

OTHER WATERSHED SITES

The Lake Erie Watershed features many more parks, preserves, and protected areas that, while not located on the coast or along a major river, are hydrologically connected to and/or influenced by Lake Erie. These areas are environmentally significant and often feature unique remnant landscapes shaped by the lake’s formation. Below is a list of notable, publicly accessible sites within the watershed to explore. This is not a comprehensive list.

		           
1	Maumee State Forest 3390 County Road D ODNR Division of Forestry Swanton (Fulton, Henry, and Lucas counties)	    
The 3,332-acre Maumee State Forest is comprised of multiple fragmented tracts of protected land in Fulton, Henry, and Lucas counties. It is located in the Oak Openings Region and historically includes oak woodlands and savannas. Hiking, bridle, and APV trails are available.		
2	Oak Openings Preserve Metropark 4139 Girdham Road Metroparks Toledo Swanton (Lucas and Fulton counties)	       
The Oak Openings Region features remnant beach ridges and sand dunes and supports diverse communities of rare plants and wildlife. The 5,000-acre Oak Openings Preserve Metropark offers many miles of trails, primitive camping, and excellent birding opportunities.		
3	Kitty Todd State Nature Preserve 10420 Old State Line Road The Nature Conservancy Swanton (Lucas County)	   
Kitty Todd State Nature Preserve, also in the Oak Openings Region, features oak savanna, wet prairie, and sand dunes. The sandy and clayey soils create a uniquely changing environment where both wet and arid conditions can occur. Hiking and wildlife viewing areas are available.		
4	Pearson Metropark 761 South Lallendorf Road Metroparks Toledo Oregon (Lucas County)	         
The 624-acre Pearson Metropark is located in Oregon and is one of the last remaining stands of the Great Black Swamp. It features hiking and bike trails through old-growth forest and wetlands, a play area, fishing lake, excellent birding opportunities, and the 1867 Johlin Cabin.		
5	Howard Marsh Metropark 611 South Howard Road Metroparks Toledo Jerusalem Township (Lucas County)	      
Howard Marsh Metropark is a restored coastal wetland (formerly farmland) near the shore of Lake Erie in Jerusalem Township. It offers hiking trails, scenic overlook areas, six miles of water trails, and excellent birding opportunities.		
6	Meadowbrook Marsh 8577 East Bayshore Road Danbury Township Danbury Township (Ottawa County)	      
The 190-acre Meadowbook Marsh, located near the Sandusky Bay shore on Marblehead Peninsula, protects diverse habitats, including woodlands, open meadow, marsh area, and open water. The preserve offers hiking trails, picnic area, and a wildlife observation platform.		
7	Lakeside Daisy State Nature Preserve 309 Alexander Pike ODNR Division of Natural Areas and Preserves Marblehead (Ottawa County)	  
Lakeside Daisy State Nature Preserve in Marblehead protects the only natural population of Lakeside daisies in the country. The rare wildflower blooms in early-to-mid May on the exposed bedrock of a former limestone quarry. The preserve includes a trail and parking lot.		
8	Huntley-Beatty Preserve Bookerman Road, west of Division Street Village of Kelleys Island Kelleys Island (Erie County)	 
Huntley-Beatty Preserve on Kelleys Island occupies a former limestone quarry. The preserve features endangered Great Lakes alvar habitat and supports rare and endangered flora, including the Lakeside daisy. A gravel drive from Bookerman Road provides access. Hiking is permitted.		

