

TMACOG NEWS RELEASE

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Planting Will Complete Ottawa River Restoration Project this Summer

Members of the team that removed the dam on the Ottawa River near Secor Road will return to the area in the early summer to complete some planting and habitat restoration. Partners in the remediation project include the Toledo Metropolitan Area Council of Governments (TMACOG), the village administration of Ottawa Hills, ODOT, and the University of Toledo and Bowling Green State University.

Project Manager Matt Horvat from TMACOG says that the native plantings will do more than beautify the area. Trees and shrubs will stabilize the streambank and reduce erosion. They also provide shade for the river which keeps the water cooler. Now that the dam is removed and fish can move through the area, cooler water which holds more oxygen will encourage healthy fish and other aquatic life. Trees will also dampen noise from Secor Road and screen the road from nearby homes.

The planting team will have some light machinery on site to auger holes for the container-grown plants. Some of the native trees that they will choose from (based on availability and cost) include swamp white oak, red maple, dogwood, black willow, and redbud. Shrubs include buttonbush, viburnum, and serviceberry.

For more information on the Ottawa River project, contact Matt Horvat at TMACOG: 419.241.9155 ext. 123 or Horvat@tmacog.org.

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