

Wakefield MetroPark Natural Resource Management Plan

Tara Kauffman, Natural Resources Manager
Brad Phillips, Environmental Projects Coordinator
(December 2012-Updated February 2019)

Erie MetroParks mission is to conserve natural resources while connecting the community with nature through education and exploration.

Features and Resources

Wakefield MetroPark is found in downtown Vermilion on the west bank of the Vermilion River, almost to the very mouth. It is a 1.5 acre parcel which has the river on its east edge, Lake Erie as its north boundary, and residential properties to the south and west (*see attachment property map*). An existing house was removed in 2011, leaving an open grassy lot with a lightly wooded lakeshore beach area. Remnants of residential landscape plantings remain on the site.

This property is owned by Erie MetroParks, having been acquired in 2010. The entire parcel is under a conservation easement which is held by the Western Reserve Land Conservancy. This easement's goals are to conserve a natural, scenic, open and wooded area with suitable habitat for wildlife and to provide a public area for passive recreation including fishing access.

Very limited survey work has been done on the flora and fauna of this site. A baseline survey in 2010 and a single site visit late in 2012 yielded a preliminary list of 46 plant species. More regular survey through 2016 has increased the plant list to 153 species (*see attachment plant list thru 2016*). The site is regarded as good potential habitat for two state listed plant species – Inland Sea Rocket (*Cakile edulenta*) and Purple Sand Grass (*Triplasis pupurea*). The Inland Sea Rocket has been found, dozens of blooming plants are marked yearly. The site also has potential as a stopover site for migratory birds in spring and fall. 69 species of birds have been detected, with 26 of those associated with the lake and shore habitats (*see attachment bird list thru 2016*).

Four rare mussel species have been documented at this site in the past. Both the Black Sand Shell Mussel (*Ligumia recta*) and Fawnfoot Mussel (*Truncilla donaciformis*) are state threatened, and Purple Wartyback Mussel (*Unio merus tetralasmus*) and Deertoe Mussel (*Truncilla truncata*) are both species of concern in Ohio.

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A stone jetty belonging to Vermilion City extends out from the north edge of the site at the mouth of the river, providing additional fishing access. This jetty and the river's east side break wall create an eddy zone on the beach, frequently depositing logs and other jetsam.

A new section was acquired along the beach (West of the Wakefield parcel) in 2018 that is owned by the City of Vermilion. Erie MetroParks holds a conservation easement on the parcel, and an inspection will take place yearly.

Management Strategies

The primary goal of management is to develop an accessible public space within the restraints of the conservation easement, while also enhancing the natural scenic and aesthetic properties of the site. To that end, the turf areas should continue to be mowed while future plans are developed for native species plantings. The beach area should be maintained in a natural state and not groomed, letting native vegetation such as shrubby willows and grasses to establish. Seedling trees may need to be controlled to maintain an open sightline. Existing mature trees should be retained as long as they are healthy.

Driftwood will likely continue to accumulate and may periodically need to be removed.

The breakwall which is reinforced by large rocks with wooden frame work is starting to fail causing holes on the landscape. In 2017, Erie MetroParks operations staff went in and removed the top soil off the wall and filled it with 601D limestone rock, then laid geotextile matting down on top and filled it back in. Monitoring will continue as future remediation may be necessary.

Invasive Species

Japanese knotweed (*Polygonum cuspidatum*) and Garlic Mustard (*Alliaria petiolata*) are two invasive species found on site. Chinese Wintercreeper (*Euonymus fortunei*), which seems to be a planted population, is also well established. Poison Hemlock (*Conium maculatum*) has just started growing on the beach. All of these species can be troublesome and should be controlled.

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Future Goals and Plans

The removal of the house, along with associated trees, has left space for plantings of native shrubs and forbs. These plantings should be designed to emulate high quality lake shore habitat and to serve as a resource for migratory birds and other wildlife. Ideally, they would also consist of species which will remain low enough to preserve the open sightlines of the site.

