
GET GREEN COLUMBUS

2008
ANNUAL
REPORT



City of Columbus
Michael B. Coleman, Mayor

GET GREEN COLUMBUS 2008 ANNUAL REPORT

Mayor Michael B. Coleman's "Get Green Columbus" initiative continues to make progress. This report will highlight some of our green achievements from the last year in the following areas:

1. Collaborating with City agencies and community leaders
2. Educating and engaging our community
3. Improving recycling efforts and reducing waste
4. Improving air quality and protecting the climate
5. Improving water quality
6. Growing a strong green economy
7. Building a greener Columbus
8. Fostering the "greening" of Columbus



COLLABORATING WITH CITY AGENCIES AND COMMUNITY LEADERS

MAYOR'S GREEN TEAM

The Mayor's Green Team continues to provide advice and guidance to the City's Get Green Columbus initiative. The accomplishments of the Green Team include the following:

The Green Business Committee

Teams of students from Fisher College of Business at The Ohio State University won first place, second place and most innovative awards at the third annual Get Green Business Case Competition sponsored by NetJets. The competition pitted teams of master level business students from area schools against one another to come up with the best solution to greenhouse gas emissions at the aviation pioneer. The first place team won \$3,000, the second place team got \$1,500, and \$500 went to the most innovative

The Education and Outreach Committee

The Education and Outreach Committee had a busy productive year. It participated in six Neighborhood Pride events, with a booth that included a model green home, lunchtime presentations about Mayor's Green Team, and distributions of energy-saving light bulbs, water bottles and water-saving kits. The committee also enhanced the City's Get Green Columbus website and the green section on the Department of Public Utilities website, and partnered with MORPC on the Green Calendar. The committee created five ads with a "Green Tip of the Week" to run in This Week

newspapers, and also had booths at events throughout the year, including Earth Day.

The Green Transportation Committee

This Committee continues to assist the City with implementation of its Green Fleet Policy. It held a Green Fleet conference with about 65 attendees, which provided a review of all cleaner fuels, clean diesel technologies and efficient light and heavy-duty vehicles. It featured a ride and drive, including a heavy-duty hybrid Class 8 truck, exhibitors and specific information on available grants for fleets. The Committee is following this up with a seminar program on January 26 focused exclusively on grants for fleets.

Central Ohio Green Pact In 2007

Mayor Coleman and 11 other central Ohio Mayors joined with MORPC in signing the Central Ohio Green Pact, a 10-point common sense approach to creating a more environmentally sustainable community. The Pact continued to grow throughout 2008. We now have 22 members of the Green Pact. MORPC held five education forums in 2008 and plans to hold six in 2009. Additionally, MORPC representatives personally visited every green pact community individually to discuss what resources they could provide and to talk through barriers, and accomplishments.



EDUCATING AND ENGAGING OUR COMMUNITY

GREENSPOT

Mayor Michael B. Coleman unveiled the GreenSpot program at the Surly Girl Saloon in the Short North on July 29, 2008. 935 businesses, residents and community groups were recognized as GreenSpots in the program's first five months. Members of the business community, families and local organizations are using the program as a framework, providing direction on ways to get green while, many times, saving money.



The program's creation was a collaborative effort. Members of Leadership Columbus helped develop some of the concepts as well as the GreenSpot logo. Representatives from Bricker and Eckler, Porter, Wright, Morris and Arthur, Calfee Halter and Griswold, Weisenbach Recycled Products, All-A-Cart, Williams Creek Consulting, Anheuser-Busch, Brown and Caldwell, Design Group, SYSCO, Short North Business Association, The Ohio State University and Huckleberry House helped shape the program by reviewing the business commitments and providing valuable feedback.

EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH

- ▶ The Get Green Columbus website www.GetGreenColumbus.com continues to attract visitors interested in learning about Columbus' Green efforts. The site had 202,728 visitors last year and averaged about 555 visitors per day.

