

# TMACOG NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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## **Portage Watershed Teachers To Practice Water Testing Skills**

- WHAT:** A dozen grade school and high school teachers will be trained in water quality testing
- WHEN:** Monday, August 10, 9:30 a.m.- 3:30 p.m. Field work 1:30 – 3:30 p.m.
- WHERE:** Schedel Arboretum and Gardens, 19255 W. Portage River South Road  
Elmore, OH 43416, (419) 862-3182. Testing site is on Portage River behind garden retaining wall. Golf carts may be available.
- WHY:** Talk to teachers getting into the river to take water samples and measurements. They are training to instruct the next generation of environmental stewards.

The beautiful Schedel Arboretum and Gardens will be the site of a teacher training program organized by the Soil and Water Conservation Districts of Wood and Ottawa counties, the Toledo Metropolitan Area Council of Governments (TMACOG), and the Ohio EPA. The teachers are all working at schools within the Portage River watershed which includes parts of Hancock, Wood, Sandusky, and Ottawa counties. The Portage River watershed provides drinking water for about 100,000 people.

Teachers will learn how to evaluate habitat, identify macroinvertebrates, and will practice procedures for the chemical testing of water quality. The teacher training correlates to the Ohio Science Content Standards. The primary instructor for the training program is Dennis Clement, Ohio EPA Office of Environmental Education.

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