

## **2010 Friends of the Maple River Annual Report**

With 2009 far in the rearview mirror and 2010 almost half done it is a good time to look back at the last 12 months and what lies ahead. The FOTMR has been a part in several successes this year and is still working on several challenges.

We helped the Clinton Conservation District along with its partners complete the 319 Upper Maple River Watershed planning project. It should be near approval as I write this report.

We are discussing what type of monitoring the organization wants to do and what it will be used for. This will depend somewhat on what the final 319 report says.

We assisted Duplain Township in securing a grant to look at solutions to the Elsie Dam situation. A study has been done, a design selected, and funding sources are under investigation.

We had another successful river cleanup earlier this month. This time, we cleaned the river downstream of Maple Rapids.

The improvement committee has also been diligent about keeping a path open around down trees.

We are active in MUCC and have one of our members currently in a leadership position in the organization. This should provide opportunities to work together and pool resources.

The education committee is nearing completion of a river guide that will be available to the public.

We organized a float trip on the river in conjunction with the festival in Maple Rapids.

We still have many challenges ahead. The biggest one seems to be membership in the organization. We have been brainstorming ideas how to get citizens interested in the Maple River and what they can do to protect it.

We will continue to attend festivals and conferences to promote the river and the FOTMR. These activities have been successful in generating interest and we need to turn that into active members.

Thank you for your interest and involvement in the Friends of the Maple River. For more information please visit our website: [www.friendsofthemapleriver.org](http://www.friendsofthemapleriver.org).

Jeff Wadell

President, FOTMR