

# THE GLEN ECHO RAVINE RESTORATION

*In 1999, Friends of the Ravines was awarded a \$25,000 conservation grant from the Catherine Hislop fund of the Columbus Foundation. This began the first stage of slope restoration in Glen Echo Ravine/Park.*

Summary of Grants Received by Friends of the Ravines for slope  
restoration in Glen Echo Ravine

Organization	Date	Amount
The Columbus Foundation	2000	\$25,000
The Columbus Foundation	2003	\$20,000
NiSource Environmental Challenge Fund	2003	\$4,200
The Columbus Foundation	2005	\$10,855
NiSource Environmental Challenge Fund	2005	\$3,830
The Clintonville Fund	2005	\$1,000
Keep Franklin County Beautiful	2005	\$1,000
Community Festival	2006	\$500
The Columbus Foundation	2007	\$3,500
Neighborhood Partnership Grant	2009	\$2,000
GCAC Neighborhood Partnership Grant	2010	\$1200
Neighborhood Partnership Grant	2011	\$4,400
GCAC Neighborhood Partnership Grant	2011	\$1,000
Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission & Franklin County Soil & Water Conservation District	2012	\$500

*Some of the above grants included funding for educational outreach activities, printing of Ravinia, and the purchase of native plant materials.*



SITE OF PROPOSED GLEN ECHO RESTORATION IN MAY 2000





RESTORATION IN PROGRESS





RESTORATION IN PROGRESS





CCC WORKING ON FOOT PATH TO GLEN ECHO PARK







*In 2003*

*Friends of the Ravines was awarded a  
\$20,000 grant from The Columbus  
Foundation and the south slope  
restoration began.*



EXPOSED TREE ROOTS AND EROSION DAMAGE ON GLEN ECHO  
PARK'S SOUTHERN SLOPE





URBAN ECOLOGY STUDENTS FROM THE GRAHAM SCHOOL JOIN FRIENDS OF THE RAVINES VOLUNTEERS TO PLANT PHASES 1 AND 2 OF GLEN ECHO'S SOUTHERN SLOPE RESTORATION IN THE FALL OF 2003





SLINGER TRUCK SPEWS TOPSOIL ON GLEN ECHO'S SOUTHERN SLOPE  
FALL 2003





## Glen Echo South Slope Restoration Spring 2004

Top: Plantings installed fall 2003 leaf out during their first growing season.  
Bottom: Area behind the stone wall are ready for shrubs to be planted.



