

<b>Code</b>	902009
<b>Subject</b>	edward j. fritz
<b>Date</b>	7/6/2006
<b>Interviewer</b>	anthony bifulco
<b>Abstract</b>	Edward J. Fritz of the Shaker Lakes Nature Center discusses his involvement with the Center beginning in the late 1970s. Fritz was involved with a number of maintenance and improvement projects at the Center, which he discusses in detail. Also discussed are educational programs and fundraising campaigns, volunteerism, deer population control, lake dredging, staffing issues, and cooperation with adjacent city governments. A lawsuit filed by the East Cleveland Farmers Market against the Nature Center is also discussed, as is the battle against highway development through Shaker Lakes, the Cuyahoga Valley National Park, and a number of additional environmental issues.

**minutes:**

- 0 introduction and background: early interest in natural world
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- 2 coming to cleveland
- 3 shaker lakes nature center: involvement beginning in late 1970s
- 4 repairing the heating system
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- 8 other repair work
- 9 [8:50] nature center programming; controversial deer control program
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- 11 deer overpopulation problems at shaker lakes and other local parklands
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- 14 attending nature center programs
- stopping highway construction: "there were enough rich influential people, with enough
- 15 clout to make it happen"
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- 17 Shaker Heights, history: "unfortunately [the Shakers] left very few relics"
- 18 shaker lakes
- 19 volunteering at shaker lakes nature center
- 20 shaker lakes nature center: staffing changes
- 21 unnamed former director "really screwed it up"
- 22 dredging the lakes, problems and purpose
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- 25 dredging the lakes, process
- 26 dredging the lakes, environmental impact; ecological curiosities
- 27 wildlife
- 28 Rich Horton, term as director of shaker lakes nature center
- 29 "he kept it going at a time when they didn't have [as much] support"
- 30 shaker lakes nature center, fundraising and endowments
- 31 shaker lakes nature center, Volunteer Hall of Fame

32 shaker lakes nature center, maintainence: ongoing heating problems  
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35 sewage maintainence  
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37 water pollution  
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39 shaker lakes nature center, new visitor center  
40 energy efficient "green building"  
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42 volunteering at shaker lakes nature center  
43 ongoing maintainence needs  
44 shaker lakes nature center: benefit to community  
45 initial concerns about bridge replacement project were "wrong"  
46 difficulty of getting city involved in maintainece  
47 difficulting of attracting volunteers  
48 lawsuit involving Nature Center and East Cleveland Farmers Market  
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50 clarifications  
51 dredging, bridge project, name change  
52 Cuyahoga Valley National Park  
53 environmental activism; being a founding member; viability of urban parks  
54 competing interests  
55 protecting the emergent park: "we did a lot of rear guard fighting"  
56 end