

<b>Code</b>	517022
<b>Subject</b>	Ron Schadrach
<b>Date</b>	6/19/2008
<b>Interviewer</b>	Josh Witting
<b>Special Notes</b>	West Creek Preservation

**minutes:**

- 0 Introduction
- 1 Ron sees himself as an "active observer" of the developments of West Creek.
- 2 Ron was dissatisfied with the Ohio EPA on how they gave permits.  
Ron contacted the West Preservation Committee to see what could be done to
- 3 mitigate development and EPA practices.  
Ron helped identify areas that could be preserved, helped identify areas that could
- 4 be used as trails.
- 5 The scouts, with help of the city made trail signs for the West Creek area.
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- 7 West Creek is one of the last large areas left in Parma.
- 8 West Creek provides a great recreation area for the community.
- 9 Keeping the project remains the biggest hurdle for the project.
- 10 The project requires an ongoing commitment.  
Dealing with politicians and city personell was difficult. These people often have "an
- 11 alterier motive" which can be difficult to identify.
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- 13 From initial trails, studies were conducted to build additional trails and bridges.  
There has been a lot of acquisition of land to expand park. Major cleanup operations
- 14 were conducted throughout West Creek.
- 15 Ron stalbalized the hillsides by planting ivy and grass.
- 16  
A park in New York gave Ron and his son the ideas for the trail markers in West
- 17 Creek
- 18 West Creek used by the Boy Scouts to learn map and compass reading  
Some of the Boy Scouts were disappointed that the metroparks took over
- 19 management of West Creek because they viewed it as belonging to Parma.
- 20 Ron's initial vision was to have an outdoor learning center
- 21 Local school teachers were not very receptive to the idea
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- 26 Walking the trials with his sons was his favorite memory.
- 27 Vandals would break signs and they would just make new ones
- 28 Ron talks about his family
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Orignally, the developer of Home Depot tried to sue the state to force development
- 31 of West Creek. Ron wrote letters to officials to point out the errors of developers
- 32 Ron filed an appeal with the Envirmental Reviews Commisions
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- 34 Wolstein tried to sue 40 residents who opposed the development
- 35 Ron got the Ohio EPA to get positions to evaluate wetland mitigation
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- 37 Ron put his family through a lot of stress during litigation

38 End

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