		           
9	Castalia Quarry MetroPark 8404 State Route 101 Erie MetroParks Margaretta Township/Castalia (Erie County)	      
The 152-acre Castalia Quarry MetroPark is located on State Route 101 near Castalia. Trails navigate inside and around the former quarry. Sandusky Bay is visible from an observation deck high atop the sheer quarry wall. Glacial grooves and fossils can be found at the park.		
10	Resthaven Wildlife Area 412 Cement Street ODNR Division of Wildlife Margaretta Township/Castalia (Erie County)	     
The 2,218-acre Resthaven Wildlife Area is located west of State Route 269, north of Castalia. It features woodlands, wetlands, grasslands, and open water, and was historically part of a wet marl prairie known as Castalia Prairie. Hiking, fishing, boating, and paddling are permitted.		
11	Erie Sand Barrens State Nature Preserve Taylor Road at Scheid Road ODNR Division of Natural Areas and Preserves Oxford Township (Erie County)	   
Erie Sand Barrens State Nature Preserve protects beach ridges of Lake Warren, a predecessor to Lake Erie. Sandy soils support rare prairie flora, including summer wildflowers. Wet sedge meadow communities occur between beach ridges. A one-mile looping trail is available.		
12	West Creek Reservation 2277 West Ridgewood Road Cleveland Metroparks Parma (Cuyahoga County)	        
West Creek Reservation protects rocky gorges, forested slopes, wetlands, and meadows within the West Creek floodplain. Restoration efforts highlight urban watershed stewardship techniques. Trails, picnic facilities, play area, scenic overlooks, and nature center are available.		
13	Bedford Reservation 18753 Egbert Road Cleveland Metroparks Bedford (Cuyahoga County)	      
The 2,800-acre Bedford Reservation is highlighted by Tinker’s Creek and the deep walled gorge it has carved. Tinker’s Creek Gorge is a National Natural Landmark and features mature forest, waterfalls, and scenic vistas. Hiking trails, bike trails, and picnic facilities are available.		
14	Chapin Forest Reservation 9938 Chillicothe Road (State Route 306) Lake Metroparks Kirtland (Lake County)	       
Chapin Forest Reservation is located atop Gildersleeve Mountain, which marks the beginning of the Allegheny Plateau. The summit is 1,163 feet above sea level (≈592 feet above Lake Erie). Trails and Sharon Conglomerate ledges offer views of Lake Erie and the Cleveland skyline.		
15	Penitentiary Glen Reservation 8668 Kirtland-Chardon Road Lake Metroparks Kirtland (Lake County)	       
Penitentiary Glen Reservation is bisected by Stoney Brook, a small tributary of the Chagrin River’s East Branch. The stream cascades through the reservation and has cut a deep walled gorge. Hiking trails, fishing ponds, waterfall views, and nature center are available.		
16	Mentor Marsh State Nature Preserve 5185 Corduroy Road ODNR Division of Natural Areas and Preserves Mentor (Lake County)	      
Mentor Marsh is a National Natural Landmark and occupies the former Grand River channel between Mentor Lagoons and Fairport Harbor. The 673-acre state nature preserve (Ohio’s first) features four miles of trails, including a boardwalk through the marsh, and nature center.		
17	Red Brook Metropark 4338 Lake Road West (State Route 531) Ashtabula County Metroparks Saybrook Township/Ashtabula (Ashtabula County)	     
The 146-acre Red Brook Metropark, a former golf course, is located on State Route 531 in Saybrook Township, just south of Lake Erie. It protects wooded areas, meadows, and ponds within the Red Brook floodplain. Trails, fishing access, and birding opportunities are available.		
18	North Kingsville Sand Barrens Poore Road, south of Gore Road Cleveland Museum of Natural History North Kingsville (Ashtabula County)	   
North Kingsville Sand Barrens is the only high-quality fossil dune ridge preserved in northeast Ohio. The nearly one-mile-long, 300-foot-wide, and 30-foot-deep sand ridge is remnant shore that predates modern Lake Erie. A trail winds through sand barrens, wetlands, and woods.		

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SITE INDEX

SITE INDEX

● Denotes Lake Erie Public Access

111th Street Access ● 78
113th Street Access ● 78
115th Street Access ● 78
116th Street Access ● 78
117th Street Access ● 78
119th Street Access ● 78
123rd Street Access ● 78
125th Street Access ● 78
126th Street Access ● 78
128th Street Access ● 78
129th Street Access ● 78
137th Street Access ● 78
Abbott's Bridge Scenic River Lands 141
Agerter Road River Access 73
Anchor Park 74
Arcola Creek Park ● 309
Arrowhead Park 73
Ashcroft Woods Conservation Area 302
Ashtabula Oxbow Scenic River Lands 321
Ashtabula Transient Boat Dock 317
Audubon Islands State Nature Preserve 54
Augusta-Anne Olsen State Nature Preserve . 181
Aumiller Park 148
Austin Badger Park 227
Avon Lake Boat Launch ● 200
Babb Run Bird and Wildlife Sanctuary 250
Bacon Woods (Vermilion River Res.) 180
Baker Road Park 298
Baldwin Lake Viewing Area 228

SITE INDEX, continued

Bass Lake Preserve	289	Boston Store (Cuyahoga Valley NP)	245
Battery Park ●	164	Bradstreet's Landing ●	216
Bay View Fishing Pier ●	158	Brady's Leap Park and Riverwalk	256
Bay View Park ●	79	Bratenahl Road Scenic Access ●	266
Bayshore Fishing Access ●	80	Breakwater Beach (Geneva State Park) ●	314
Bayview Drive Scenic Access ●	158	Brecksville Reservation	244
Beaty Landing	296	Brownhelm Township Lakefront Park ●	188
Beaver Marsh (Cuyahoga Valley NP)	247	Bruce L. Chapin Bridge	181
Bedford Reservation	331	Brust Park	253
Belcher Park	73	Buchert Memorial Park	259
Bell Street Park	287	Buckeye Trail	136, 173, 181, 284
Belpre Drive Launch	44	Bucky Rutherford Memorial Dock	294
Bend Access	70	Bur Oak (Black River Res.)	194
Bend View Metropark	60	Buttonwood Park	56
Benetka Road Covered Bridge	321	Cahoon Memorial Park ●	215
Ben King Arboretum and River Walk Trail	287	Cahoon Memorial Park - East ●	215
Berea Falls Scenic Overlook	223	Cahoon Memorial Park - West ●	215
Best Scenic River Lands	329	Canal Exploration Ctr. (Cuyahoga Valley NP)	243
Bettinger Park ●	106	Canal Falls River Access	68
BHS Alumni Memorial Park ●	200	Captain Alfred Parker Park ●	117
Big Bend Area (Sand Run Metro Park)	248	Carland Beach ●	78
Bill Stanton Community Park ●	308	Carlisle Reservation	196
Black River Landing	192	Cascade Park (Elyria)	195
Black River Reservation	194	Cascade Park (Perry Township)	72
Black River Wharf	193	Cascade Valley Metro Park	248-249
Blair Landing	297	Castalia Quarry MetroPark	331
Blanchard Landing	73	Catawba Island State Park ●	101
Blanchard River Nature Preserve	75	Cecil Bridge Park	71
Bluebell Park/Towpath	63	Cedar Point National Wildlife Refuge ●	82
Bob & Lu Oberhouse Walking Park	99	Cedar Point Picnic Area (Rocky River Res.)	222
Bonnie Park (Mill Stream Run Res.)	230	Cederquist Park (Indian Trails Park)	318
Borac's Landing	279	Centennial Park and Heritage Trail	74
Boston Mill Visitor Center (CVNP)	245	Center Street Scenic River Lands	326