- ▶ The Department of Public Utilities purchased 5,000 re-useable water bottles and began distributing them at many events. The water bottles include information regarding the environmental harm of using single-use water bottles.
- ▶ The Department of Public Utilities continues its significant educational efforts, working with the Central Ohio Rain Garden Initiative, distributing "We All Live Downstream" information; holding river clean-ups; and distributing information in bill inserts, on its web page and at special events.
- ▶ Recreation and Parks Natural Resources staff presented the findings of their Urban Wetland Study done in conjunction with the Ohio EPA at the Ohio Environmental Council's 2008 Vernal Pool Workshop. This helped to educate citizens, community and environmental groups as well as educators of the condition of our urban wetlands as well as how these wetlands function and how much water they process.
- ▶ Recreation and Parks worked with volunteers throughout the year to assist natural resources projects such as invasive plant removal, prairie and rain garden maintenance, tree plantings and more. A total of 769 volunteers worked a total of 3,189 hours.



► The Department of Public Service's Keep Columbus Beautiful (KCB) section engages volunteer groups, churches, schools, businesses and citizens in ongoing litter abatement through the Adopt an Area program and in organizing neighborhood litter cleanups and beautification efforts. KCB assisted 431 cleanup events in 2008, using 7,703 volunteers who collected 151.4 tons of litter. Thirty of the events and 714 of the volunteers also took part



in beautification projects. Volunteers logged 21,954.9 hours, valued at \$428,340.11 for the year. KCB's Solid Waste Inspector supervised 21 litter cleanups by 143 individuals assigned to fulfill community service hours through the Franklin County Environmental Court (FCEC), collecting a total of 24.57 tons. As part of the FCEC, the Solid Waste Inspector provided assistance by collaborating with the Ohio EPA to collect 10 drums containing illegally dumped motor oil and paint thinner.

IMPROVING RECYCLING EFFORTS AND REDUCING WASTE

PRACTICING WHAT WE PREACH

Buying recycled paper:

In 2006, almost all paper purchased by the City of Columbus was virgin paper. In 2007 Mayor Coleman issued an executive order mandating the exclusive procurement and utilization of recycled content paper. As a result, in 2008 the City of Columbus saw a 75.2% increase in the pounds of recycled paper purchased. In 2009 the purchasing division of the City's Finance Department will continue their efforts to ensure that virgin paper products are no longer available to any city agencies, departments or divisions for purchase.

Reducing paper usage:

Mayor Coleman's 2007 recycled paper executive order also directed City departments to limit printing and copying. City employees were additionally directed to print on both sides of the paper when printing was deemed to be necessary. The goal of the order is to reduce the amount of paper that is bought and used.

Since implementation of the executive order the city has seen a decrease of 1.6% in the pounds of paper purchased. Additionally the majority of the City's printed promotional materials are printed on recycled content paper.

Some specific examples of paper reduction:

- The Department of Public Service's 311 Call Center discontinued printing reports of service requests for bulk-trash pickups, saving toner, 100 sheets of paper and three hours labor daily.
- The Department of Human Resources printed 10,000 benefits booklets for city employees double sided.
- The Department of Public Service discontinued distributing paper copies of the prevailing-wage sections inside bid documents in favor of CD-ROMs, saving approximately 2,050 sheets of paper and \$33.52 per project.



City Employee Recycling Program:

This expanded program continues to be successful under the leadership of KCB. A full promotional campaign of this expanded program was launched in early 2008. The goal of the expanded city employee recycling program was to educate all city employees about the new internal recycling policy, which changed from paper-only recycling to the commingling of plastic, paper products, aluminum, glass and steel recyclable materials. To help spread the word, a recycling steward was appointed to each of the city's departments and divisions. As a result of the efforts of the city team of recycling stewards throughout 2008 the city saw a significant increase in the amount of recyclable materials collected. There are currently 40 buildings participating. The program diverted 1,009,790 pounds of recycled materials from the landfill in 2008. This is an increase of 49.4% or 333,825 pounds more recycled material than what was diverted in 2007.



