



# **Cleveland Metroparks Vernal Pool Enhancement Project**

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# Preview

- Natural Resource Issues
- Vernal pools defined
- Project overview
- Brookside Reservation
- Status
- Questions

# Natural Resource Management

Monitoring, conservation, and management



# Natural Resource Management

What are the issues facing the Natural Resources Division?



# Natural Resource Management

Issue: Storm water and water quality



# Natural Resource Management

Issue: Invasive exotic species



Emerald ash borer



Lesser celandine





# Vernal Pools

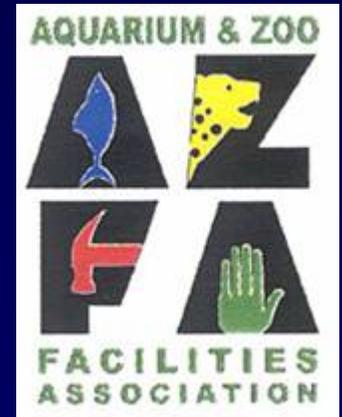
- Depressions in a forested landscape  
AKA seasonal, spring ephemeral, isolated, forested ponds
- Primarily surface and groundwater
- Seasonal wet periods – at least late winter (Feb/March) to early summer (June/July)
- Important amphibian breeding habitat



# Vernal Pools

- A habitat that is disappearing at alarming rates
- Species that rely on this habitat are becoming rare
- Remaining vernal pools need protected and maintained
- Development of additional habitat is critically needed to help reverse the trend





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# Vernal Pool Project Overview

## Restoration & Enhancement



# Vernal Pool Project Overview

How do we measure success?

## Long term monitoring

- Viable breeding populations
  - Large numbers of breeding adults
  - A like number of eggs, tadpoles and metamorphs
- Long-term viability
  - No human intervention required



# Brookside Project



# Cleveland Metroparks Vernal Pool Project

## Status

- **Tree planting at Brookside\***
- **Buckeye Trail restoration project at Bedford**
- **Water level monitoring equipment**
- **Permits for Brookside, North Chagrin, and Bradley Woods**
- **Invasive species control next spring and fall**
- **Excavation late summer**

# Brookside Tree Planting

