

Surface Water Management District Dorwick Ditch Improvements

**Public Viewing - August 13th, 2025 4:30 PM
Northfield Township Trustees Meeting Room**

**Alan Brubaker, PE, PS - Summit County Engineer
David Koontz, PE, SI - SWMD Coordinator
Charles Hauber, PE, PS, Engineering Project Manager
Stephanie Deibel, Stormwater Specialist**



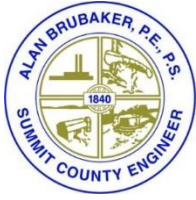
Dorwick Ditch Improvements Public Viewing Description

- The Public Viewing is the first opportunity for the public to learn about the proposed project after the petition is filed.
- Traditionally, the viewing would be held outside at the ditch so the public could see the current conditions.
- Today, we have the viewing indoors with an A/V presentation.
- The County Engineer could describe the historic problems that have been experienced and perhaps describe some preliminary ideas for improvements.
- Our SWMD priority projects have been funded, so the studies and preliminary design have been completed and we can share this information at the public viewing.



Dorwick Ditch Improvements Project Location





Dorwick Ditch Improvements

Description and Benefits

- The channel will be cleaned and numerous obstructions removed, such as trees, debris, private bridges and culverts.
- Portions of the channel will be regraded to restore positive flow and adequate capacity.
- Meander bends and wetland channels will be installed to provide water quality improvements.
- A stormwater basin and wetland storage area will be installed.
- The Beacon Hills stormwater conveyance system of ditches and sewers will be upgraded to provide adequate capacity.
- These measures will help to reduce flooding and erosion.
- The project will include improved access for more effective long-term maintenance.



Dorwick Ditch Improvements

Costs

- The Project Cost is estimated to be approximately \$2 million for design and construction.
- SWMD will pay all planning, design, permitting and construction costs of the project.
- SWMD revenues will cover the cost of long-term maintenance of the improvements.
- We are following the Petitioned Drainage Improvement process, defined in Ohio Revised Code 6131, but without assessments to the benefitting property owners within the SWMD for construction or maintenance of the project.



Dorwick Ditch Improvements Easements

- Easements will be obtained under the ORC 6131, to give Summit County the right & responsibility to maintain this length of improved stream.
- There will be an easement plat instead of individual easement descriptions & exhibits, and owners won't sign.
- New easements will be established along the stream at widths adequate to allow for construction and maintenance. These will replace an existing county ditch right-of-way (at the south end) and will be within a riparian corridor. No compensation will be offered for these easements.
- Other easements, such as access easements not along the stream, will be compensated at amounts determined by an independent appraiser. The owners will have opportunities to appeal the amounts.



Dorwick Ditch Improvements

Petition Steps and Meetings

- June 4th, 2025 – Petition filed with Summit County Council.
- August 13th, 2025 4:30 PM - Public Viewing in township hall.
- Sept. 22nd, 2025 4:30 PM – First Hearing at Summit County Council. SWMD will present the Preliminary Report of project's necessity and public benefit.
- Public comments can be made in writing to the council clerk before the meeting or in person at the hearing.
- October 6th, 2025 - Council vote to either proceed with the design or to dismiss the petition.
- November 24th, 2025 – SWMD will submit the Final Report (if authorized in 2025) including final plans, construction cost estimate, easement plat and schedule of estimated damages and compensation for easements.
- January 26th, 2026 – Final Hearing at Summit County Council. SWMD will present the Final Report. Council will vote whether to accept the plans and easement plat and proceed with project bidding, or to dismiss the petition.
- There is a process available to appeal any council action.

Meeting Notices Will Be Mailed to Affected Property Owners and published in the newspaper.



