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2024 Hero Award



The 2024 Hero Award will be announced at our annual meeting in February. Nominations for this award are now being accepted. The award was established to honor groups or individuals who have made significant contributions to the stewardship of the Old Woman Creek estuary. Forms to nominate a hero may be obtained at the Visitor Center, on our website (friendsowc.org) or by email fowc@bex.net.

Photo Contest

The Friends' annual photo contest is underway! Your submissions are due by Sept. 1st. Prizes will be awarded. For more information visit our website: friendsowc.org.



“A Crowd Pleaser”
by
Michelle
Bock

Mission Statement

To promote public awareness and appreciation of the uniqueness of the estuary and to support stewardship programs that sustain the ecological integrity of Old Woman Creek.



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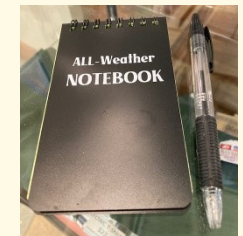
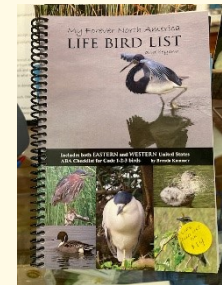


Friends of Old Woman Creek
PO Box 247
Huron OH 44839

What's New at the Nature Shop

by Rosie Kovacs

Here are a few of our new items for sale at the Nature Shop. The shop is open whenever the Visitor Center is open. T-shirts are on order and the hats just arrived.



Keep track of your bird sightings with “My Forever North America Life Bird List Book” for \$14.

You might also like a waterproof notebook (\$4) and gel ink pen for outdoor use (\$3).

One of our best sellers is also bird related. They are earrings of various birds made from recycled cereal boxes for \$14.



The OWC Visitor Center and Nature Shop are closed weekends from October through March.



Fall Festival

This year's Fall Festival will be held on Saturday, September 23rd from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Osborn Park. The Friends of OWC will have a display table with handouts, a wildlife trivia game and items for sale from our Nature Shop. Please stop by and say hello!

Check out Erie Metroparks' social media for details of all the fun things that are planned.

Teachers on the Estuary

The Friends of OWC helped support a group of teachers who wanted to learn more about Old Woman Creek. The Erie Conservation District and Old Woman Creek staff hosted six teachers from Erie, Huron, and Lorain counties for this three-day workshop. The teachers explored farmland, shorelines, woodland, urban developments, and the estuary while they learned about watersheds, agricultural conservation, wildlife, and stormwater management. Many of these local teachers had never been to Old Woman Creek before! Hopefully they will come back with their students next year.



Welcome Summer Interns



Paul Seong, Liz Navratil, Katie Hollington, Marek Havlovic & Jason Manzon

The Friends of OWC provided funding for two of the five interns working at OWC this summer. Katie Hollington, from the Ohio State University, in Columbus, OH is the research intern. She is pursuing a bachelor's degree in environmental science and psychology. Katie anticipates graduating in May of 2025 and hopes to volunteer abroad before attending graduate school.

Marek Havlovic from Nipissing University in North Bay, Ontario, Canada is the education intern. He is majoring in geography and minoring in earth science. He anticipates graduating after the fall semester and would like to pursue work at the ODNR.

While funded by the Friends, the selection and mentoring of the interns is accomplished by the professional staff of the Old Woman Creek NERR.

Grant Received

The FOWC received a grant from the Laurence A. and Karen E. Bettcher Foundation Fund via the Erie County Community Foundation for \$370. This will pay for the prizes and ribbons for this year's photo contest and will also cover our Dropbox subscription for a year. Thank you!

New Weather Station

by Tim Adams

The Friends of OWC along with Old Woman Creek NERR and the Western Reserve Local Schools in Collins, OH entered into a cooperative agreement to construct and operate a National Weather Service weather station on Western Reserve Schools' grounds. This location on US Route 20 near Wakeman is the southern-most environmental monitoring station in the OWC watershed.

The FOWC received a \$5000 grant from Ohio EPA for this project. The money was used for the construction of the station as well as for educational supplies. Jen Bucheit and Sebastian Mejia did the work to make this happen and Tim Adams managed the funds.

This station will provide not only research and monitoring of environmental impacts on the estuary and Lake Erie but will also provide environmental education for students in the Western Reserve Schools and in the Willard Migrant Education Program.

Information from this weather station is available on Weather Underground, Weatherbug, etc if you search for Collins, OH.