- In addition, 12,862 tons of recycled asphalt were included when mixing hot-mixed asphalt for new construction or resurfacing
- The Department also continued using Flyash, a byproduct from coal combustion, and Blast Furnace Slag, a byproduct from blast furnace iron, in mixtures to produce ready-mixed concrete, 45 tons and 443.8 tons, respectively.

Helping Our Community Recycle

- We continue to partner with SWACO to provide convenient community drop-off boxes for recycling. These boxes are proving to be very popular, and the amount of recycling at the boxes continues to rise. The recycling numbers for the 200 drop off box locations show an increase of 12,944 tons of recycled materials diverted from the landfill for the year 2008. This is an increase of 21% from 2007 totals of 10,755 tons.
- Approximately 58,266 tons of demolition material was recycled as a result of the City's ordinance requiring that at least 25% of material from a demolition job be recycled.

Recycling Demolition Materials on City Construction Projects:

The city's parking garage on Front and Rich streets was demolished this year. The contractor recycled more than 95% of the material, including all concrete, all metals, 170 fluorescent bulbs, and the oil found in an underground vault. They even salvaged the old Lazarus parking sign.

Using Recycled Materials in City Construction Projects

- The Department of Public Service used 250 tons of recycled asphalt, and recycled 14.5 tons of scrap metal and 23,960 pounds of aluminum.



IMPROVING AIR QUALITY AND PROTECTING THE CLIMATE

IMPROVING OUTDOOR AIR QUALITY

Air Alert Days:

In 2008 the city completed the creation of an Air Alert Action plan. The action plan was created so that city employees can be better informed when an air alert is issued and so that city agencies can effectively respond with actions to reduce pollution levels. The new Air Alert Action plan can be found on the Get Green Columbus website: www.getgreencolumbus.com. Implementation of the action plan began in January 2009.

Green Fleet Action Plan:

In 2008, the City began implementation of its ambitious Green Fleet Action Plan. Much of the work is being accomplished as a result of grant funding the City has received thanks to the work of the Fleet Management Division. Accomplishments to date include:

- In 2008, the City used **3% less overall fuel** than in 2007 (3,862,523 total gallons in 2008 vs. 3,968,422 total gallons in 2007)
- The Green Fleet Policy also has a goal of reducing petroleum. The interim goal was a 2% reduction in 2008--a target we exceeded. In 2008, the City used 3,777,460 gallons of petroleum fuel, compared to 3,898,400 gallons in 2007, an almost **3%** reduction over 2007.
- Green language that gives preference to hybrids, flex fuel vehicles and CNG vehicles was included as part of the 2008 light duty vehicle UTC specifications. This "environmentally preferable purchasing"



language gives preference to environmentally preferable bidders. This language was successful in getting vendors to bid flex fuel engines for 2008.

- In 2008, the City purchased approximately 590 new vehicles/equipment. Of these, 275, or **47%**, are considered "green" (flex fuel, hybrid, electric, natural gas, CNG or equipped with DPFs or engine heaters), well exceeding our target of 25%.
- When possible, non-petroleum off-road equipment has been purchased- out of 228 off-road purchases in 2008, 39 (17%) were considered green. Non-petroleum versions of most equipment are still largely unavailable, making large amounts of purchases difficult.



- All diesel fuel tanks must be cleaned before the diesel fuel can be switched to biodiesel. Due to funding constraints, cleaning of all tanks has not been possible in the time frame originally planned. As of Dec. 31, 2008, 9 fueling sites are using biodiesel. In 2008, the City purchased 425,315 gallons of biodiesel, accounting for approximately **32%** of all bulk diesel purchases.
- One of the goals of the Green Fleet Policy is to retrofit or retire all pre-2002 diesel engines from the city's fleet. Work on meeting this goal is progressing. Fleet Management, in conjunction with City agencies, identified approximately 120 pre-2002 vehicles citywide that are eligible for emission reduction retrofits- either Diesel Oxidation Catalysts (DOCs) or Diesel Particulate Filters (DPFs). A DOC is a device with a honeycomb-like structure that oxidizes pollutants in the exhaust stream, thereby reducing harmful emissions, typically by 30–70%. A DPF is a ceramic device that collects the particulate matter in the exhaust stream and breaks it down into less harmful components. DPFs typically reduce emissions of particulate matter by 60-90%. Six DOCs were installed on Transportation vehicles in 2008 using a grant award. There is an additional grant requests funding for 100% of the remaining retrofits. Final approval of the CMAQ grant was received in late December, and advertisement to bid began in early January 2009. As of January 1, 2008, all new heavy duty diesel vehicles come equipped with DPFs. The City owns approximately 105 heavy duty trucks that are equipped with DPFs.