Century Park ●	198	County Line Road Access ●	308, 314
Chagrin Falls Viewing Area	286	Coupling MetroPark, The	172
Chagrin Falls Viewing Area (North Bank)	286	Crane Creek Estuary Trail ●	92
Chagrin Falls Viewing Area (South Bank)	286	Creek Road Access	327
Chagrin River Park	280	Creek Road Covered Bridge	327
Chapin Forest Reservation	331	Croy's Landing	73
Cherry Street Scenic Access ●	106	Cullen Park ●	79
Chesapeake Walkway ●	161	Cuyahoga Falls River Loop Trail	251
Chickagami Park	303	Cuyahoga Valley National Park	242-247
Chuckery Area (Cascade Valley)	249	Darr-Root Fishing Access	135
Chudzinski Johannsen Conservancy Park	139	David Fortier River Park	224
Civitan Park	74	Davis Overlook	56
Clara D. Peet Preserve	328	Deep Lock Quarry Metro Park	246
Clarion Avenue Dock	178	Daniels Park	281
Clark Park	173	Day's Dam (Black River Res.)	194
Clinton Nature Preserve	142	Dempsey Fishing Access ●	109
Cleveland Lakefront Nature Preserve ●	264	DeRivera Park ●	119
Cleveland Tract (MBI East Point Preserve) ●	122	DeRivera Park, "B" Dock ●	119
Coast Guard Station (Lakefront Res.) ●	237	Dey Road Launch	75
Coen Road Access ●	175	Dock Road Access ●	308
Coit Road Scenic River Lands	257	Don W. Miller Memorial Park	137
Collett Street Recreation Area	77	Downtown Cuyahoga Falls	251
Collier State Nature Preserve	145	Downtown Riverwalk (Findlay)	74
Columbia Park ●	216	Dr. Robert Nehls Memorial Nature Preserve	102
Columbia Reservation	225	Dry Tree Point scenic accesses ●	78
Community Foundation Preserve/Eagle Point ●	166	Duff Homestead and Bayfront Preserve ●	118
Conneaut Port Authority Access ●	324	DuPont Marsh State Nature Preserve	171
Conneaut Sandbar ●	323	East 9th Street Pier ●	262
Conneaut Township Park ●	323	East 24th Street Access (Indian Trails Park)	318
Confederate Stockade Cemetery ●	108	East 51st Street Access (Indian Trails Park)	319
Cooley Canal Boat Ramp	83	East 55th Street Fishing Access ●	263
Corey Street Boat Launch	51	East 55th Street Marina ●	263
Cottonwood Picnic Area (Rocky River Res.)	221	East 72nd Street Fishing Access ●	263

SITE INDEX, continued

East Exchange Park	178	Farnsworth Metropark	59
East Falls Riverwalk (Cascade Park)	195	Fisher Road Fishing Access	134
East Harbor State Park ●	104	Fitzwater Trailhead (Cuyahoga Valley NP)	243
East Harbor State Park Marina	104	Five Mile Creek Fishing Access	72
East Point ●	120	Five Span Park	72
East Quarry Area (Kelleys Island SP)	126	Flemmond's Landing	170
East Riverdowns Park	66	Florida Bridge	68
Eastpoint Area	74	Florida Wildlife Area	68
Edgewater Beach (Lakefront Res.) ●	236	Forder Bridge River Access	71
Edgewater Park (Lakefront Res.) ●	234-236	Fort Adams Access	76
Edgewater Public Boat Ramps ●	236	Fort Amanda Memorial Park	73
Edward F. Feighan Port of Lakewood	218	Fort Brown Historical Marker	77
eLCee2 Water Taxi	238	Fort Grounds	70
Emerald Necklace Marina	219	Fort Jennings Park	72
Eldon Russell Park	261	Fort Meigs Maumee River Access	55
Elywood Park (Cascade Park)	195	Fort Miamis National Historic Site	51
Erie Sand Barrens State Nature Preserve	331	Fox's Marsh Wildlife Area ●	124
Erie Street Scenic Access ●	106	Fred Fuller Park	254
Euclid Beach Park (Euclid Creek Res.) ●	265	Gates Mills Interurban Bridge	284
Euclid Creek Reservation ●	265-266	Gates Mills Village Arboretum	284
Euclid Park ●	266	Geneva State Park ●	314
Facer Park ●	162	Geneva Township Park ●	315
Fairport Harbor Lakefront Park ●	305	Gilead Canal Public Boat Dock	63
Fairport Harbor Port Authority Boat Launch ●	304	Gilson Park	280
Fairport Harbor Short Pier ●	304	Glacial Grooves Geological Preserve ●	126
Faurot Park	77	Glass City Marina	48
Fish Creek Wildlife Area	76	Glass City Metropark	48
Flats East Riverwalk	238	Gordon Park (Lakefront Res.) ●	264
Franklin Mills Riveredge Park	255	Gordon Park Boat Launch ●	264
Friends of Conneaut Creek Metropark	329	Gorge Metro Park	250
French Creek Kayak Launch	193	Graham Road Metropark	321
French Creek Reservation	193	Grand River Conservation Area	295
Erie Road Park	279	Grand River Conservation Campus	301

