

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Ottawa River Habitat Team Seeks Local Knowledge

The Toledo Metropolitan Area Council of Governments (TMACOG) is working with partners to identify land along the Ottawa River that has good potential for habitat restoration. To find appropriate parcels, TMACOG is asking landowners and neighbors of the river to share their knowledge.

An open house meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 7, 4-7 p.m. at the University of Toledo Law Center Auditorium where partners involved will explain the project and ask for help from neighbors of the Ottawa River. Presentations are at 4:30 p.m. and 6 p.m.

The program is completely voluntary, and will be a benefit for participants. The consultant will not consider any property for restoration without the consent and permission of the landowner. If the property is selected for restoration, the landowner may gain tax benefits, and will help to restore an important local resource.

The first step is a review of existing information: current land use and land cover, identification of parcels and properties, soil analysis, presence of existing wetlands, records of threatened or endangered species. Next steps will involve mapping, requesting access to sites with potential, ground truth of the specific sites, and then prioritizing parcels for restoration.

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