**Wakefield
MetroPark**





PLANT List, Wakefield MetroPark thru 2016

Thursday, March 23, 2017

Code	SciName	Common Name	Wakefield	Origin	Listed	Invasive
L V						
	Equisetum arvense L.	Horsetail, Field	R L	N		
			1		0	0
P						
	Alyssum alyssoides (L.) L.	Alyssum	X esc.	A		
	Asparagus officinalis L.	Asparagus, Garden	X	A		
	Symphyotrichum pilosum (Willd.) G.L. Nesom [Aster p..us Willd.]	Aster, Awl	X?	N		
	Symphyotrichum cordifolium (L.) G.L. Nesom [Aster c..us L.]	Aster, Blue Wood	X?	N		
	Symphyotrichum lanceolatum (L.) [Aster l..us Willd.[A.simplex]	Aster, Eastern Lined	X?	N		
	Symphyotrichum sp, lanceolate	Aster, lanceolate	X	N		
	Geum urbanum Jacq.	Aven, Yellow	X?	A		
	Strophostyles umbellata (Muhl ex Willd.) Britton	Bean, Pink Wild	X	N		
	Galium aparine L.	Bedstraw, Cleavers	X	N		
	Bidens frondosa L.	Beggar-ticks, Devils	X?	N		
	Convolvulus arvensis L.	Bindweed, Field	X	A		
	Calystegia sepium (L) R.Br.	Bindweed, Hedge	X	N		
	Polygonum scandens L.	Buckwheat, Climbing False	X	N		
	Lycopus virginicus L.	Bugleweed, Virginia	X?	N		
	Arctium minus Bernh.	Burdock, Common	X	A		
	Ranunculus abortivus L.	Buttercup, Kidney-leaved	X	N		
	Daucus carota L.	Carrot, Wild (Queen Anne's Lace)	X	A		
	Nepeta cataria L.	Catnip	X	A		
	Stellaria media (L.) Vill.	Chickweed, Common	X	A		
	Cerastium fontanum Baumg.[C.vulgatum]	Chickweed, Common Mouse-eared	X	A		
	Potentilla norvegica L.	Cinquefoil, Rough	X	N		
	Xanthium strumarium L.	Cocklebur	X	N		
	Geranium carolinianum L.	Crane's-bill, Carolina	X	N		
	Geranium pusillum L.	Crane's-bill, Small-flowered	X	A		
	Barbarea vulgaris R.Br.	Cress, Common Winter	X?	A		
	Lepidum campestre (L.) R.Br.	Cress, Cow (Field Peppergrass)	X?	N		

Code	SciName	Common Name	Wakefield	Origin	Listed	Invasive
	<i>Cardamine hirsuta</i> L.	Cress, Hoary Bitter	X	A		
	<i>Arabidopsis thaliana</i> (L.) Heynh.	Cress, Mouse-ear	X	A		
	<i>Coronilla varia</i> L.	Crown-vetch	X	A		
	<i>Narcissus pseudonarcissus</i> L.	Daffodil	pl	A		
	<i>Taraxacum officinale</i> Weber	Dandelion, Common	X	A		
	<i>Commelina communis</i> L.	Dayflower, Common	X	A		
	<i>Hemerocallis fulva</i> L.	Day-lily, Orange	pl	N		
	<i>Lamium purpureum</i> L.	Dead-nettle, Purple	X	A		
	<i>Rumex crispus</i> L.	Dock, Curled	X	A		
	<i>Oenothera biennis</i> L.	Evening-primrose, Common	X	N		
	<i>Myosotis verna</i> Nutt.	Forget-me-not, Spring	X?	N		
	<i>Mirabilis nyctaginea</i> (Michx.) MacMill.	Four-o'clock, Wild	X	A		
	<i>Allium vineale</i> L.	Garlic, Field	X	A		
	<i>Sedum acre</i> L.	Golden-carpet	pl	A		
	<i>Solidago canadensis</i> L.	Goldenrod, Canada (+Tall)	X	N		
	<i>Muscari botryoides</i> (L.) Mill.	Grape-hyacinth	pl	A		
	<i>Bromus</i> sp	Grass, Brome, non downy type	X	u		
	<i>Elymus canadensis</i> L.	Grass, Canada Wild Rye	X	N		
	<i>Bromus tectorum</i> L.	Grass, Downy Brome	X?	A		
	<i>Eleusine indica</i> (L.) Gaertn.	Grass, Goose	X?	A		
	<i>Poa pratensis</i> L.	Grass, Kentucky Blue	X	Z		
	<i>Lolium pratense</i> (Huds.) Darbyshire [<i>Festuca pr..sis</i>]	Grass, Meadow Fescue?	X?	A		
	<i>Dactylis glomerata</i> L.	Grass, Orchard	X	A		
	<i>Lolium perenne</i> L.	Grass, Perennial Ryegrass	X?	A		
	<i>Elymus repens</i> (L.) Gould (<i>Agropyron</i>)	Grass, Quack	X	A		
	<i>Panicum virgatum</i> L.	Grass, Switch	X?	N		
	<i>Bromus</i> species?	Grass, unk, tall, very smooth, med broad	X	A?		
	<i>Glechoma hederacea</i> L.	Ground Ivy	X	A		
	<i>Senecio vulgaris</i> L.	Groundsel, Common	X	A		
	<i>Lamium amplexicaule</i> L.	Henbit	X	A		
	<i>Conzya canadensis</i> (L.) Cronq.	Horseweed, Common	X	Z		
	<i>Duchesnea indica</i> (Andrews) Focke	Indian-Strawberry	X	A		
	<i>Impatiens capensis</i> Meerb.	Jewelweed, Orange (Touch-me-not)	X?	N		

