

# TIME TO EXPLORE

Cleveland Metroparks

## Cleveland-Area Water Trail Development

Cuyahoga River

Lake Erie

Board of Park Commissioners

May 16, 2019



# What is a Water Trail?

- A stretch of river, lake, or other waterway that has been identified and mapped as a trail
- Contains signage and facilities that enable access and address safety
- Designation by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources



# Challenges

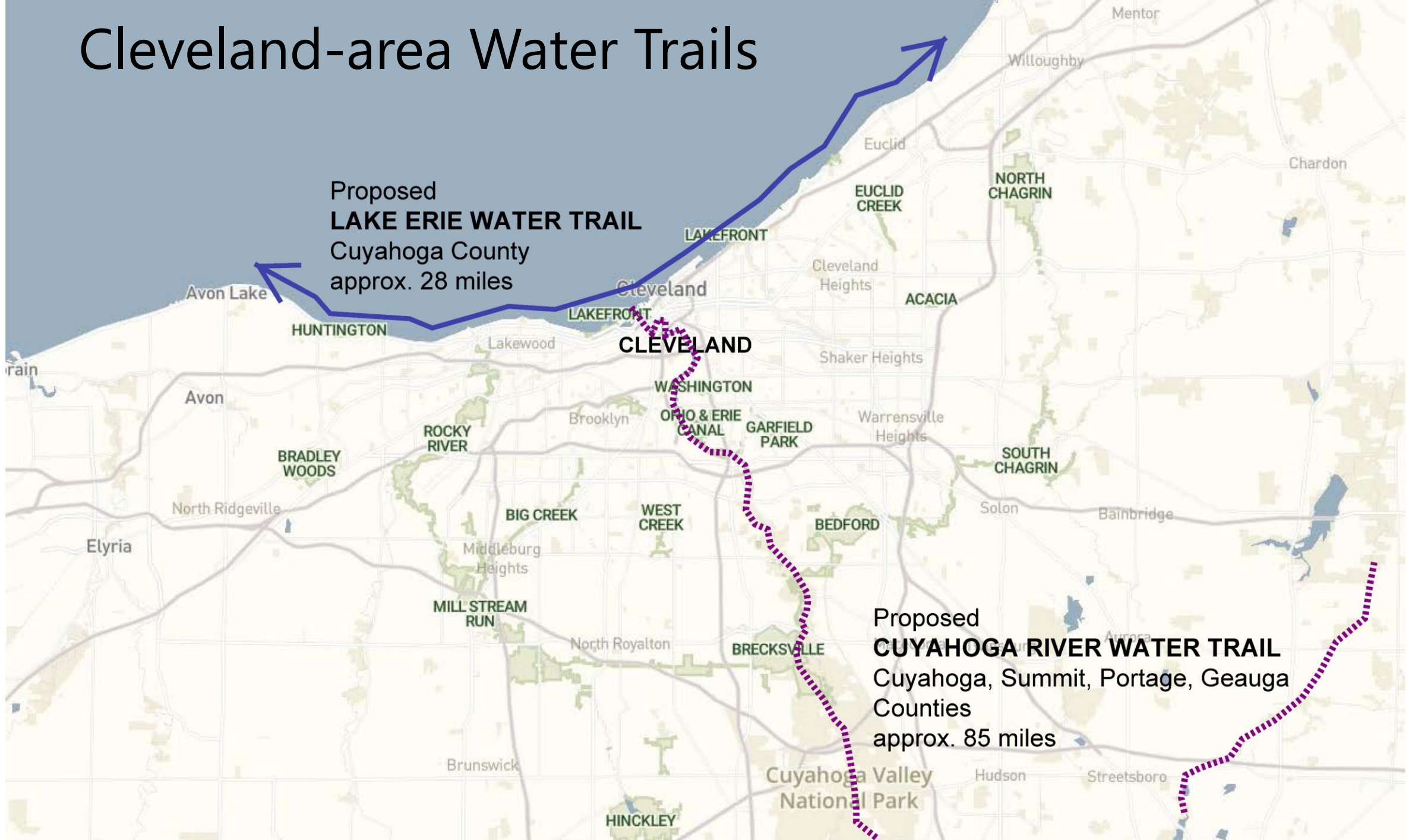
- Water quality
- Dams
- Access points
- Safety
- River conditions
- Freighters and motorized boats



# Cleveland-area Water Trails

Proposed  
**LAKE ERIE WATER TRAIL**  
Cuyahoga County  
approx. 28 miles

Proposed  
**CUYAHOGA RIVER WATER TRAIL**  
Cuyahoga, Summit, Portage, Geauga  
Counties  
approx. 85 miles



# Cuyahoga River Water Trail



## Quick Facts

- 85 miles long
- 813 sq. miles
- 6 county watershed

## Designation

- Cooperating partners
- Public meetings
- Mapping
- Confirm access points

[CuyahogaRiverWaterTrail.org](http://CuyahogaRiverWaterTrail.org)  
[info@CuyahogaRiverWaterTrail.org](mailto:info@CuyahogaRiverWaterTrail.org)