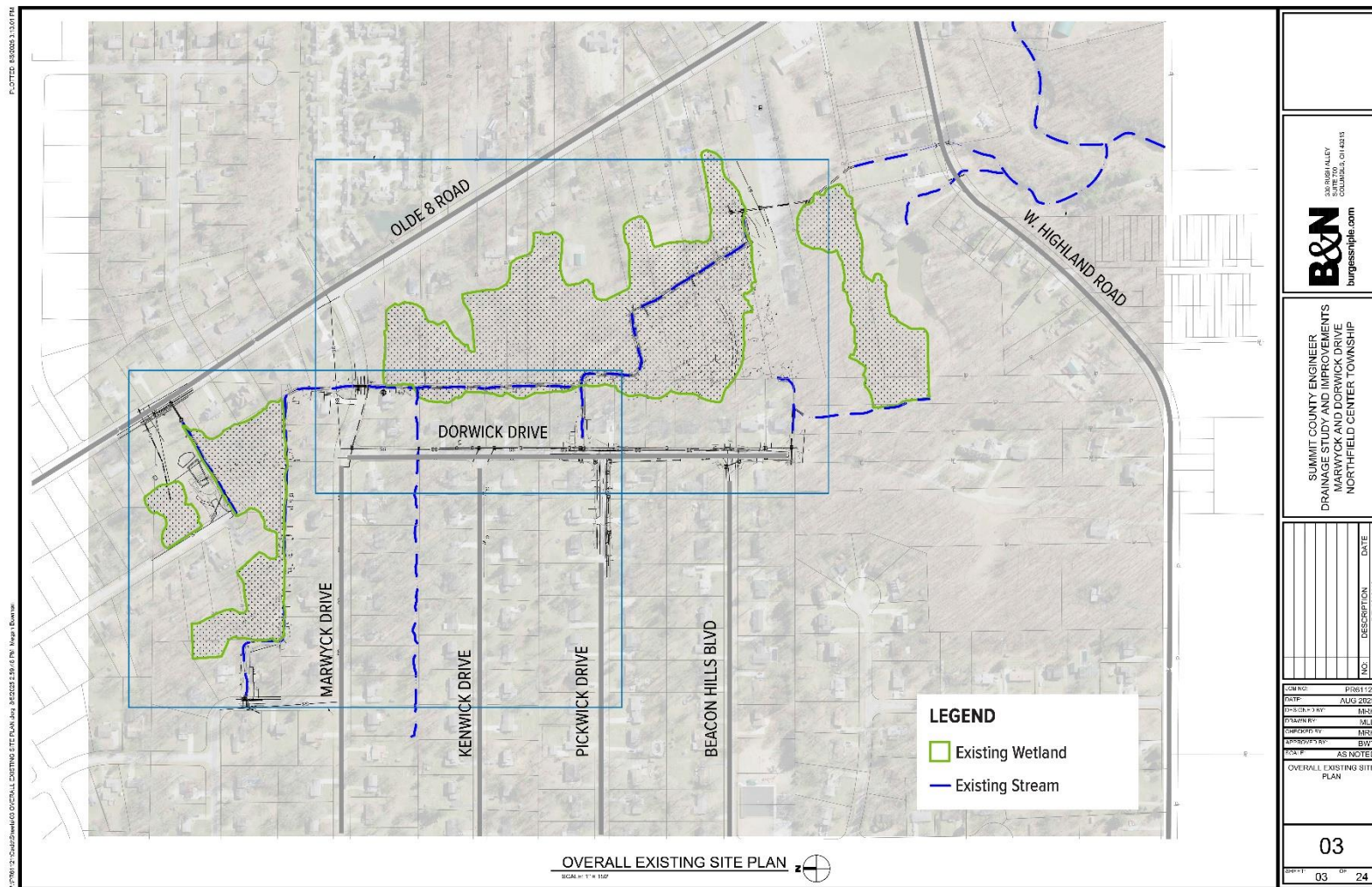
Dorwick Ditch Improvements Engineering Steps

- February 2023 – Burgess & Niple, Inc. hired for the study, engineering permit coordination and plan preparation.
- April 2023 – started field reconnaissance and hydrologic & hydraulic study
- July 2023 – Conceptual Plans
- February 2024 – Draft Preliminary Plan
- February 2025 – Preliminary Report
- November 2025 – Final Plans to be completed