Reducing Idling

- The City continues to implement its anti-idling policy by upgrading more refuse trucks with hydraulic oil and engine heaters. Refuse trucks that sit outside have to have their hydraulic fluids warmed before they can operate; without heaters, this means the entire engine must idle, sometimes for more than an hour. The hydraulic heaters were installed on 16 Refuse trucks located at Morse Road in 2008 using grant funds, bringing the total number of Refuse trucks with hydraulic heaters to 30. Hydraulic oil and engine heaters are now being specified as an option on all new Refuse trucks that will sit outside.
- The Refuse Division is including anti-idling technology in all truck-procurement specifications. Anti-idling devices automatically shut off the engine when vehicles idle beyond a specified time without moving.



ENCOURAGING BIKING

- **Pedal Instead** is a service provided by the Mayor's Green Team through Columbus Recreation and Parks. This program is organized and administered by the University Area Enrichment Association, which provides free bike parking for all those who choose to ride their bikes to attend major events around Columbus. The UAEA also provides volunteers to secure the bike corrals where the bikes are parked. In 2008 the bike corrals were set up and used at 20 events, compared to 10 events in 2007. There was participation at eight OSU football games compared to three from 2007. The program parked 3,871 bikes, up from 2,300 in 2007. Overall in 2008 the bikes parked represented 41,172.67 miles traveled, up from 19,000 miles in 2007. This program was administered by 287 UAEA volunteers who worked approximately 1,419.94 hours.
- The Mayor's office started **the City of Columbus Bike Pool** in September 2008 at City Hall with help from former City Councilwoman Maryellen O'Shaugnessy. This initiative is possible thanks to assistance from the Columbus Division of Police, which donated 10 unclaimed bicycles from the impound lot. The Columbus Fleet Division was also of great assistance in preparing these bikes for road use by employees. The bicycles are equipped with helmets and locks and are located at city buildings. The helmets were donated by the Center for Injury Research and Policy at Nationwide Children's Hospital. The initiative has placed six bikes at City Hall, two bikes at The Columbus Public Health department, and two bikes at the Jerry Hammond Center. These bikes are available for employees to use to get to meetings during the day and for exercise.



THE BICENTENNIAL BIKEWAYS PLAN

The Bicentennial Bikeways Plan was adopted by City Council in June and provides guidance regarding on-street improvements to encourage more people to use bicycles regularly and decrease dependence on vehicles, gasoline and parking spaces. The plan, part of the Complete Streets ordinance passed in December, addresses bicycle parking, access to public transit, rider safety and more over the next twenty years.

- The Department of Public Service added 62 bicycle racks around town, providing convenience and security for people who use bikes for shopping, errands and commuting to work and school.



- The City built the Milton Avenue Bicycle Boulevard in Clintonville, connecting two sections of the Olentangy Trail alongside the river. A bicycle boulevard is a roadway that allows all types of vehicles, but which has been modified to enhance bicycle safety. The project, part of the Bicentennial Bikeways Plan, resurfaced several streets in the zone and included on-street signage and pavement

markings at regular intervals along a bicycle boulevard, primarily on Milton Avenue, which opened in October. Signals, curb ramps, countdown timers and signal-loop detectors for cyclists were upgraded at Milton and West North Broadway. Bike boxes (bike staging areas at intersections) will be added at the same intersection in 2009 pending Federal Highway Administration approval.