Code	SciName	Common Name	Wakefield	Origin	Listed	Invasive
	Hieracium caespitosum Dumort	King Devil, Yellow	X	A		
	Polygonum cuspidatum Sieb.& Zucc.	Knotweed, Japanese	X	A		X
	Polygonum aviculare L.	Knotweed, Prostrate	X	A		
	Chenopodium album L.	Lambsquarters	X	A		
	Medicago lupulina L.	Medick, Black	X	A		
	Acalypha virginica L.var rhomboidea Cooperr.	Mercury, Three-seeded	X	N		
	Asclepias syriaca L.	Milkweed, Common	X	N		
	Lunaria annua L.	Money-plant	pl	A		
	Verbascum thapsus L.	Mullein, Common	X	A		
	Alliaria petiolata (M.Bieb) Cavara & Grande	Mustard, Garlic	X	A		X
	Sisymbrium sp?	Mustard, Yellow	X			
	Solanum dulcamara L.	Nightshade, Bittersweet	X	A		
	Solanum nigrum L. [S. ptychanthum]	Nightshade, Black	X	N		
	Cyperus sp.	Nut-sedge, a common one	X	N		
	Heliopsis helianthoides (L.) Sweet	Ox-eye, Smooth	X	N		
	Lathyrus latifolius L.	Pea, Everlasting	X	A		
	Thlaspi arvense L.	Penny-cress, Field	X	A		
	Vinca minor L.	Periwinkle, Common	pl	A		
	Matricaria discoidea DC	Pineapple-weed	X	A		
	Plantago major L.	Plantain, Common	X	A		
	Plantago lanceolata L.	Plantain, English	X	A		
	Plantago rugelii Decne.	Plantain, Rugel's(Pale)	X	N		
	Conium maculatum L.	Poison-hemlock	X	A		X
	Phytolacca americana L.	Pokeweed	X	N		
	Portulaca oleracea L.	Purslane, Common	X	A		
	Ambrosia artemisiifolia L.	Ragweed, common	X	N		
	Ambrosia trifida L.	Ragweed, Giant	X	N		
	Lycoris squamigera Maxim.	Resurrection-lily	pl	A		
	Cakile edulenta (Bigelow) Hook	Rocket, Inland Sea	U L	N	P	
	Lychnis coronaria (L.) Desr.	Rose-campion	pl	A		
	Salsola sp.	Russian-thistle sp	X			
	Arenaria serpyllifolia L.	Sandwort, Thyme-leaved	X	A		
	Carex sp. (coarse)	Sedge	X	N		
	Capsella bursa-pastoris (L.) Medik.	Shepherd's-Purse	X	A		