Grand River Jersey Farm Canoe Access Site	302	Hogback Ridge Park	299
Grand River Landing	294	Honey Point Wildlife Area ●	124
Grand River Wildlife Area	303	Hood Park	52
Granger Island	57	Hot Waters Boat Launch ●	190
Great Karg Well Historic Site	74	Howard Marsh Metropark	330
Gregg M. Goldberg Preserve	284	Howard Pinkley Landing at Riviera Park	44
Great Egret Marsh Preserve	103	Huffman Cunningham Park	226
Hach-Otis Sanctuary State Nature Preserve	282	Huntington Beach ●	214
Hammond Drive Launch	44	Huntington Reservation ●	214
Harmon Park	73	Huntley-Beatty Preserve	330
Harpersfield Covered Bridge Metropark	300	Huron Boat Basin Marina	170
Harrison Smith Park	147	Huron River Boat Access	171
Harroun Community Park	46	Huron River Path MetroPark	171
Harry Witty Memorial Park	98	Huron Rotary Centennial Park ●	169
Hart Crane Park	240	Huron Lighthouse Pier ●	169
Hayes Avenue Fishing Access	136	Independence Dam State Park	68-69
Headlands Beach State Park ●	293	Indian Hollow Reservation	196-197
Headlands Dunes State Nature Preserve ●	293	Indian Mill	146
Headwaters Park	261	Indian Mill Scenic River Lands	146
Headwaters Trail	258	Indian Mound Metropark	325
Hecks Bridge Scenic River Lands	145	Indian Point Park	297
Hedges Park	76	Indian Trails Park	317-320
Helen Hazen Wyman Park	296	Inscription Rock Petroglyphs ●	125
Hemlock Ridge Park	296	Ira Trailhead (Cuyahoga Valley NP)	247
Heritage Park (Kent)	255	Island Park	75
Heritage Park (Wapakoneta)	73	Island View Park	50
Heritage Park I (Cleveland)	239	Jackson Landing	75
Heritage Park II (Cleveland)	239	Jackson Street Pier ●	161
Heritage Trail (Findlay)	74	James A. Haley Boardwalk ●	80
Hidden Valley Park	298	Jefferson Street Pier ●	100
High Bridge Glens Park	251	Jermain Park	45
Highland Beach Park ●	316	John and Carol Lillich Meadows	282
Hinckley Reservation	232	John Brown Tannery Park	255

SITE INDEX, continued

Joppa Road Access ●	175	Lakeside Daisy State Nature Preserve . .	106, 330
Joseph Steinen Wildlife Area ●	167	Lakeside Landing ●	191
Junior Home Park	143	Lakeside Launch ●	191
K.C. Geiger Park	76	Lakeview City Park ●	101
Keefus Road Scenic River Lands	326	Lakeview Park (Conneaut) ●	322
Kelleys Island Scenic Overlook ●	125	Lakeview Park (Lorain) ●	189
Kelleys Island State Park ●	126	Lakewood Beach Park ●	198
Kendrick Woods	72	Lakewood Fish Shelf	218
Kenneth Sims Park ●	267	Lakewood Park ●	233
Kenny Yuko Park ●	267	Lakewood scenic accesses ●	233
Kildow Scenic River Lands	144	Lawrence Grist Mill (Rocky River Res.)	222
Kingsbury Park	72	Liberty Landing	73
Kinsman Road River Access	260	Lions Park ●	159
Kitty Todd State Nature Preserve	330	Lions Park at Lake Point ●	108
Kiwanis Park (Sandusky) ●	165	Little Auglaize Wildlife Reserve	77
Kiwanis Recreation Park (Painesville)	295	Little Cedar Point Picnic Area (Rocky River Res.)	222
Knight's Landing	75	Little Portage Unit (Ottawa NWR)	96
Kramer Field at Fred Fuller Park	254	Little Portage Wildlife Area	96
Kuehnle Wildlife Area ●	123	Litzenberg Memorial Woods	73
LaDue Public Hunting Area	259-260	Lock 29 Trailhead (Cuyahoga Valley NP)	246
LaDue Reservoir Fishing Area	260	Lock 39 Trailhead (Cuyahoga Valley NP)	243
Lake Erie Beach (Maumee Bay SP) ●	81	Lock 43 Miami Wabash & Erie Canal Park	64
Lake Erie Bluffs ●	306	Lockport Covered Bridge	75
Lake Front Park ●	168	Louisiana Avenue Dock at Hood Park	52
Lake Medina	227	Lover's Portage River Fishing Access	99
Lake Shore Cemetery ●	201	Lowe-Volk Park	149
Lake Shore Park ●	322	Lower Toussaint Unit (Ottawa NWR)	94
Lakefront Lodge ●	278	Lucien M. Clemons Park ●	107
Lakefront Reservation ●	234-237, 263-264	Madison Township accesses ●	308
Lakefront Trail (Euclid) ●	267	Madison Township Park ●	309
Lakeshore Reservation ●	307	Magee Marsh Wildlife Area ●	93
Lakeside Cemetery ●	214	Main Street Beach & Park ●	176
Lakeside Chautauqua Waterfront ●	105	Mallard Club Wildlife Area ●	82

