

Appendix C Players

There are a large number of active players in Cleveland's urban forest. This summary list provides short descriptions of each organization or institution.

Cleveland Botanical Garden. Cleveland Botanical Garden is a non-for-profit organization with inspirational gardens located in East Cleveland. The Garden is committed to attracting visitors and residents of Cleveland and serves the Cleveland area through educational outreach programs. Green Corps, one program example, helps young adults develop skills through changing the landscape of vacant city lots into usable urban farms. The Garden is involved with the applied research of restoring abandoned properties into green infrastructure.

City of Cleveland. There are a number of divisions and departments within the City of Cleveland that are active in the urban forest. They include:

- **Land Bank.** Housed in the Division of Neighborhood Development, the City's Land Reutilization (Land Bank) Program is designed to acquire vacant land and market it to individuals, developers, and non-profit organizations for redevelopment. The goal is to contribute to the economic, social, and environmental betterment of the city through redevelopment of city-owned land.
- **Mayor's Office of Capital Projects.** Provides for the planning, designing, construction, and preservation of the city's facilities and infrastructure.
- **Office of Sustainability (OoS).** OoS collaborates with the community to improve the economic, environmental, and social well-being of its citizens. Sustainable Cleveland 2019 is a 10-year initiative that engages people from all walks of life, working together to design and develop a thriving and resilient Cleveland region.

- **Planning Commission.** The City Planning Commission and its professional planning staff provided services in zoning, design review, historic preservation, maps and data, development planning, neighborhood plans, and special purpose plans such as the Cleveland 2020 Citywide Plan, Cleveland Waterfront District Plan, and the Cleveland Bikeway Plan.
- **Public Works > Division of Park Maintenance & Properties > Urban Forestry.** The Urban Forestry department provides a safe urban forest while preserving its natural beauty. Activities include the maintenance of all public street and park trees, including the removal of dead and hazardous street trees and overgrown roots which raise sidewalks, planting of replacement trees (based on availability of funding), trimming, and providing public information.

Cleveland-Cuyahoga County Port Authority. The Port Authority's sole mission is to enhance economic vitality in Cuyahoga County through job creation and helping the region compete globally by connecting local businesses to world markets through the most cost-effective method of freight transportation in the region. The Port Authority also connects private investors with landmark projects throughout the region and serves as an environmental steward of Cleveland Harbor and the Cuyahoga River.

Cleveland Foundation. The Cleveland Foundation (CF) is a charitable organization supported by private donors and governed by local citizens. Since 1914, CF has invested in helping citizens give back purposefully to their communities through directed funding for reinvented K-12 education, neighborhood revitalization and redevelopment, youth development, arts and culture, economic development, and Greater University Circle. The foundation has partnered with Neighborhood Progress, Inc. to strategically invest in supporting the recovery of nine Cleveland neighborhoods and collaborating with other partners who want to create a vibrant “urban core” in Greater University Circle.

Cleveland Metroparks. CMP is a network of 18 parks (called reservations) mostly in Cuyahoga County, as well as the Cleveland Zoo. Aside from plantings on park property, CMP works with local neighborhood and watershed groups on tree planting campaigns in areas surrounding the reservations in efforts to clean air and water affecting/entering the reservations. CMP is a separate government entity funded by taxes from all of Cuyahoga County and Hinckley Township.

Cleveland Museum of Natural History (CMNH). CMNH has been in existence for nearly 100 years and encourages discovery of nature and science. Visitors explore exhibits, meet wild animals, take a hike through natural areas, and join educational classes. Beyond the foundation, the Museum is a leader in sustainability through their Green City Blue Lake Institute, which works to improve conditions in nine environmentally minded areas: clean air, energy, water, connecting with nature, green buildings, local food system, transportation choices, vibrant cities and towns, and zero waste.

Cleveland Neighborhood Progress (CNP). CNP is a local community development funding intermediary with an approach to neighborhood revitalization that incorporates real estate development, safety, access to education, work and amenities, and civic involvement.

Cleveland Public Power (CPP). CPP is the largest municipally owned electric utility in the State of Ohio, services 80,000 customers, and is a Tree Power Participant of the American Public Power Association. A utility that is a Tree Power Participant must sustain a tree planting program and work to reach the goal of one tree per customer. The Tree Power program helps to educate the public and utilities on the beneficial relationship between trees and energy savings.

Community Development Corporations (CDC). CDC’s are typically neighborhood-based, non-profit entities working at the forefront of critical issues that confront neighborhoods, including economic development, stabilization, and revitalization. Cleveland’s active CDCs are listed below.