Code	SciName	Common Name	Wakefield	Origin	Listed	Invasive
	<i>Polygonum lapathifolium</i> L.	Smartweed, Nodding	X	N		
	<i>Galanthus nivalis</i> L.	Snowdrops	pl	A		
	<i>Saponaria officinalis</i> L.	Soapwort (Bouncing Bet)	X	A		
	<i>Sonchus oleraceus</i> L.	Sow-thistle, Common	X?	A		
	<i>Sonchus asper</i> (L.) Hill	Sow-thistle, Spiny-leaved	X	A		
	<i>Bidens bipinnata</i> L.	Spanish Needles	X	N		
	<i>Mentha spicata</i> L.	Spearmint	X	A		
	<i>Veronica arvensis</i> L.	Speedwell, Corn	X	A		
	<i>Veronica peregrina</i> L.	Speedwell, Purslane	X	N		
	<i>Veronica polita</i> Fries	Speedwell, Wayside	X	A		
	<i>Euphorbia maculata</i> L.	Spurge, Prostrate	X	A		
	<i>Euphorbia nutans</i> Lag.	Spurge, Upright Spotted	X	N		
	<i>Hypericum perforatum</i> L.	St.-John's-wort, Common	X	A		
	<i>Melilotus officinalis</i> (L.)Lam.	Sweet-Clover, Yellow	X?	A		
	<i>Dipsacus fullonum</i> L.	Teasel, Common	X	A		X
	<i>Cirsium vulgare</i> (Savi) Tenore	Thistle, Bull	X	A		
	<i>Cirsium arvense</i> (L) Scop.	Thistle, Canada	X	A		X
	<i>Desmodium</i> sp	Tick-trefoil, a	X	N		
	<i>Erysimum</i> sp.	Treacle-mustard	X	A		
	<i>Tulipa gesnerana</i> L.	Tulip	pl	A		
	<i>Verbena hastata</i> L.	Vervain, Blue	X	N		
	<i>Vicia</i> sp.	Vetch, a purple	X	A		
	<i>Viola sororia</i> Willd.	Violet, Common Blue	X?	N		
	<i>Clematis virginiana</i> L.	Virgin's-bower	X	N		
	<i>Polygonum hydropiper</i> L.	Water-pepper	X	N		
	<i>Verbesina alternifolia</i> (L)Britt.	Wingstem	X	N		
	<i>Oxalis dillenii</i> Jacq.	Wood-sorrel, Southern Yellow	X	N		
	<i>Achillea millefolium</i> L.	Yarrow	X	A		
			121		1	5

T

	<i>Fraxinus pennsylvanica</i> Marshall	Ash, Red and Green	X	N		
	<i>Tilia americana</i> L.	Basswood	X	N		
	<i>Betula pendula</i> Roth ?	Birch, European White ?	X?	A		
	<i>Catalpa speciosa</i> (Warder) Engelm.	Catalpa, Northern	X	Z		
	<i>Populus deltoides</i> Marsh	Cottonwood	X	N		

Code	SciName	Common Name	Wakefield	Origin	Listed	Invasive
	Parthenocissus vitacea (Knerr.) A.Hitch.[P.inserta]	Creeper, Thicket	X	N		
	Parthenocissus quinquefolia (L) Planch.	Creeper, Virginia	X	N		
	Cornus racemosa Lam.	Dogwood, Gray (Panicked)	X?	N		
	Ulmus pumila L.	Elm, Siberian	X	A		X
	Vitis riparia Michx.	Grape, Riverbank	X	N		
	Gleditsia triacanthos L.	Honey-locust	X	N		
	Ptelea trifoliata L.	Hop-tree, Common	X?	N		
	Toxicodendron radicans (L) Ktze.	Ivy, Poison	X	N		
	Juniperus sp.	Juniper, Shrub	X	u		
	Robinia pseudoacacia L.	Locust, Black	X	Z		
	Acer negundo L.	Maple, Ash-leaved(Box-elder)	X	N		
	Acer platanoides L.	Maple, Norway	X	A		X
	Acer rubrum L.	Maple, Red	X?	N		
	Acer saccharinum L.	Maple, Silver	X	N		
	Morus rubra L.	Mulberry, Red	X?	N		
	Ligustrum vulgare L.	Privet, Common	X?	A		X
	Euonymous europaeus L.	Spindle-tree, European	X?	A		X
	Platanus occidentalis L.	Sycamore	R	N		
	Ailanthus altissima (Mill.) Swingle	Tree-of-Heaven	X	A		X
	unk	unk shrub, ovate,graygreen, persistent	pl			
	unk	unk shrub, thick glossy lance-obovate	pl	A		
	Juglans nigra L.	Walnut, Black	X	N		
	Salix nigra Marsh	Willow, Black	X?	N		
	Salix exigua Nutt. (S. interior)	Willow, Sandbar	X	N		
	Salix babylonica L.	Willow, Weeping	X	A		
	Euonymous fortunei (Turcz.) Hand.- Mazz.	Wintercreeper, Chinese	pl	A		X
			31		0	6
153			153		1	11