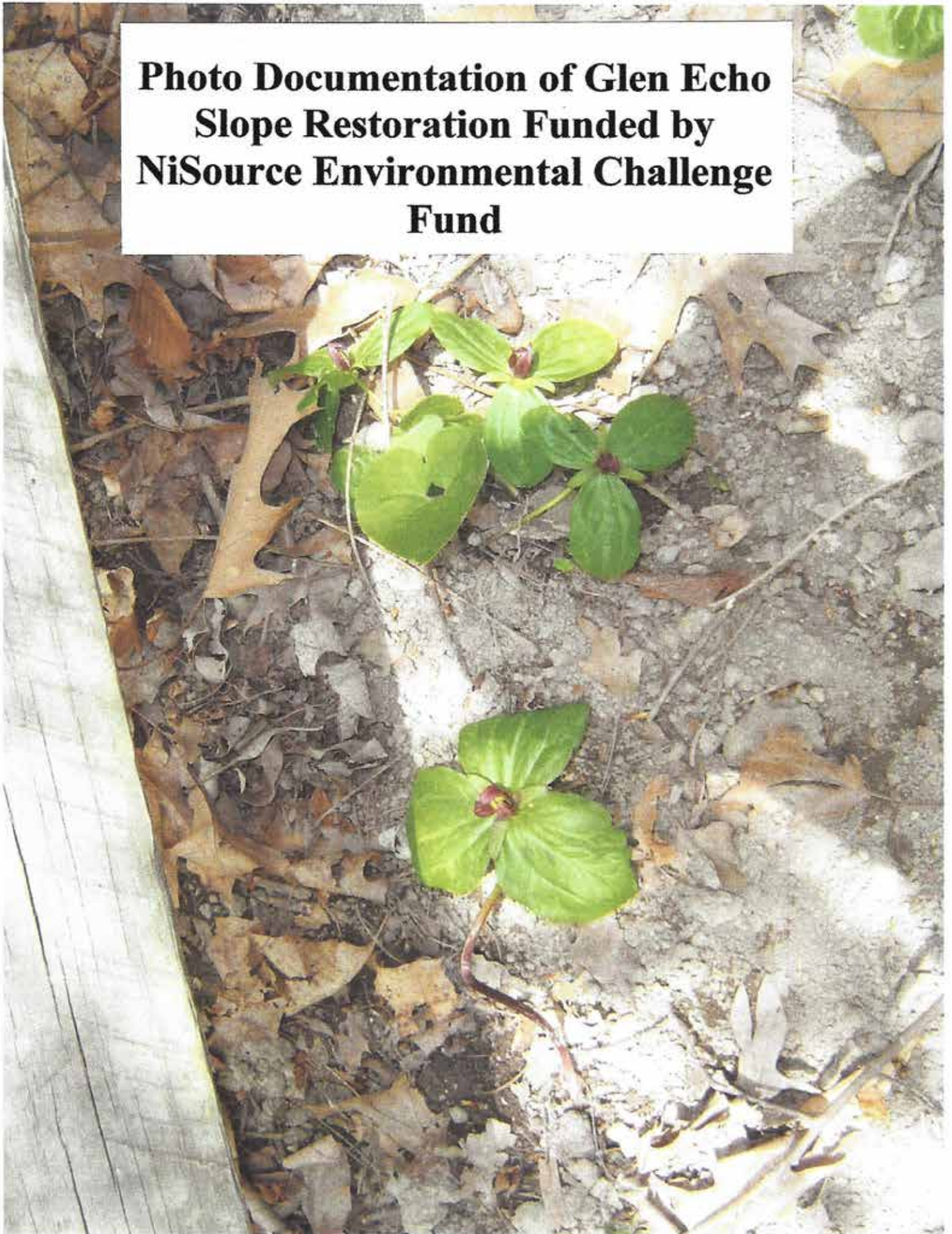


In May 2004 Volunteers assembled to place native shrubs on the southern slope of Glen Echo.





**Photo Documentation of Glen Echo  
Slope Restoration Funded by  
NiSource Environmental Challenge  
Fund**





May 2005

Photos from top to bottom: 1: Native shrubs are ready for planting on the south slope of Glen Echo. 2: Volunteers plant native shrubs. 3: A volunteer poses with Nifty Nabbers purchased with NiSource Environmental Challenge Fund grant. 4: Thicket of bush honeysuckle before invasive removal. 5. Volunteer plants a serviceberry in December 2005 where bush honeysuckle (photo 4) was removed.



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3.



4.



5.





*VOLUNTEERS*

*VOLUNTEERS*

*VOLUNTEERS*

*They say it takes a village to  
raise a child, we had  
volunteers from all over the  
city help restore the slopes of  
Glen Echo Ravine/Park.*



Students from the Graham School in Glen Echo Ravine for *Out with Invasives – In with Natives* sessions.



Two Graham School students removing Norway Maples on Glen Echo's southern slope – Fall 2003.





**Earth Day 2004: A Volunteer removes garlic mustard from Glen Echo Ravine.**





Susan Weber from Urban Wild (right) instructs volunteers on best planting practices at the installation of the Woodland Perennial Garden in May 2004.



Volunteers from The Graham School and The Ohio State School for the Blind have a hands on activity when planting woodland perennials in May 2004.





October 2005

Cub Scouts from Pack 41 planted native violets in Glen Echo Ravine followed by a clean-up of the park area using Nifty Nabbers purchased with NiSource Environmental Challenge Fund Grant money.





November 2005

Photos from top to bottom: 1: Volunteers rototill area before planting in front of stone wall. 2: The proprietor of *Sharpening On Sight* sharpened a pair of pruners or loppers at no charge for each volunteer working on November 12, 2005. 3 & 4: Volunteers dig in native shrubs and enrich soil with compost donated by Franklin Park Conservatory's Community Gardening Program.

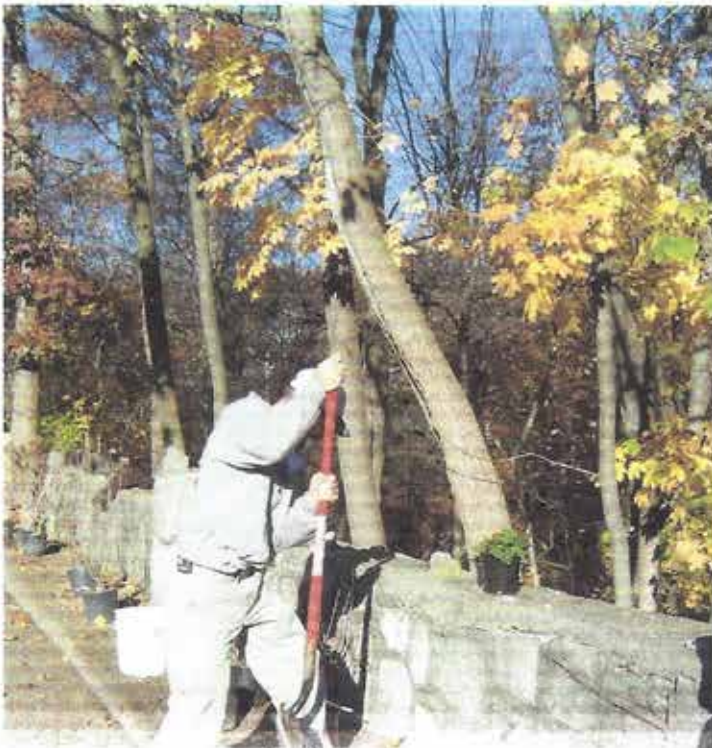
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October 2006