Maple Grove Picnic Area (Rocky River Res.)	223	Middlebury Road River Access	254
Maple Street Boat Launch	52	Middlegrounds Metropark	49
Marblehead Lighthouse State Park ●	107	Milan Towpath MetroPark	172
Marblehead scenic accesses ●	106	Mile Marker 0.0 at Lakeside Landing ●	191
Marengo Island	51	Milan Wildlife Area	173
Marina Drive ●	324	Mill Hollow (Vermilion River Res.)	180
Marinewood Unit (Ottawa NWR)	96	Mill Park	76
Maritime Plaza	48	Mill Road Access	325
Marsh Park	173	Mill Stream Park	225
Marsh Wetlands State Nature Preserve	258	Mill Stream Run Recreation Area	231
Mary Jane Thurston State Park	64	Mill Stream Run Reservation	228-231
Massie Cliffside Preserve ●	120	Miller Road Park ●	200
Maumee Bay State Park ●	81	Miltonville Fishing Access	58
Maumee State Forest	330	Missionary Island Wildlife Area	60
Mazurik Fishing Access ●	105	Morgan Swamp Preserve	301
McGarvey's Landing	179	Morley Ford (Rocky River Reservation)	220
Meadowbrook Marsh	330	Music Mound Picnic Area (Mill Stream Run)	229
Medina Marsh Nature Preserve	226	Nature Trails Park	143
Meigs Street Pier ●	164	New Street Scenic Access ●	315
Memorial Park (St. Marys)	76	New Rochester Park	70
Memorial Park and Parker Square	57	Nickel Plate Beach ●	174
Mentor Beach Park ●	291	Nokomis Park ●	177
Mentor Lagoons Nature Preserve ●	292	North Bass Island State Park ●	123
Mentor Lagoons Park ●	292	North Chagrin Reservation	283
Mentor Marsh State Nature Preserve	270, 292, 331	North Coast Harbor ●	262
Merwin's Wharf	240	North Coast Inland Trail	98, 136, 173, 181
Metzger Marsh Partnership Trail ●	92	North Kingsville Sand Barrens	331
Metzger Marsh Wildlife Area ●	83	North Mastick Picnic Area (Rocky River Res.)	220
Meyerholtz Maumee River Access	67	North Perry Village Park ●	307
Miami-Erie Canal Towpath Trail	76	North Pond State Nature Preserve ●	127
Middle Bass Island East Point Preserve ●	122	North Shore Alvar State Nature Preserve ●	127
Middle Bass Island State Park ●	122	North Turkeyfoot Wildlife Area	65
Middle Toussaint Unit (Ottawa NWR)	94	Northampton Point (Cuyahoga Valley NP)	247