Improving indoor air quality:

Columbus Public Health continues its Healthy Homes Program. The goal of this program is to reduce preventable household hazards associated with asthma, lead poisoning, and unintentional injuries among children.

Protecting Our Climate

- The City completed its baseline greenhouse gas emission inventory. An internal working group was created in 2008 to review the inventory and begin to brainstorm on projects that will reduce the City's carbon footprint.
- The City continues to produce renewable power, at the hydro electricity plant at the O'Shaughnessy Dam. Last year, we generated 9,271 MWh electricity and received credit value of \$ 530,598.00 from AEP on our power bills. This is about 1% of the electricity that the City uses.
- The City also continues to invest in energy efficiency. The Department of Public Service continued its policy of replacing incandescent bulbs in traffic signals with LED bulbs. Last year, 250 pedestrian signals and 562 intersection signal heads were converted. Electricity savings for the year were \$56,443.



- The Department of Public Service is currently testing two solar-powered school signal flasher units on Park Road at Worthington Park Elementary School. If the pilot is successful, the technology will save dollars and materials for the City by eliminating electricity and cabling. The unit uses a power-installed foundation anchor, which is a less invasive and faster way of installing pole bases. The bases are screwed into the ground, do not use concrete and reduce time and equipment costs. The signals employ LED lighting instead of incandescent bulbs, which reduce maintenance issues, warehouse space and electricity costs.
- In 2008 The City's Department of Technology implemented a new energy-saving policy whereby all city

computers will be set up so that the screen will go blank after 15 minutes of inactivity.

- The standby mode reduces the power consumption of the computer by cutting power to various hardware components that are not in use, like the monitor or hard drives. To save energy the standby mode cuts power to some of the devices, but not all, if the computer is left idle for 15 minutes.
- After 60 minutes of inactivity, the computer system will go into sleep mode, a very low power mode that basically sets the unit in a very low power consumption mode. The use of sleep mode implies that the unit has fallen asleep and is using as little power as possible. The sleep mode will yield more energy savings than the standby mode.

IMPROVING WATER QUALITY

BIG DARBY ACCORD PLAN:

Accord partners accomplished the following in their ongoing Plan implementation:

- The Advisory Panel reviewed and made recommendations on three zoning cases, comprising 173 total acres and 58 acres of open space.
- The Open Space Advisory Committee established a GIS database and prepared inventories of conservation programs and funding sources.
- 1,154 acres of environmentally sensitive land were protected--1,375 through Clean Ohio funds, 179 through WRRSP funds.
- County approved stream setback regulations; County conservation development regulations and City monitoring regulations were prepared in draft form.

- An inter-governmental group prepared an RFP, solicited and reviewed consultant proposals, and made a unanimous recommendation for the Town Center study.
- Another group developed a proposed Revenue Program to specify the sources and uses of funds required to implement the Accord Plan.



- The 2009 goals for the Big Darby Accord include plans to simultaneously advance legislation related to the Big Darby Revenue Program, The Town Center Master Plan consultant study, and the County-City agreement to extend utilities without annexation to properties near Galloway. Adoption of these related pieces of legislation are required for further implementation of the Accord Plan.

Wet Weather Management Plan:

The City continues to make significant progress on the Department of Public Utilities' ambitious, 40-year, \$2.5 billion plan to eliminate sewer overflows and basement back-ups. In 2008, the City entered into construction contracts totaling \$350 million, all of those projects are underway and on schedule. In addition, the City received approval of its plan from Ohio EPA in January 2009.

Green Infrastructure:

The City has begun investing in capital improvements that increase the ability of our infrastructure to control and clean stormwater runoff. In 2008, the City built four bio-retention basins along the south side of Town Street between Front and High streets. These basins collect stormwater runoff and filter it through an engineered

soil layer. The filtered stormwater is then stored in a coarse aggregate bottom layer. Any excess, filtered stormwater enters an underdrain which is discharged into a stormwater drainage structure. This bio-retention system improves the quality of stormwater runoff before it enters streams.

