



It is rare to hear good news about air or water quality in Allegheny County

Please read on...

Little Sewickley Creek (LSC), located in the municipalities of Bell Acres, Edgeworth, Franklin Park, Leet, Leetsdale, Sewickley Heights, and Sewickley Hills is the exception. LSC has the second highest designation possible by PA Department of Environmental Protection as a High-Quality Watershed, second only to Exceptional Quality. LSC is the only watershed of its size with this designation in the county!

Thanks in part to the decades of work by the Little Sewickley Creek Watershed Association (LSCWA) the creek is an ecological and recreational treasure in our communities. Since 1972, LSCWA has sponsored grant-funded projects, conducted environmental programming for students of all ages and organized thousands of hours of meaningful volunteer projects to maintain and enhance the creek's water quality, and raise public awareness of what a fragile and rare watershed it is.

The community benefits from a clean LSC in a host of ways including enhanced property values, scenic beauty, recreation, and the peace of mind knowing that a clean creek is safer for your family and pets.

Milestone Reached

I am pleased to share a recent milestone that was achieved recently by LSCWA. With grant funding, the silt-laden dam near the Woodland Road bridge was removed, which may be one of the most significant improvements to LSC in decades.

With the dam no longer in place, a surge of new species has migrated upstream and now populate the upper reaches of the creek, enhancing the overall ecology of the entire watershed. Please see the opposite side for more information on the transformation the dam removal has had on the fish population.

LSCWA is an all-volunteer organization with a long history of excellent work and results as affirmed by the High-Quality designation of the creek. Our organization includes students, landowners, the Quaker Valley School District, Fern Hollow Nature Center, Allegheny Land Trust and concerned citizens.

If you are interested in volunteering or joining our ranks, please visit our website at lscwatershed.org or contact us at info@lscwatershed.org.

If you cannot volunteer, please consider donating to the LSCWA by making a tax-deductible donation using the enclosed envelope or follow the QR code below.

Your financial and volunteer support will empower LSCWA to maintain our momentum, raise larger grant funds and help to keep LSC the High-Quality treasure that it is. Thank you for your consideration and be sure to see the exciting statistics on the back of this letter.

Barbara Carrier - President



Fish Surveys on Little Sewickley Creek Before & After the Removal of the Woodland Drive Dam

Dr. Brady A. Porter - Associate Professor
Department of Biological Sciences
Duquesne University

Upstream of the dam prior to 2015 there were 5 families, 11 species, and 4 introduced species of fish. These fish are tolerant headwater and pioneering species dominated by generalists and omnivores. Compare this to below the dam where the creek held 8 families, 41 species, including 4 introduced species. Almost four times the number of species.

Fish Communities of Little Sewickley Creek (LSC) were severely impacted by the Woodland Dam. After removal, communities recovered after 2015 and ranked exceptional by 2022 according to the Index of Biotic Integrity (IBI). The IBI uses data on fish species feeding niche diversity and reproduction to determine stream health.

Increasing fish diversity above the dam is one of the ways Little Sewickley Creek Watershed Association (LSCWA) builds upon LSC's current designation as a High Quality stream and a Biological Diversity Area.

July 2015



March 2016



Please help keep Little Sewickley Creek clean and healthy!

LSC Index of Biotic Integrity