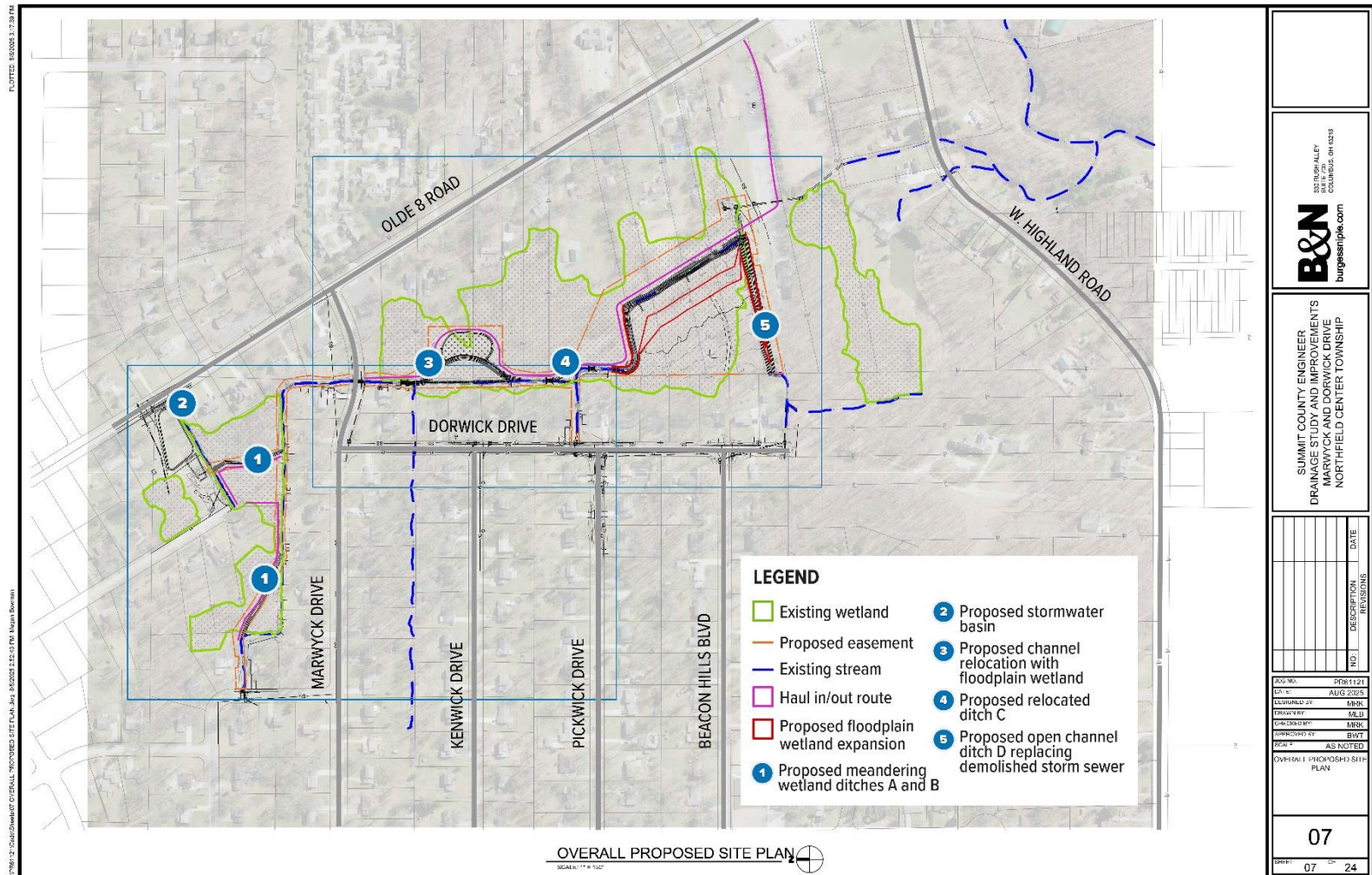
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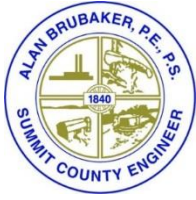
Existing Overall Project Area