Central Ohio River Pride:

The Department of Public Utilities, in conjunction with MORPC and area watershed groups, held 6 river cleanup events in May of 2008.



PROMOTING GREEN BUSINESS

FOSTERING GREEN BUSINESSES:

The city continues to offer performance incentives for new jobs associated with any new or expanded green business. In 2008, the City provided incentives to 20 companies that included a green component. Some examples include: Nationwide Children's Hospital, Abercrombie and Fitch, and Express LLC for their recycling programs, International Diversified Funding for its energy saving equipment, Tech-Center for brownfield remediation, and NetJets for green building materials.

Buying Green Products:

- ▶ The City of Columbus now uses green cleaning products in the custodial section. These products include renewable glass cleaner, floor seal and finish, industrial cleaner and encapsulating carpet spotter.
- ▶ The City continues its efforts to include "environmentally preferable" specifications in bids as directed by the Mayor's Green Initiative. In 2008 this resulted in the following purchases:
 - 100% Recycled polyester office chairs
 - Compact fluorescent light bulbs yielding a 78% reduction in energy use
 - Recycled content office supplies including binders, report covers, post notes etc.
- ▶ In 2008 The City's Print and Copy Center reached 100% compliance with Mayor Coleman's 2007 recycled paper executive order requiring use of 30% post consumer

recycled content paper. In addition 100% of all film processing chemical liquids used are disposed of as EPA approved, landfill friendly converted solids. 100% of the City's Print Center's printers and copiers are Energy Star complaint and the City's Print Center also began the process of eliminating the use of petroleum based printing inks.

Encouraging Green Contractors:

- ▶ In 2007 The City adopted the following language to encourage Environmentally Preferable professional consultants and contractors. This language was still in place during 2008:
 - All requests for proposals should include language stating that the City prefers hiring environmentally preferable consultants. While each department will determine how to award credits, generally, consultants may win points for having team members that have credentials or experience, or for having an innovative green proposal.
 - Construction contracts will also award points for green contractors. Specifically, a contractor may get a 5% credit (up to \$20,000) for having a construction site waste management plan that results in 50% of the waste being recycled, or a green fleet policy, or a project specific environmental proposal.



BUILDING A GREENER COLUMBUS

GREEN CITY BUILDINGS:

In 2008 the following city buildings received official LEED Silver certification or incorporated significant green aspects within their construction and operation: City Hall, Fire Station 10, Columbus Police Division Heliport, Columbus Police Division Precinct 1, 2, 8 and 16, Fire Division Practical Skills Building, Columbus Police Division Canine, Jerry Hammond, Administration, Columbus Police Division precincts 8 & 16, Fire Station 2 Kitchen, West Side Health Center, Impound Lot, OSU-CPD Neighborhood Policing Center, Municipal Court Building, Refuse Division and 2 Parking garages. Green elements include but are not limited to waterless urinals, low VOC paint, recycled content ceiling tiles, T-8 lighting, recycle concrete aggregate, sustainable flooring design, recycled content carpet and bio-swales.

Fleet Facility:

The following are examples of some of the green elements of The City's new state of the art Fleet Facility located at Groves Road, which opened in March 2008:

- Fuel containment system for fuel islands and storage areas
- Heat recovery system that will keep building warm in winter and cool in summer
- Exhaust system that will reduce sulfur dioxide, carbon dioxide and other emissions

- Energy efficient lighting with new technology fluorescents
- Natural lighting through the use of windows in shop areas and windows and skylights in administrative area
- Modern waste water disposal systems – facility has 6 oil/water separators that contain potential pollutants from entering the waste water stream
- No irrigation system for landscaping
- Underground cistern for fire pump testing for fire apparatus – saves approximately 70,000 gallons of water a day when pump testing is occurring (usually do for a solid month)
- Heating system computer controlled
- Toilets save water and urinals are waterless
- Modern system for storing used oils, grease and anti-freeze – over 10,000 feet of piping to distribute new fluids and collect used fluids that can be picked up by a vendor for safe disposal
- Reduced site disturbance by utilizing many existing trees and green space
- Parts Washers replaced – Fleet is moving to parts washers that are “environmentally friendly”: All units are self contained, generate no waste and reduce costs to the City of Columbus by approximately \$210,000 over the life cycle of the units (10 years)