SITE INDEX, continued

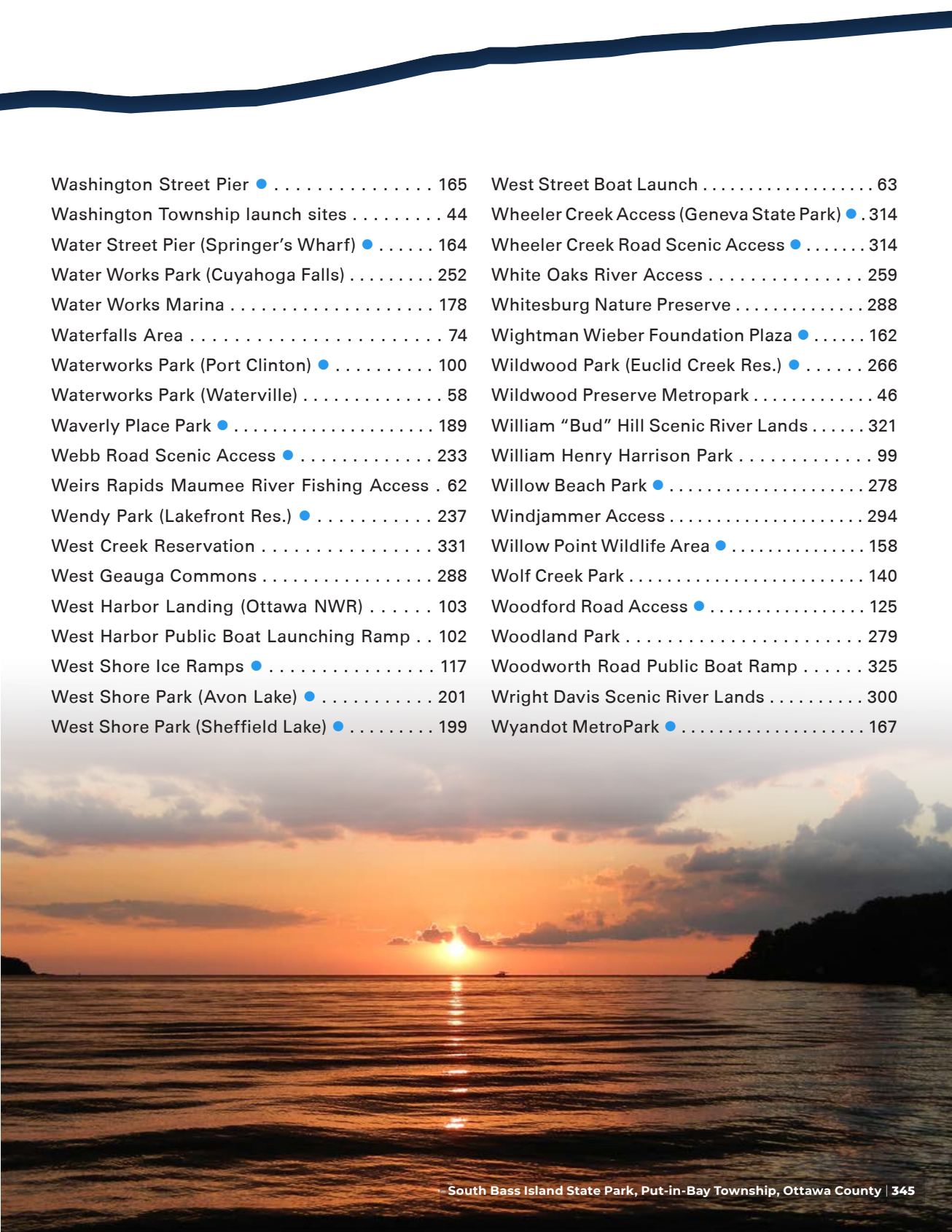
Oak Harbor Overlook and Kayak Launch	97	Perry Park ●	106
Oak Openings Preserve Metropark	330	Perry Township Park ●	306
Oak Point State Park ●	118	Perry's Victory and Int'l Peace Memorial ●	120
Oakwood Community Park	72	Petersen Woods ●	123
Oberhaus Park	66	Phil Hillman South Ridge Road Access	329
Observation Deck at Ballville Dam	138	Pickrel Creek Wildlife Area ●	134
Ohio & Erie Canal Reservation	241	Pipe Creek Wildlife Area ●	166
Ohio & Erie Canal Towpath Trail	247	Pleasant Valley Park	282
Ohio's Most Beautiful Mile Walking Trail ●	105	Point Place right-of-way accesses ●	78
Old Fort Bridge Park	140	Pontiac Metro Park	69
Old Woman Creek State Nature Preserve ●	174	Pontiac Preserve	47
Olive Street Transient Docks	294	Port Clinton City Beach ●	101
Olmsted Falls East River Park	224	Port Clinton Lakefront Preserve ●	100
Orleans Park	53	Port Clinton right-of-way plazas	95
Osborne Park ●	290	Port Clinton Walkway	95
Otsego Park	61	Portage Path Trailhead (O&E Canal Towpath)	247
Ottawa County Fairgrounds Kayak Launch	97	Portage River Fishing Access	95
Ottawa Metro Park	77	President Drive Launch	44
Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge ●	92	Promenade Park and Docks	47
Ottawa Park	45	Providence Metropark	62
Ottawa River Bikeway	77	Put-in-Bay Aquatic Visitor Center ●	118
Ottoville Community Park	77	Put-in-Bay Bathing Beach ●	121
Ottoville Quarry Wildlife Area	77	Put-in-Bay Mooring Field ●	119
Overlook Area (Cascade Valley)	249	Put-in-Bay Port Authority Access ●	121
Overlook Beach Park ●	291	Put-in-Bay Public Boat Launch ●	119
Oxbow Area (Cascade Valley)	249	Put-in-Bay Village Marina ●	119
Oxbow Lagoon Field (North Chagrin Res.)	283	Put-in-Bay Village Marina, "A" Dock ●	119
Painesville Township Park ●	305	Put-in-Bay Village Marina, "C" Dock ●	119
Paper District Marina ●	160	Putnam Marsh Nature Preserve ●	167
Parrish Road Scenic River Lands	326	Quentin Park ●	278
Pearson Metropark	330	Rawson Park	74
Penitentiary Glen Reservation	331	Red Brook Metropark	331
Perkins Beach (Lakefront Reservation) ●	235	Red Fox River Access	257

