

# NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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## **Maumee Bay Wetlands Study Could Lead to Cleaner Beaches**

Interested citizens are invited to a public meeting October 2, 2007, from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Maumee Bay State Park Lodge to learn more about a wetland study at the park. At an open house meeting, citizens can review results of previous studies tracking bacteria in the area, study wetland designs, and see watershed information. A 40-minute presentation begins at 7 p.m.

Researchers are currently investigating the possibility of restoring a treatment wetlands on the grounds of the Maumee Bay State Park or immediately adjacent to it. Any potential plan has the goal of holding and treating water in the Berger Ditch. Earlier studies have indicated that the ditch is a significant source of bacteria which may be contaminating the Lake Erie beaches at the park and leading to beach closures. A properly designed wetland system could protect the beaches, and will enhance Lake Erie habitat and the park's attraction as a natural area.

All public officials and interested citizens are welcome to attend. Public input is vital to the study process. For more information, call Kurt Erichsen at 419.241.9155 ext. 126. Also see [www.tmacog.org](http://www.tmacog.org) for more background.

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