

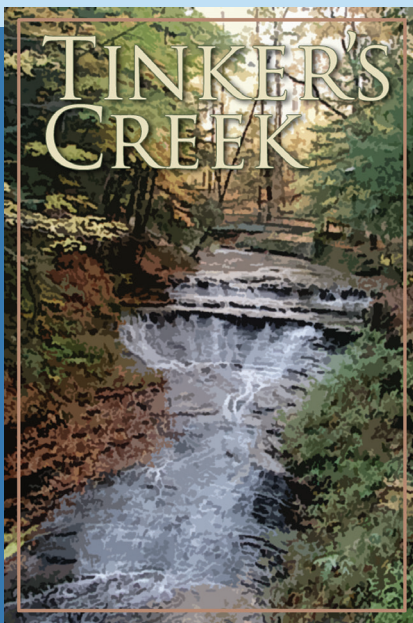
# Tinker's Creek Watershed

HUC 041100020504 Town of Twinsburg - Tinker's Creek

HUC 041100020502 Headwaters Tinker's Creek

HUC 041100020501 Pond Brook

## Cuyahoga Area of Concern



# Cuyahoga Area of Concern Tinker's Creek Watershed

Tinker's Creek is the Cuyahoga River's largest tributary watershed, spanning 24 communities in 4 counties – 13 in Cuyahoga County, 6 in Summit County, 4 in Portage County, and 1 in Geauga County. It comprises 3 USGS 12-digit Hydrologic Units (HUCs,) or subwatersheds.

The watershed covers more than 96 square miles across which the 30-mile long mainstem and its feeder streams run, sending waters north from Franklin Township and south from Beachwood, then west through the Cleveland Metroparks Bedford Reservation to the Cuyahoga in Valley View.

Increases in impervious surface, loss of green space and wetlands to capture, store, and filter stormwater, and nutrient runoff, are major issues across most of the area.

In the southernmost headwaters subwatershed, surveys show that fish habitat, fish populations, and benthic communities (bugs in the streambed) are impaired. Scores are better in the Pond Brook subwatershed, with goals met for fish habitat and populations but not benthos. In the largest subwatershed, from Twinsburg north, while fish habitat meets targets, fish populations and benthos do not.

Projects to restore health and function in the streams themselves are moving ahead or in the planning stage. For removal of aquatic life impairments, more restoration needs to happen in the streams, more riparian buffers need to be enhanced and protected, and measures to prevent runoff need to be taken on more of the land areas.

Tinker's Creek is a designated Paddling Stream on the state's 2016 list of impaired waters for bacterial contamination based on historical data, which would preclude the removal of the AOC's Recreational Contact impairment. Numerous wastewater treatment plants may be contributing to the problem and need to be addressed. New data is expected to be collected in 2018.

*Learn more at: [tinkerscreek.org](http://tinkerscreek.org)*



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