Red Kuck Kiwanis Cove Park	76	Rookery, The	289
Red Lock Trailhead (Cuyahoga Valley NP)	245	Root Road Covered Bridge	321
Reed's Hill	98	Rose Point ●	217
Resthaven Wildlife Area	331	Rossford Marina	50
Risden Road Access ●	175	Rotary Club Park	143
Rising Valley Park (Hinckley Res.)	232	Rotary Riverwalk-Ottawa River Bikeway	77
Ritter Park	67	Royal Oaks (Indian Hollow Res.)	197
River Bend Park	256	Rupp's Landing	75
River Front Park	252	Sand Docks Fishing Access	135
River Run Park	285	Sand Run Metro Park	248
River Walk Trail (and Ben King Arboretum)	287	Sandusky Bay Bridge Access ●	109
River Woods Nature Preserve	231	Sandusky Bay Pathway ●	159
Riverbend Park	98	Sandusky Bay Pavilion ●	163
Riverbend Recreation Area	74	Sandusky Headwaters Preserve	149
Rivergate Park	240	Sandusky Wildlife Area	148
Riverside Park (Antwerp)	71	Saybrook Township Park ●	316
Riverside Park (Chagrin Falls)	287	Scenic Park (Rocky River Res.)	219
Riverside Park (Defiance)	72	Schade-Mylander Plaza ●	162
Riverside Park (Lorain)	192	Scheele Preserve ●	125
Riverside Park (Perrysburg)	53	Scheeff East Point Nature Preserve ●	121
Riverside Park Waterfront (Findlay)	74	Schekelhoff Nature Preserve Park	142
Riverview Park	299	Schick Road Canoe Launch	75
Riviera Park	44	Schoonover Park	77
Robert "Buck" Benson Memorial Docks	294	Schumacher Valley Area (Cascade Valley)	248
Robert L. Walsh Memorial Park	137	Scranton Road Peninsula	241
Roche de Boeuf	59	Schoepfle Garden	181
Rockcliff Springs (Rocky River Res.)	219	Sears Woods State Nature Preserve	148
Rockside Station (Cuyahoga Valley NP)	243	Settler's Landing Park	238
Rocky River Nature Center	221	Sheffield Lake Boat Launch ●	199
Rocky River Park ●	217	Shelby Street Public Boat Launch ●	160
Rocky River Reservation	218-223	Sheldon Marsh State Nature Preserve ●	168
Rodger W. Young Park	136	Sheldon Woods (Indian Hollow Res.)	196
Rogers Meadow (North Chagrin Res.)	283	Shell Cove Park ●	200

SITE INDEX, continued

Sherod Park ●	175	Todd Field	281
Shoreline Park ●	163	Tony Sainato Memorial Canoe Launch	257
Showse Park ●	188	Tote Road Park	300
Side Cut Metropark	55	Toussaint Wildlife Area	94
Silver Lake Community Park	253	Towpath Park	54
South Bass Island Lighthouse ●	116	Trail Marker Park	98
South Bass Island State Park ●	116	Tummonds State Nature Preserve	258
South Chagrin Reservation	285	Turkey Creek Metropark ●	324
South Lakeview Park	189	Turtle Creek Access	93
South Mastick Picnic Area (Rocky River Res.)	221	Tuttle Park ●	308
South Quarry Picnic Area (Mill Stream Run)	229	Two Rivers Unit (Ottawa NWR)	97
South River Access Park	139	Unger Park	148
South River Road Fishing Access	138	Upper Edgewater Park (Lakefront Res.) ●	235
South Shore Veterans Park ●	80	Upper Grand River Metropark	301
South Street Public Boat Ramp ●	179	Upper Toussaint Unit (Ottawa NWR)	94
South Turkeyfoot Creek Access	64	Valley View Area (Cascade Valley)	249
Spencer Lake Wildlife Area	197	Van Tassel Wildlife Area	62
Springer's Wharf ●	164	Vansise Reserve (at Silver Lake)	253
Station Road Bridge (Cuyahoga Valley NP)	244	Vermilion River Reservation	180
St. Johns Bridge Scenic River Lands	144	Vermilion Rotary Centennial Park	179
St. Joseph River Wildlife Area	76	Vermilion scenic accesses ●	176
State Road Covered Bridge	328	Vermilion Township accesses ●	175
State Road Park Entrance (Indian Trails Park)	320	Veterans Memorial Park (Avon Lake) ●	201
Stepping Stones Park	147	Veterans Memorial Park (Rossford)	50
Steyer Nature Preserve	141	Villa Angela Park (Euclid Creek Res.) ●	265
Stone Laboratory Peach Point Campus ●	118	Village of Grand River accesses	294
Summit Avenue Scenic Access ●	233	Village Park	63
Sunset Park ●	290	Voinovich Bicentennial Park ●	262
Sunset Pier Park ●	190	Vorwerk Park	65
Sycamore Picnic Area (Rocky River Res.)	220	Wakefield MetroPark ●	177
Tannery Hill (Indian Trails Park)	319	Walbridge Park	49
Tiffin River Wildlife Area	75	Walnut Beach Park ●	316
Tindall Bridge Access	139	Walter F. Ehrnfelt Covered Bridge	230