Legend for Plant List

Code	Listed	Origin	Abundance/Distribution	Description of Code
L V				Lower Vascular Plant
P				Herbaceous
T				Woody Plant
	E			Endangered on State List
	P			Potentially Threatened on State List
	T			Threatened on State List
		A		Alien to Area and Country
		N		Native to Area, Indigenous
		Z		Naturalized from other part of country
			** bl	found by J. Blakeman
			** dnr	found by ODNR personnel
			** et	found by Envirotech Consultants
			** JB	found by J. Bissell
			** jm	found by John Mack
			** LT	found by L. Terveen
			A L	Abundant & Local
			A M	Abundant & Moderately Distributed
			A W	Abundant & Widespread
			ark	planted by J. Blakeman in 'ark' prairie
			C L	Common & Local
			C M	Common & Moderately Distributed
			C W	Common & Widespread
			N	Unknown Abundance or Distribution
			o	old record, not found recently
			pl	planted, usually leftover landscaping
			R L	Rare & Local
			R M	Rare and Moderately Distributed
			R W	Rare and Widespread
			re	restoration planting species
			U L	Uncommon & Local
			U M	Uncommon & Moderately Distributed
			U W	Uncommon & Widespread
			X	Present



Birds of Wakefield MetroPark thru 2016

Tuesday, February 07, 2017

Species	Wakefield
Canada Goose	Resident
Black Duck	Migrant
Mallard Duck	Resident
Green-winged Teal	Migrant
Canvasback	Migrant
Redhead duck	Migrant
Ring-necked Duck	Migrant
Lesser Scaup	Migrant
Bufflehead	Winter Visitor
Common Goldeneye	Winter Visitor
Hooded Merganser	Migrant
Common Merganser	Winter Visitor
Red Breasted Merganser	Winter Visitor
Common Loon	Migrant
Pied-billed Grebe	Migrant
Horned Grebe	Winter Visitor
Double-crested Cormorant	Resident
Great Blue Heron	Summer Visitor
Turkey Vulture	Summer Resident
Bald Eagle	Year-round Visitor
American Coot	Migrant
Sandhill Crane	Flyover Migrant
Killdeer	Migrant
Spotted Sandpiper	Migrant
American Woodcock	Migrant
Bonaparte's Gull	Winter Visitor
Ring-billed Gull	Year-round Visitor
Herring Gull	Year-round Visitor
Lesser Black-backed Gull	Winter Visitor
Great Black-backed Gull	Winter Visitor
Caspian Tern	Spring Migrant
Mourning Dove	Resident
Chimney Swift	Summer Resident

Species	Wakefield
Red-bellied Woodpecker	Summer visitor
Yellow-shafted Flicker	Resident?
Eastern Kingbird	Summer Resident?
Warbling Vireo	Migrant
Blue Jay	Resident
American Crow	Resident
Horned Lark	Flyover
Purple Martin	Summer Resident
Tree Swallow	Summer Resident
Rough-winged Swallow	Summer Resident
Bank Swallow	Migrant
Barn Swallow	Summer Resident
Black-capped Chickadee	Resident
Tufted Titmouse	Visitor
White-breasted Nuthatch	Resident?
House Wren	Summer Resident
Winter Wren	Winter Visitor
American Robin	Resident
Gray Catbird	Resident
Starling	Resident
Cedar waxwing	Visitor
Yellow Warbler	Migrant
Common Yellowthroat	Migrant
Northern Cardinal	Resident
Song Sparrow	Resident
Dark-eyed Junco	Winter Visitor
Red-winged blackbird	Summer Resident
Eastern Meadowlark	Migrant
Rusty Blackbird	Spring Migrant
Common Grackle	Summer Resident
Brown-headed Cowbird	Summer Resident
Orchard Oriole	Migrant?
Baltimore Oriole	Summer Resident
House Finch	Resident
American Goldfinch	Resident

Species

Wakefield

House Sparrow

Resident

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