Families gathered in Glen Echo Park to plant Sugar Maples, Shagbark Hickory, Hackberry, White Dogwoods, Northern Red Oak, and Eastern Black Oaks on the south slope of Glen Echo Ravine.





A Year in a Day Planting in Glen Echo Park  
April 21, 2007





## Glen Echo Park in April 2007

Photos 1) Worthington Christian School high school students cleaning Glen Echo Run with Nifty Nabbers purchased with NiSource Environmental Challenge Fund Grant in May 2005. 2) One of 65 Buckeye trees donated to Glen Echo Reforestation project by Ohio State University Professor, Dan Struve from the Department of Horticulture and Crop Science. 3 & 4) Left: Large-flowered Trillium (*trillium grandiflorum*) Right: Wild ginger and sensitive ferns. Both ephemerals were planted in 2005 with funds from The Columbus Foundation and Keep Franklin County Beautiful.

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Worthington Christian School Community Service Day  
April 27, 2007

Photos: 1) rescued native perennials potted for planting. Photos 2,3,5,6) students planting on slopes. Photo 3) Adults chat while students work





*Articles and Other  
Materials. . .*



April 27, 1962

# Ravines

By Ben Hayes

**IT WASN'T EASY**—a bright little stream named Doe Run once flowed along Spring-st from the East Side to the Scioto River, and hiding it was a sweaty task. When with stone and mortar a conduit had been arched across it, the flowing spring water was covered with wagon-loads of fill. Then downtown Columbus could be flat.

Farther north other streams have cut their way from the highlands down to the Olentangy plain—resulting in beautiful wooded ravines. On the North Side and in Clintonville there are Iuka, Glen Echo, Walhalla and Overbrook.

This time of year these irregularities twisting through the residential city are gorgeous assets. Persons living on the brink of the gorges now look across a sea of blooming trees.

**BIG DARK BOULDERS** and soaring sycamores seemed the feature of the Iuka gouge as I strolled through it Wednesday. The hollow is unexpected; it begins in "fraternity city" east of the Ohio State campus and runs to Smith Skating Rink on the east side of Fourth-st. The stream, now hidden, must have flowed across High-st and down through Mirror Lake Hollow behind the Ohio Union.

Farther north, behind North High School, is a genuine canyon. It is Glen Echo. Long ago, in its wide gulch between the Olentangy and High-st, Pat Murnan, the Irish overlord of gambling, once had a casino. And it was called Cripple Creek.

East from High-st the stream has cut



Hayes

through the shale leaving high cliffs. (One street is Cliffside.) It's a dangerous gorge, also trashy. People throw rubbish into Glen Echo. Farther east, it widens and on the valley floor there is a city park. It is a beautiful place.

**THE WILDNESS** of Walhalla attracted Mat Armbruster, the scenic painter; he bought the forested, uneven land. Al G. Field, his No. 1 customer, told him he was a fool.

Armbruster broke his land into lots and gave streets romantic names from Wagnerian opera. He made so much money Field turned green with envy.

Beeches and oaks grow tall in Walhalla, and I saw many squirrels and red birds. It is the haunt of opossums and raccoons. Persons living on Clinton Heights, the ravine's north lip, feed coons regularly.

Walhalla is marred by trash and debris at High-st, but it soon becomes cleanly rustic. With its branches and ramifications it gives pleasure to hundreds of residents. One wonders about the man who insisted that a roadway be run through it. A bridle path or Indian trail would have been enough. Without the street, the stream could bicker all the way down the valley.

**OVERBROOK'S STREAM**, being still farther north, carries the water from the Indian Springs to the Olentangy. Old timers of the North Side cherish the Indian Springs section. Rand Hollenback, Clintonville publisher, recalls tapping big maple trees.

I like the wild cowparsnips that bloom in the ravine in Whetstone Park. Their huge creamy heads always open by Memorial Day.