Washington Street Pier ●	165	West Street Boat Launch	63
Washington Township launch sites	44	Wheeler Creek Access (Geneva State Park) ●	314
Water Street Pier (Springer's Wharf) ●	164	Wheeler Creek Road Scenic Access ●	314
Water Works Park (Cuyahoga Falls)	252	White Oaks River Access	259
Water Works Marina	178	Whitesburg Nature Preserve	288
Waterfalls Area	74	Wightman Wieber Foundation Plaza ●	162
Waterworks Park (Port Clinton) ●	100	Wildwood Park (Euclid Creek Res.) ●	266
Waterworks Park (Waterville)	58	Wildwood Preserve Metropark	46
Waverly Place Park ●	189	William "Bud" Hill Scenic River Lands	321
Webb Road Scenic Access ●	233	William Henry Harrison Park	99
Weirs Rapids Maumee River Fishing Access	62	Willow Beach Park ●	278
Wendy Park (Lakefront Res.) ●	237	Windjammer Access	294
West Creek Reservation	331	Willow Point Wildlife Area ●	158
West Geauga Commons	288	Wolf Creek Park	140
West Harbor Landing (Ottawa NWR)	103	Woodford Road Access ●	125
West Harbor Public Boat Launching Ramp	102	Woodland Park	279
West Shore Ice Ramps ●	117	Woodworth Road Public Boat Ramp	325
West Shore Park (Avon Lake) ●	201	Wright Davis Scenic River Lands	300
West Shore Park (Sheffield Lake) ●	199	Wyandot MetroPark ●	167



FIELD NOTES

Favorite Public Access Sites	Beach	Fishing	Boating	Nature	Trails
1.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
2.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
3.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
4.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
5.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
6.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
7.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
8.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
9.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
10.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
11.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
12.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
13.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
14.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
15.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Favorite Beaches	Swimming	Walking	Nature	Combing	Relaxing
1.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
2.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
3.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
4.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
5.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
6.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
7.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
8.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
9.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
10.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Favorite Trails	Trail Type	Scenic	Serene	Wooded	Benches
1.		☐	☐	☐	☐
2.		☐	☐	☐	☐
3.		☐	☐	☐	☐
4.		☐	☐	☐	☐
5.		☐	☐	☐	☐
6.		☐	☐	☐	☐
7.		☐	☐	☐	☐
8.		☐	☐	☐	☐
9.		☐	☐	☐	☐
10.		☐	☐	☐	☐

Favorite Fishing Spots	Best Catch	Shore/Bank	Pier
1.		☐	☐
2.		☐	☐
3.		☐	☐
4.		☐	☐
5.		☐	☐

Notes:

BIRDING CHECKLIST

Warblers

- ☐ American Redstart
- ☐ Bay-breasted Warbler
- ☐ Black-and-white Warbler
- ☐ Black-throated Blue Warbler
- ☐ Black-throated Green Warbler
- ☐ Cape May Warbler
- ☐ Chestnut-sided Warbler
- ☐ Common Yellowthroat
- ☐ Kirtland's Warbler
- ☐ Magnolia Warbler
- ☐ Nashville Warbler
- ☐ Northern Waterthrush
- ☐ Ovenbird
- ☐ Palm Warbler
- ☐ Prothonotary Warbler
- ☐ Tennessee Warbler
- ☐ Wilson's Warbler
- ☐ Yellow Warbler

Shorebirds & Wading Birds

- ☐ American Bittern
- ☐ Double-crested Cormorant
- ☐ Dunlin
- ☐ Great Blue Heron
- ☐ Great Egret
- ☐ Greater Yellowlegs
- ☐ Green Heron
- ☐ Killdeer
- ☐ Least Sandpiper
- ☐ Lesser Yellowlegs
- ☐ Pectoral Sandpiper
- ☐ Semipalmated Plover
- ☐ Semipalmated Sandpiper
- ☐ Spotted Sandpiper
- ☐ Wilson's Snipe

Raptors

- ☐ American Kestrel
- ☐ Bald Eagle
- ☐ Cooper's Hawk
- ☐ Northern Harrier
- ☐ Osprey
- ☐ Red-tailed Hawk

Backyard Birds

- ☐ American Goldfinch
- ☐ American Robin
- ☐ Baltimore Oriole
- ☐ Black-capped Chickadee
- ☐ Blue Jay
- ☐ Carolina Chickadee
- ☐ Cedar Waxwing
- ☐ Dark-eyed Junco
- ☐ Downy Woodpecker

Gulls and Terns

- ☐ Caspian Tern
- ☐ Common Tern
- ☐ Herring Gull
- ☐ Ring-billed Gull

- ☐ Eastern Bluebird
- ☐ Eastern Kingbird
- ☐ House Finch

Ducks, Geese & Swans

- ☐ American Black Duck
- ☐ Blue-winged Teal
- ☐ Canada Goose
- ☐ Canvasback
- ☐ Common Merganser
- ☐ Lesser Scaup
- ☐ Mallard
- ☐ Red-breasted Merganser
- ☐ Ring-necked Duck

Owls

- ☐ Barred Owl
- ☐ Eastern Screech-Owl
- ☐ Great Horned Owl
- ☐ Snowy Owl

- ☐ House Sparrow
- ☐ House Wren
- ☐ Mourning Dove
- ☐ Northern Cardinal
- ☐ Purple Martin
- ☐ Red-bellied Woodpecker
- ☐ Red-winged Blackbird
- ☐ Rose-breasted Grosbeak

Vireos

- ☐ Red-eyed Vireo
- ☐ Warbling Vireo

- ☐ Ruby-throated Hummingbird
- ☐ Song Sparrow
- ☐ White-breasted Nuthatch