Increased recycling in new building:

- All cardboard was previously discarded in a local landfill, but will be recycled in bins located on-site at Groves Road.
- Fleet has begun to reclaim all crushed, drained oil filters and send them to a recycling company, thus generating a revenue stream

Encouraging Private Green Buildings:

In 2008, the Columbus Development Department completed an analysis begun in 2007 of how the City could encourage the private sector to build more green

buildings. This included online research and speaking with knowledgeable individuals and organizations such as the Building Industry Association (BIA), Builders Exchange (BX), Association of General Contractors (AGC), National Association of Industrial and Office Properties (NAIOP), the Sierra Club, and architects from the Columbus Area AIA Chapter. The result was a 2008 report entitled Building a Greener Columbus. Among its recommendations were to allow more permeable surfaces and to reduce the sometimes excessive number of parking spaces required in the zoning code.

FOSTERING THE “GREENING” OF COLUMBUS

Planting Trees:

In 2008, the City planted 2,867 trees.

Green Space Acquisition:

The City through the Department of Recreation and Parks acquired 186 acres of parkland in 2008.

- 71 acres is the Hamilton Road wetland mentioned last year. This acquisition includes 71 acres of vernal pools/ high quality wetlands and a Heron Rookery of approximately 40 nests.
- The Alum Creek acquisition includes 16 acres of forested buffer along the creek, preserving floodplain. These lands will continue the development of the Alum Creek Trail.
- A 10-acre park, including forested buffer and floodplain protection was acquired along Big Walnut Creek, as a continuation of the Big Walnut Greenway Corridor.

- A donation of 14 acres along the Clover-Groff and adjacent to an existing park was granted to Recreation and Parks
- Recreation and Parks purchased 31 acres for a community park along the Clover-Groff and adjacent to existing parkland bringing the total acreage of parkland south of W Broad St to 135 acres.
- Three new neighborhood parks were acquired in growing areas of the city and parkland adjacent to an existing neighborhood park was acquired. These new neighborhood parks preserve wetlands and stream buffers while providing families with a choice of outdoor play.
- 17 acres of land preserving floodplain with potential development for a neighborhood park was acquired through a NatureWorks grant from ODNR. This completes a 1.5 miles greenway along Georges Creek with the potential for a trail between Brice and Gender Roads.



- Two acres of greenway along Alum Creek was preserved in recorded conservation easements.
- Two lowhead dams were removed on Alum Creek at Nelson and Wolfe Parks through a grant awarded to Friends of Alum Creek. The removal of these dams eliminates a safety hazard and restores the habitat and water quality to Alum Creek.

Whittier Peninsula:

In the spring of 2008 a successful groundbreaking event took place. The new Grange Insurance Audubon Center is now under construction and includes the installation of geothermal wells and wetlands. In 2009 the new Metro Park and Audubon Center will continue to develop expeditiously into a combination of expansive green space and bike trails coupled with environmental education opportunities for local school children.

Brownfield Clean-ups:

In 2008 the City was able to add to its success in the area of brownfield redevelopment with supplementing a \$3 million Clean Ohio grant for its TechCenter South project with a \$5 million Job Ready Sites grant to help prepare the site to accommodate a \$20 million private investment with up to 1,500 jobs when remediation is complete. The City also obtained a \$750,000 Clean Ohio grant to clean and redevelop the former Jaeger Manufacturing and Union Fork and Hoe sites to incentivize investment in a 400 unit condo complex near the Arena District in Downtown Columbus. Work was also begun to obtain a \$750,000 Clean Ohio grant to remediate and redevelop the former B&T Metals site in Franklinton. Clean up activities for previous brownfield projects were complete in 2008 for the former Lazarus Building, the Seneca Hotel and Broad and High.

