

---

Medina County Park District

# Chippewa Lake Wetland Restoration

Lafayette Township, Ohio



---

*Habitat, ecological function, and recreational opportunities are restored to the site of an abandoned, dilapidated amusement park.*

---

## **SERVICES**

Design-build  
Ecological Restoration

**A** popular amusement park from 1875 to 1978, Chippewa Lake Park sat abandoned along the shores of Ohio's largest inland glacial lake until it was purchased by the Medina County Park District (MCPD). After developing a master plan for the 95-acre site, MCPD received funding from the State's H2Ohio program to restore its ecological function and habitat quality, and to remove dilapidated park infrastructure.

As part of the integrated design-build team, Biohabitats designed, procured permitting, and led construction of the restoration of 15 acres of wetlands and 860 lf of stream. The team began with data collection and a field assessment which included a wetland delineation, stream assessment, topographic survey, cultural resource investigation, and hydrologic and hydraulic analyses. Biohabitats then developed the restoration design, which created ecologically beneficial wetland areas, addressed flooding concerns, and improved the shoreline. The design pays homage to the site's history by integrating relics such as the defunct Ferris wheel, while also accommodating future hydrologic improvements along an adjacent road.

Construction, which included demolishing debris from 25 neglected structures, 1,500 lf of damaged fencing, and 50,000 sf of pavement, was followed with site monitoring and invasive species management.