- **Bellaire Puritas Development Corporation** serving the Bellaire-Puritas, Jefferson, and Hopkins (airport) neighborhoods.
- **Buckeye Shaker Square Development Corporation** serving the old Buckeye, Larchmere, Woodland Hills, and Shaker Square neighborhoods.
- **Burten, Bell, Carr Development Corporation** serving Central, Kinsman, and Garden Valley neighborhoods.
- **Collinwood Nottingham Villages** serving the South Collinwood neighborhood.
- **Cudell Improvement, Inc.** serving the Cudell/Edgewater neighborhood.
- **Detroit Shoreway Community Development Organization** serving the Detroit Shoreway neighborhood.
- **Downtown Cleveland Alliance** serving the downtown urban core.
- **Fairfax Renaissance Development Corporation** serving the Fairfax neighborhood.
- **Famicos Foundation** serving the Glenville and Hough neighborhoods.

- **Harvard Community Services Center** serving the Lee-Harvard, Miles, and Seville neighborhoods.
- **Historic Gateway Neighborhood Corp.** serving downtown Cleveland's Gateway neighborhood.
- **Hough Development Corporation** serving the Hough neighborhood.
- **Kamm's Corners Development Corporation** serving the West Park neighborhood.
- **Little Italy Redevelopment Corporation** serving the Little Italy neighborhood, also referred to as Murray Hill.
- **Maingate Business Development** serving the Maingate industrial district.
- **Midtown Cleveland, Inc.** serving a two-square-mile area between downtown Cleveland and University Circle.
- **Mt. Pleasant NOW Development Corporation** serving the Mt. Pleasant neighborhood.
- **Northeast Shores** serving the North Shores Collinwood neighborhood.
- **Ohio City Near West Development Corporation** serving the Ohio City neighborhood.
- **Old Brooklyn Community Development Corporation** serving the Old Brooklyn neighborhood.
- **Shaker Square Area Development Corporation** serving the Shaker Square/Ludlow Historic District, Larchmere and Ludlow neighborhoods.
- **Slavic Village Development** serving the neighborhoods of Hyacinth, Forest City, Mill Creek Falls, Trailside, and Warszawa.
- **St. Clair Superior Development Corporation** serving the St. Clair Superior neighborhood.
- **Stockyard/Clark Fulton/Brooklyn Center** serving the Stockyard, Clark-Fulton and Brooklyn Centre neighborhoods.

- **The Campus District, Inc.** serving downtown Cleveland's Campus District.
- **Tremont West Development Corporation** serving the Tremont neighborhood.
- **Union-Miles Development Corporation** serving the Union-Miles neighborhood.
- **University Circle, Inc.** serving the University Circle neighborhood.
- **Westtown Community Development Corporation** serving the Westtown neighborhood (Ward 11)

Cuyahoga County Board of Health (CCBH). CCBH serves to prevent disease and injury, promote positive health outcomes, and to provide critical services to improve the health status of the community. They work to protect and promote public health through addressing air pollution, climate change, noise control, drinking water, emergency preparedness and response, housing, injury prevention, land use, environmental health, sustainability, and watershed management.

Cuyahoga County Land Bank. The Cuyahoga Land Bank, formed in 2006, acquires blighted properties and returns them to productive use. It has the ability to acquire vacant and abandoned foreclosed properties from a variety of sources, including those held by banks, federal and state agencies, as well as real estate lost to tax foreclosure and donated properties. The Land Bank's partnership with the City of Cleveland, which has its own land bank, includes handing over title to all vacant land after completing demolition. The goal of the Cuyahoga Land Bank's partnerships with local municipalities is to promote collaboration, spread risk, and to make joint code enforcement and nuisance abatement operations possible.

Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority. CMHA provides homeownership opportunities for qualified families, and develops career-training programs to enhance the quality of life of its residents. The CMHA's Green Team recruits public housing residents and provides them with the training and education necessary to cultivate, plant, and harvest fruits and vegetables on urban farms.

Dominion East Ohio. Dominion is a regulated natural gas delivery company serving Cleveland.

First Energy. Also referred to as The Illuminating Company, FE is a regulated power company headquartered in Akron, serving Cleveland, along with other areas in OH, PA, WV, MD, and NJ.

Forest City Working Group (FCWG). The FCWG is one of many working groups associated with the 2019 Sustainable Cleveland initiative. The FCWG's vision is to make Cleveland the Forest City once again by providing raising awareness about tree benefits and providing resources and expertise to assist in reforestation.

The George Gund Foundation (GUND). GUND is a private, nonprofit organization founded in 1952 to advance human welfare. GUND has a long-standing interest in awarding funding to the arts, economic development and community revitalization, education, and environment and human services. The foundation promotes plans to help Cleveland become a model of environmental sustainability.

Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI). GLRI is an EPA-funded program, developed to support efforts to protect and restore the Great Lakes, the largest fresh water system in the world. GLRI focuses on five areas: toxic substances and areas of concern, invasive species, nearshore health and nonpoint source pollution, habitat and wildlife protection and restoration, and accountability, education, monitoring, evaluation, communication, and partnerships.

Holden Arboretum. Holden Arboretum is a natural museum aiming to connect people with nature, be a resource for professional and novice landscapers, and partner with communities in natural resource education. Outside the arboretum, the organization promotes the beauty and importance of trees in creating healthy and sustainable communities with the region through conservation, engagement, and creating place.

L.A.N.D. Studio. L.A.N.D. Studio (Landscape, Art, Neighborhoods, Development) is a nonprofit, created from a merger between Cleveland Public Art and ParkWorks, active in revitalization and beautification projects involving park redesigns, public art installation, and vacant lot reuse across Cleveland.

Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District (NEORS). NEORS is Cleveland's sewer district, responsible for wastewater treatment facilities and interceptor sewers in the greater Cleveland Metropolitan Area. This service area encompasses the City of Cleveland and all or portions of 61 surrounding suburban municipalities. They are an active partner in protecting the water quality of the Cuyahoga River and Lake Erie for public health. NEORS's Project Clean Lake is a clean water program to address sewage overflow during rain events and help bring the region into compliance with the Clean Water Act.

Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry, Urban Forestry Program. ODNR's Ohio Urban Forestry Program guides local community urban forestry programs in proper tree care through providing leadership and science-based information. The program encourages Tree City USA participation, effective tree canopy ordinances for ensuring the protection of existing trees, trains volunteer tree commissions, and preaches urban forestry best practices.

Saint Luke’s Foundation (SLF). SLF is a non-profit organization aiming to support community based collaborative efforts to improve physical environments and social conditions within targeted communities. SLF is interested in reestablishing the urban forest in Cleveland to improve the lives of residents in these neighborhoods by creating more useful, green, and beautiful spaces for communities to engage in.

Watershed Organizations: Non-profit organizations dedicated to protecting and restoring a watershed (an area of land that drains to a particular stream, river, lake, or ocean).

- **Big Creek Connects**, formerly known as Friends of Big Creek, works to restore and protect the 38-square-mile Big Creek watershed spanning 8 municipalities: Cleveland, Brooklyn, Brook Park, Linndale, Middleburg Heights, North Royalton Parma, and Parma Heights.
- **Chagrin River Watershed Partners** works to restore and protect the 267-square-mile Chagrin River watershed, partially located on the eastern side of Cuyahoga County and southern portions of Lake County.
- **Cuyahoga River Restoration** works to restore and protect the 813-square-mile Cuyahoga River watershed and the near shore of Lake Erie, spanning six counties. CRR’s ReLeaf program promotes the relationship between healthy forests and healthy watersheds and is an active participant in the restoration and protection of the forest canopy.
- **Doan Brook Watershed Partners** works to restore and protect the 12-square-mile Doan Brook watershed area in the eastern metropolitan area of Cleveland.

- **Friends of Euclid Creek** works to restore and protect the 24-square-mile Euclid Creek watershed in northeastern Cuyahoga and Lake Counties, crossing portions of 11 communities.
- **Mill Creek Watershed Partnership** works to restore and protect the Mill Creek watershed, running through the cities of Beachwood, Cleveland, Cuyahoga Heights, Garfield Heights, Highland Hills, Maple Heights, North Randall, Shaker Heights, and Warrensville Heights.
- **Rocky River Watershed Council** works to restore and protect the 294-square-mile Rocky River Watershed stretching from Medina to Lake Erie through parts of Cuyahoga, Lorain, Medina, and Summit Counties, including all or part of 32 municipalities and townships.
- **Tinkers Creek Watershed Partners** works to restore and protect the 96-square-mile Tinker Creek Watershed—the largest tributary to the Cuyahoga River. The watershed area spans 24 communities in Cuyahoga, Geauga, Portage, and Summit counties.
- **Westcreek Conservancy** works to restore and protect the West Creek watershed through the creation of greenways (Greater Cleveland Trails and Greenways/Tails for Trails) and vacant land reuse.

Western Reserve Land Conservancy. WRLC is a nonprofit collaborative organization formed in a merger of 13 land trusts that work with landowners, communities, government agencies, park systems, and other nonprofit organizations to create an interconnected 400,000-acre network of protected property throughout northern Ohio. WRLC’s *Thriving Communities Institute* was recently formed to serve as the urban arm of conservation efforts, and focuses on multiple efforts including tree planting in cities.