



City Forest Credits Preservation Project Application

1. Project Name

Southington Forest Preserve

2. Project Operator

Organization/Entity: West Creek Conservancy

Address: 7381 Camelot Drive

City: Parma

State: OH

Zip: 44134

Primary and/or secondary contact(s): Brett Rodstrom, Director of Conservation

Phone: (440) 867-6659

Email: brett@westcreek.org

3. Project Location

The Southington Forest Preserve is located in Southington Township, Trumbull County, Ohio, an unincorporated community. The project meets the urban area criteria because it is part of the planning area for the Eastgate Regional Council of Governments, the Metropolitan Planning Organization covering Ashtabula, Mahoning, and Trumbull counties. The property is also adjacent to a freeway and surrounded by residential communities. The property is comprised of one parcel: 57-101650

Address: Parkman Road, Southington Township, OH 44470

Property Centroid: 41.3145429, -80.9784625

4. Project Description

Provide short narrative of the project goals, Project Area acreage, land ownership, forest characteristics, and land use/zoning. Provide details about when the property was acquired or potential timeline for acquisition. Include information about when carbon crediting was first introduced into the overall project scope.

The Southington Forest Preserve is a 43-acre property, with 38 acres of mature, upland hardwood forest that comprise the Project Area. The property was donated to West Creek Conservancy in December 2021. The forest is a mix of impressive upland hardwoods including hickory, oaks, beech, and sugar maples.

The property is zoned primarily for commercial use, with a smaller section also zoned residential/agriculture, and is adjacent to US Route 422. West Creek Conservancy seeks to permanently preserve this high-quality forested area in order to protect the property from the pattern of timbering that

is prevalent in the immediately surrounding community, as well as from any future commercial development. The property is currently unencumbered by legal restrictions. West Creek Conservancy will place a conservation easement on the property upon registration of the project with City Forest Credits. This conservation easement will preserve the property's trees and other natural assets in perpetuity.

West Creek Conservancy will integrate the property into the organization's guided nature hike series to promote public access and appreciation for the area's natural resources. Revenue generated from the sale of carbon credits will support West Creek Conservancy's ongoing stewardship and management of the property, as well as protection of additional forested carbon resources within the conservation organization's service area.

5. Project Impacts

Provide short narrative of the environmental, social, and health impacts this project will achieve. Examples include how the project addresses increased access to green spaces for under-resourced communities, flood control or watershed protection, benefits for human health and well-being, improved recreation opportunities, or protects bird and wildlife habitat.

The property is densely forested, with minimal onsite water resources. However, the northwest portion of the property contains an ephemeral headwater stream that eventually feeds into Dead Branch, a main tributary to the Grand River. The property is located within the Grand River Headwaters subwatershed. Preservation of the mature upland forest on the property will protect an important buffer to the headwaters of the State Wild and Scenic Grand River, which is an important part of the natural heritage of Northeast Ohio.

The property also provides habitat for a globally listed species, the West Virginia white butterfly, which has been identified on the property. This species relies on forested understory flowers for laying its eggs – permanent protection of this forested tract will therefore preserve necessary habitat for this vulnerable species.

6. Additional Information

Provide additional information about your project. If the Project Area is part of a larger program or preservation effort, include one sentence with more information. Examples include collaboration with other partners to preserve forestland or how this project fits into a regional initiative.

The Southington Forest Preserve was a one-time donation from a property owner who wished to see this forested natural area preserved in perpetuity. West Creek Conservancy will continue to build relationships with property owners in the area, to instill the importance of preservation of high-quality forested areas, and to remain aware of future opportunities for additional forest acres to be preserved adjacent to the Southington Forest Preserve.

7. Map

Provide a map of the Project Area.

Forest unit map of the Southington Forest Project Area attached.

PROJECT OPERATOR SIGNATURE

Signed on November 1st in 2023, by Derek Schafer, for West Creek Conservancy.



Signature



Printed Name

440-915-2940

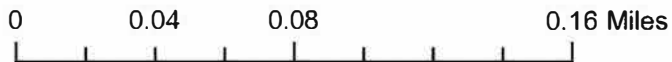
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SOUTHINGTON
FOREST PRESERVE
FORESTRY UNITS
38 ACRES




WEST CREEK
CONSERVANCY