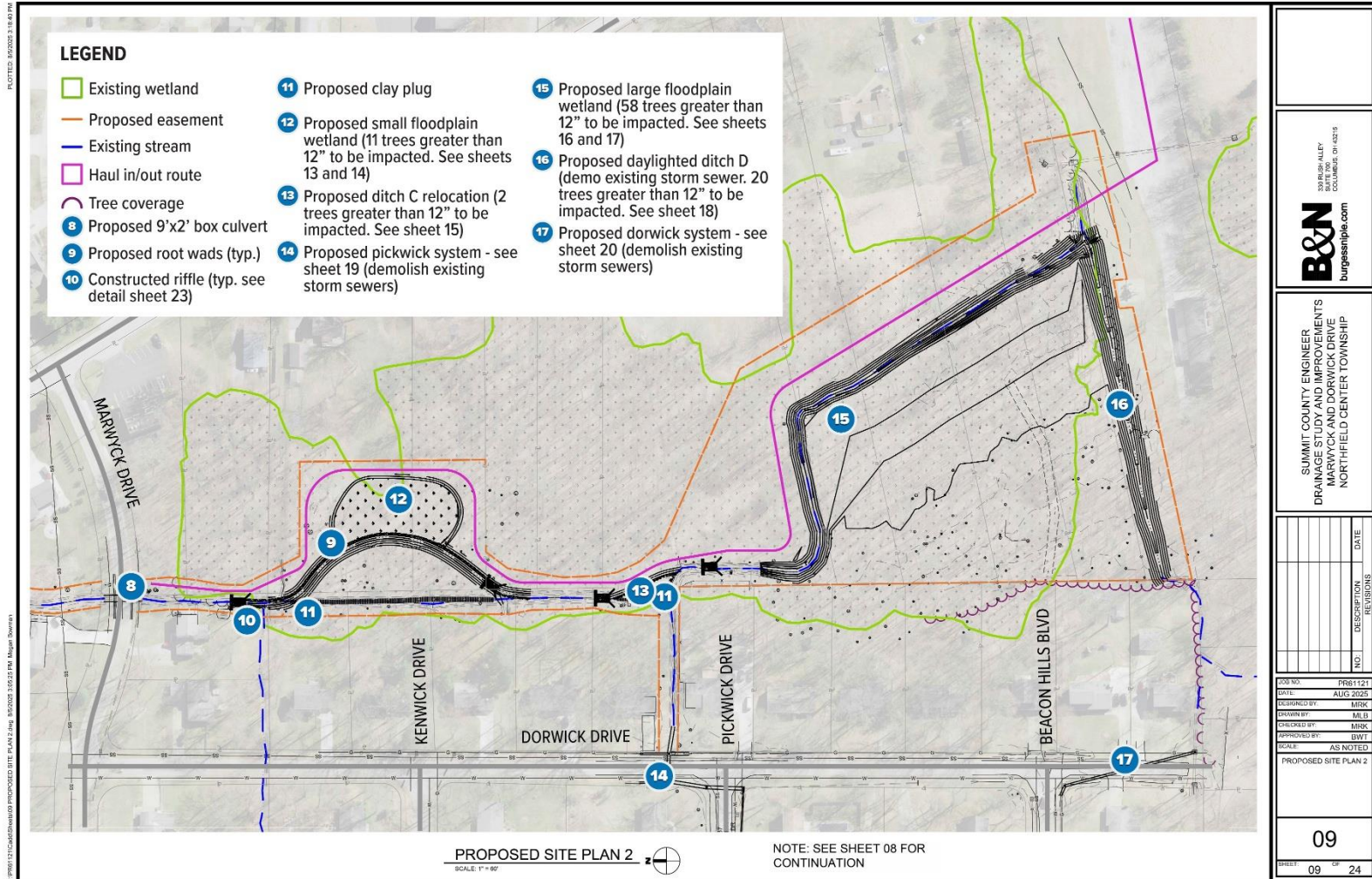


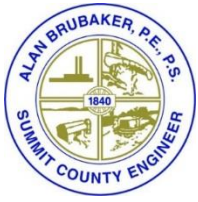
Dorwick Ditch Improvements Proposed Overall Project Area





Dorwick Ditch Improvements Proposed Southerly Project Area





Dorwick Ditch Improvements

Existing Conditions



Marwyck Dive Culvert To Be Replaced

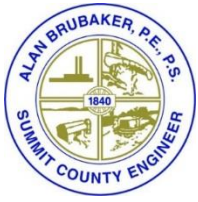


Dorwick Ditch Improvements

Existing Conditions



VFW Culvert System to Remain

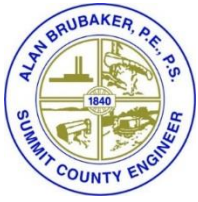


Dorwick Ditch Improvements

Existing Conditions



Inlet to Culvert Near 7437 Dorwick to be Daylighted



Dorwick Ditch Improvements

Q&A

- Questions?
- For more information, please visit our project webpage at <https://www.summitengineer.net/projects/SWMD-Dorwick-Ditch-Improvements.html>