

Stephanie Walton
Chief of Marketing & Communications
330-865-8040 x215
swalton@summitmetroparks.org

Lindsay Smith
Marketing & Public Relations Manager
330-865-8040 x207
lsmith@summitmetroparks.org

COMMUNITY PARTNERS TO HOST GORGE DAM PUBLIC MEETING

Members of the public are invited to attend a community update on the process to remove a 420-foot-wide, 60-foot-tall dam within Gorge Metro Park. The dam is an impediment to the water quality of the Cuyahoga River and its removal is expected to improve river ecology, create recreational opportunities and drive economic benefits.

On March 31, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Cuyahoga Falls Natatorium (2345 4th St., Cuyahoga Falls), the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA), Jacobs Engineering Group, the City of Akron and other stakeholders will present a project status update. Topics will include the results of studies required to design how and where the sediment will be managed, progress on dam removal engineering and next steps. Also, the current and future status of white-water paddling in the Gorge and the upcoming City of Cuyahoga Falls Kayak Race will be featured. Participants will have an opportunity to ask questions. Doors will open at 6:00 PM with refreshments provided by FirstEnergy.

Now in its fourth year, the dam removal project is managed by a group of partners that includes the City of Akron, City of Cuyahoga Falls, FirstEnergy, County of Summit, Summit County Council, Summit Metro Parks, Ohio EPA and U.S. EPA. Jacobs Engineering Group is assisting U.S. EPA in managing the current project phase, which is funded by U.S. EPA through the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative. On behalf of Ohio EPA, matching funds are provided by the City of Akron through a grant from the State of Ohio. For more information, please call 330-867-5511.

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Summit Metro Parks manages more than 14,500 acres, including 16 parks, several conservation areas and more than 125 miles of trails, with 22.4 miles of the Ohio & Erie Canal Towpath Trail. Annual attendance averages 5 million visits. Visit us online at summitmetroparks.org.



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