort is also available on our website at the link listed above.

Although the grant will cover start up expenses, CRWP anticipates that the funding from the sale of mitigation credits would cover administration of the bank, site selection and design, construction, monitoring, conservation easements, long term management, and financial assurances. Any remaining revenue can be used to select and design new mitigation sites and provide revenue sharing with the property owners.

If you have any questions or need additional information please contact Amy Brennan abrennan@crwp.org or Mindy Hayes mhayes@crwp.org at (440)975-3870.