

SCRANTON TOWPATH TRAIL & RESTORATION



- **Type:** All-Purpose
- **Length** 0.8 mile
- **Cost** \$9.1 million
- **Main Funding Sources**
 - Great Lakes Restoration Initiative: \$3.1 million
 - Clean Ohio Conservation Fund: \$3.175 million

County: Cuyahoga
(Cuyahoga District #7)



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The Good Stuff

- **Amenities:** Valley Overlook, Observation Deck, Fishing Pier, Seating, Bike Parking, & Interpretive Signage
- **Connections to other non-project assets:** Connects Downtown to Tremont, neighborhoods south, Akron, & Zoar

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Unique!

- Remediated brownfield
- Restored 3,000' aquatic edge for fish habitat
- Restored 4.75 acres riparian buffer
- Cleans and detains rainwater runoff with bioretention
- Will educate public about local history, industry, and environment
- Urban greenway
- 57 bird species sighted

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Buzz on the Street

Scranton Flats Video Updates

In response to the tremendous showing of support for the Towpath at the Scranton Flats Groundbreaking, Canalway Partners has teamed up with Cuyahoga County to provide video updates of the Scranton Flats Construction project.

Scranton Flats December Update



eBird

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Bird Observations

Date Range: 1/1 - 12/31, 1900-2014 Combine Years

For: [Scranton Flats]

59 species (+7 other taxa)

Species	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Canada Goose	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Mute Swan		■	■									
Wood Duck				■								
Gadwall				■								
American Black Duck		■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Mallard		■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
American Black Duck x Mallard (hybrid)		■	■	■								
Northern Shoveler				■	■							
Northern Pintail				■								
Canvasback		■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Redhead		■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Ring-necked Duck		■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Greater Scaup		■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Lesser Scaup		■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Greater/Lesser Scaup		■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■

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Towpath Trail = 100+ miles

Will connect downtown Cleveland to Zoar, Ohio, when completed

Collaboration between 14 non-profit and government agencies

Urban greenway through industrial Flats

Aquatic habitat on active shipping channel

Innovative “plant pillows” to establish aquatics

Native aquatic, meadow, shrub, and tree species

Floating boom excludes floating pollutants

Progresses toward Cuyahoga River Area of Concern delisting

Observation deck and guard rails interpret surrounding bridges



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In 1974, the National Parks Service began the conversion of the historic towpath that parallels and supported the Ohio & Erie Canal, built in the 1820's, into a shared use trail. The Towpath Trail has grown into a 100+ mile trail, which, when finished, will connect Cleveland to Zoar, Ohio. In 1999, Cuyahoga County completed an Alignment & Design Study for a Towpath Trail Extension, designed to complete the northern segment to the Canal Turning Basin, in downtown Cleveland.

As part of Stage 4 of the trail, Behnke Associates and Michael Baker Corporation worked with a collaborative team of the Cuyahoga County Engineer, Ohio Canal Corridor, City of Cleveland, and Cleveland Metroparks to not only design and build 0.8 miles of the trail, but also restore 4.75 acres of upland riparian buffer and 3,000 feet of aquatic edge along the lower Cuyahoga River shipping channel, for larval fish habitat.

Championed by Tim Donovan of the Ohio Canal Corridor, and funded through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act and the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, the Cuyahoga AOC Urban Riparian Restoration & Towpath Trail will have a significant positive impact on the Greater Cleveland area through:

Remediating brownfield conditions

Removing failing steel bulkheads

Restoring and monitoring the aquatic edge for larval fish habitat, through a variety of grading, wetland, green bulkhead modification, large woody debris, and native planting strategies, on an active shipping channel

Utilizing native meadow, shrub, and tree species for upland restoration of a former industrial site

Creating an urban greenway for active and passive recreation

Connecting bicyclists and pedestrians in downtown Cleveland with neighborhoods south of downtown, and eventually all communities along the completed Towpath Trail and the Ohio to Erie Trail

Treating stormwater runoff from the trail and adjacent street and industrial area

Managing floatable pollution

Progressing toward Area of Concern delisting for the Cuyahoga River

Educating the public about local history, industry, and the environment, through interpretive displays

Stages 1, 3, and the remainder of 4 are currently under design, for construction over the next 5 years.

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