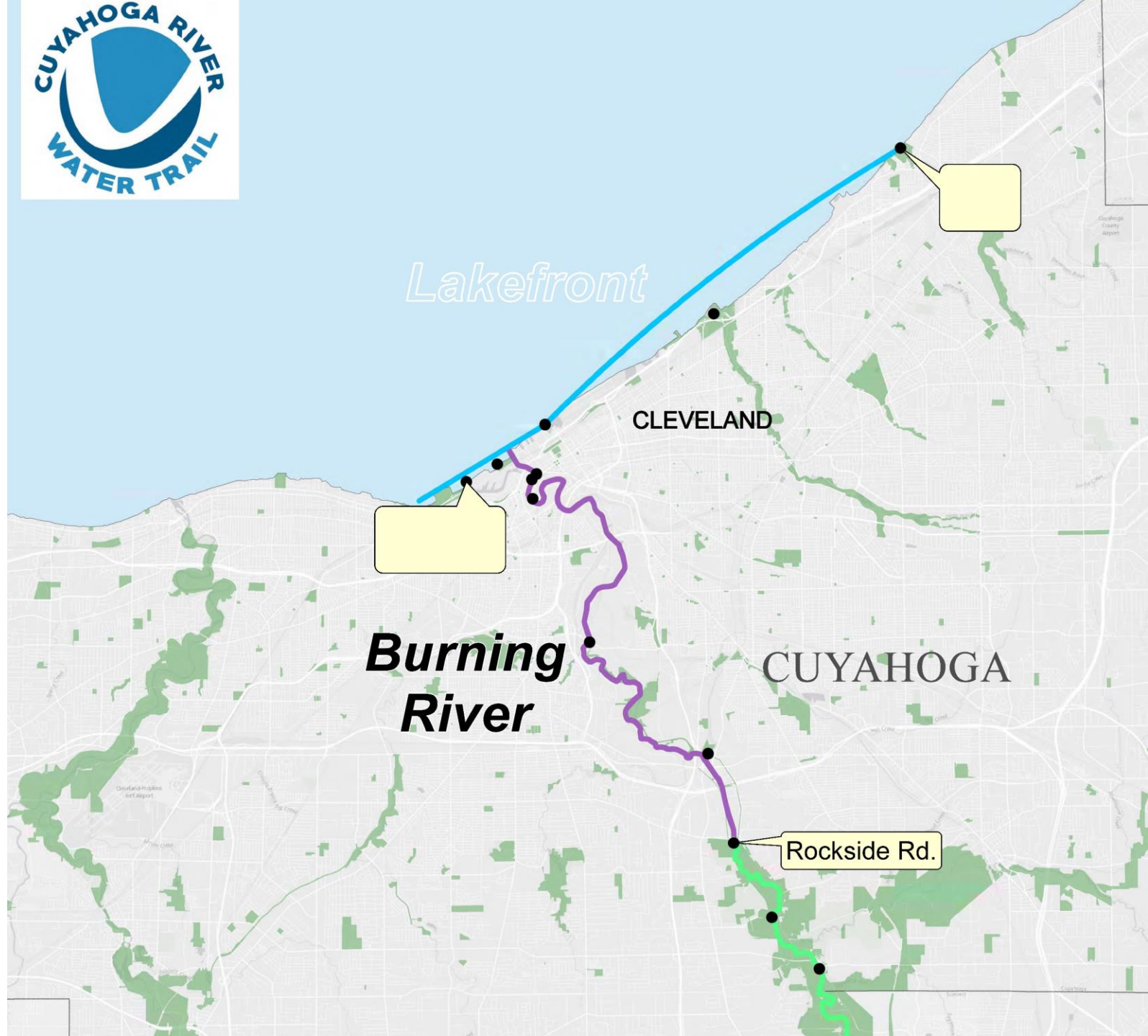
#CRWT



# Managing Partners and Cleveland Metroparks Focus Area

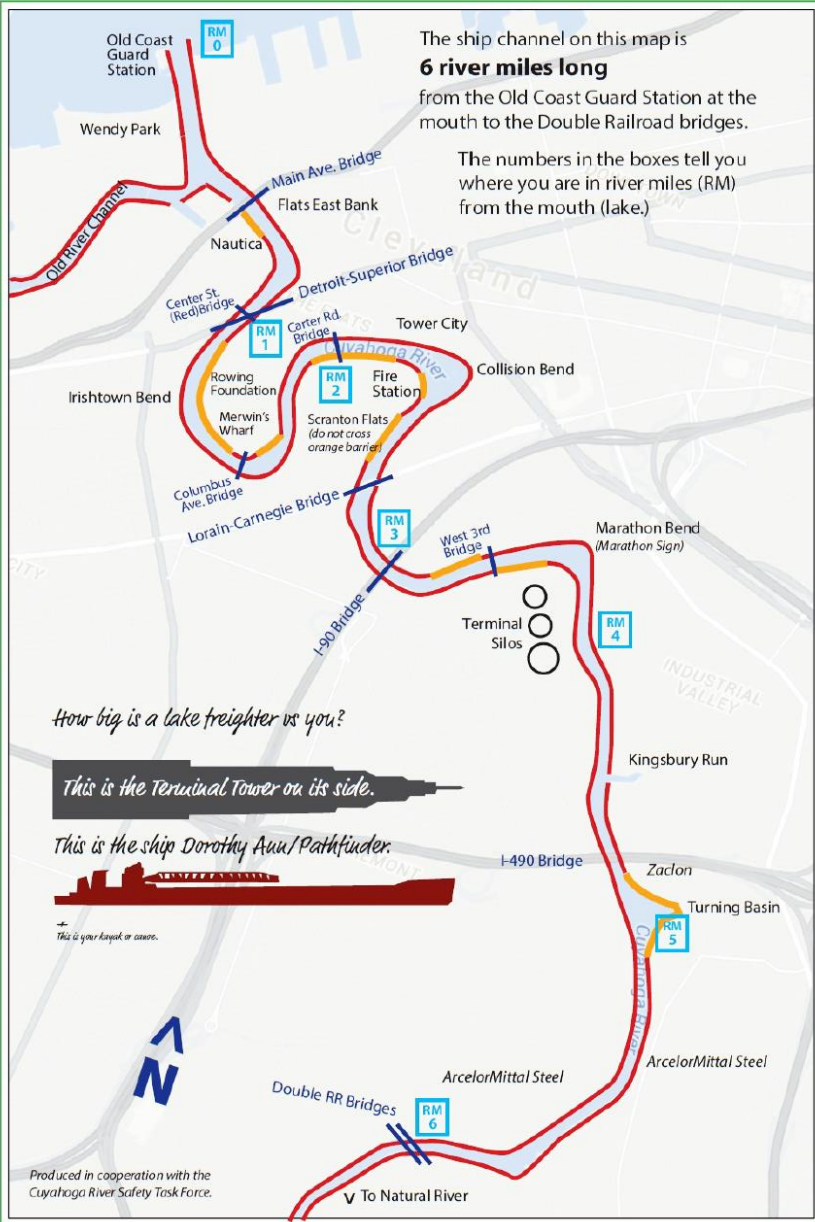
*Managing partners support the goals of the water trail by maintaining access points, signage and supporting paddler education.*

- City of Akron
- City of Cuyahoga Falls
- City of Kent
- Mantua Village
- Village of Silver Lake
- Cleveland Metroparks
- Cuyahoga Valley National Park
- Geauga Park District
- Portage Park District
- Summit MetroParks



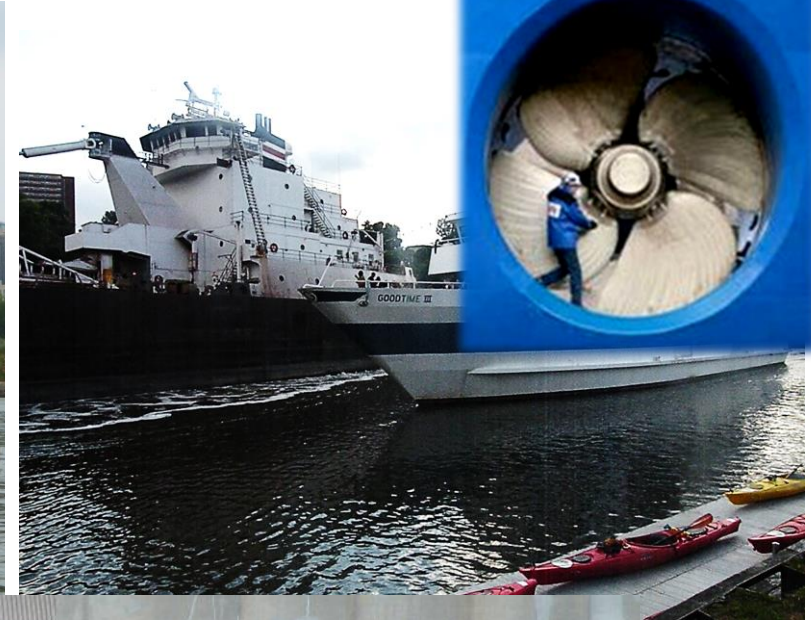
# The Cuyahoga River Ship Channel

- Red Lines = Danger Zones, do not stop when freighter is in the area
- Orange Lines = Passing Zones, least unsafe place to stop while freighter passes



# Burning River Section

Unique in both it's challenges and benefits!



# Cuyahoga County Lakefront

## LAKE ERIE WATER TRAIL (PROPOSED)

Approximately 5 miles to Avon Lake's Veterans' Memorial Park

### KEY

- K** Existing Paddle Access - Cleveland Metroparks
- K** Proposed Paddle Access - Lakefront Communities

Approximately 3.5 miles to Lake Metroparks Lakeshore Lodge Park →





# Lake Erie Water Trail – Cuyahoga County

- Kick-off meeting in June
  - Lakefront communities
  - Other waterfront stakeholders
  - Cleveland Metroparks staff
- Consider effort to designate a trail along Lake Erie in Cuyahoga County
- Explore potential access points
- Discuss education
- Develop working groups for trail management and safety
- Arrange public outreach and discuss next steps



# Thank You

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