



# The Lower Black River Fish Habitat Restoration Project

City of Lorain, Ohio



Funding provided by NOAA under the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI)

A \$1.7 million grant from NOAA funded The Lower Black River Fish Habitat Restoration Project. This project restored habitat for fish and wildlife in the lower Black River, an area that is highly deficient of aquatic structure. Coldwater assisted the City of Lorain and Arcadis with site assessment, permitting, design, construction oversight, biological monitoring, public outreach and grant management tasks associated with this project. The design resulted in the construction of over 3,000 linear feet of fish habitat shelves. Other design components included natural bank stabilization along eroded banks, rootwad revetments, boulder clusters, and removal of an invasive plant species (*Phragmites australis*) within riparian areas along the river. A comprehensive habitat and biological monitoring effort will document usage of the constructed habitat features by various macro-invertebrate and fish species.



**Natural bank stabilization included installation of branch layers and native shrubs.**

Public outreach and education efforts introduced the first annual Black River Kayak-A-Thon, the first of its kind on the Black. The Kayak-A-Thon and other public outreach activities were designed to get the public involved and educated about ecological restoration efforts that are underway to improve fish habitat, recreational opportunities, and water quality in the lower Black River.

