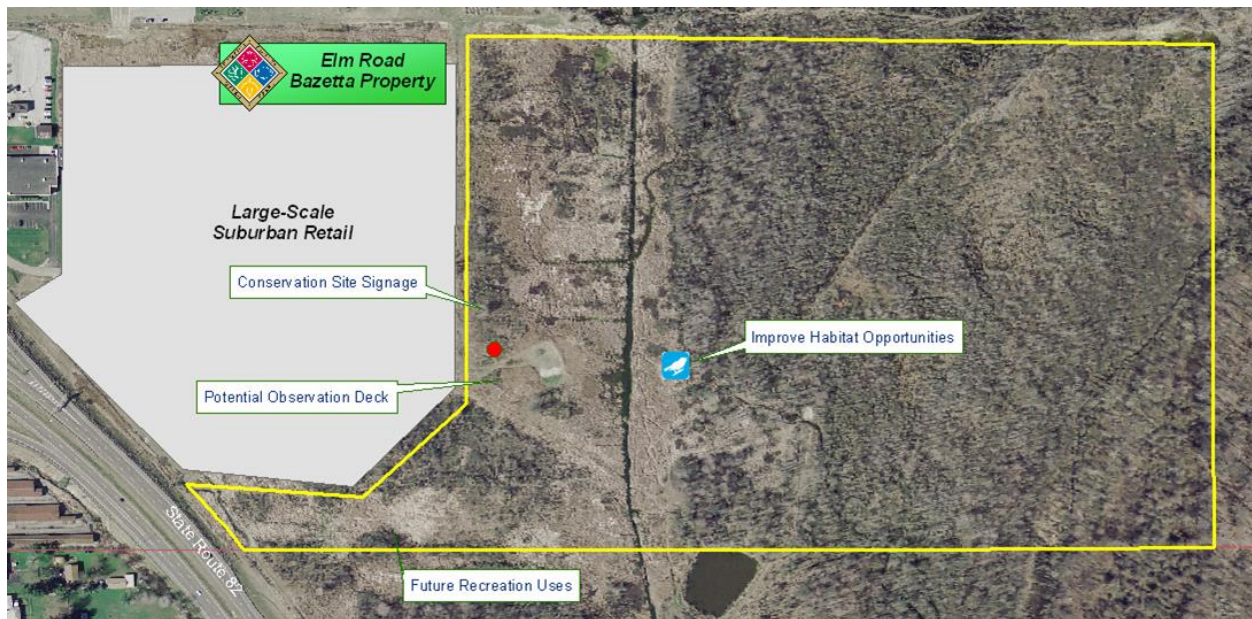
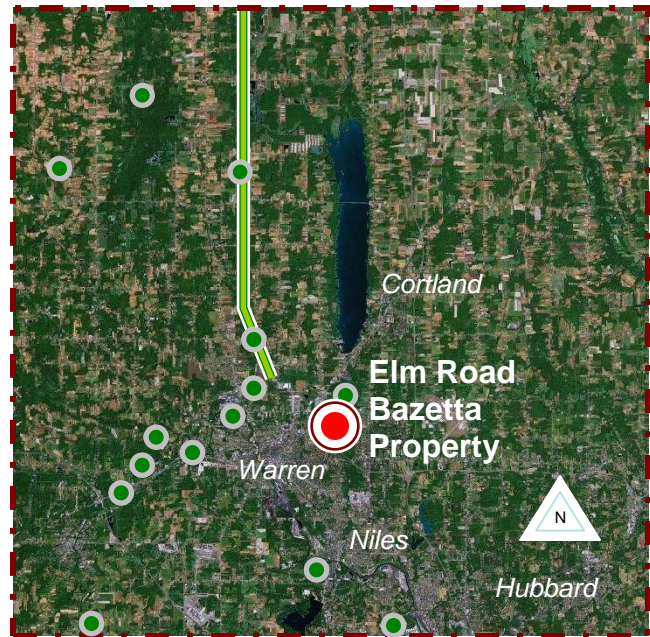


# ELM ROAD – BAZETTA PROPERTY

*About The Elm Road - Bazetta Property • Future Considerations • Statistics*

## About The Elm Road – Bazetta Property

MetroParks' Elm Road – Bazetta Property consists of low-lying wetlands with thick groves of trees. The property, located in Bazetta Township, is accessible from State Route 5 via the private parking lot of a major retail center from where a gravel service road leads onto the land. The 65.98-acre property was set aside as a conservation area by a real estate developer constructing the adjacent retail center as part of an agreement with the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency. The property was subsequently donated to MetroParks in early 2008 with the assistance of the Trumbull County Planning Commission. Because of its limited access and the critical wetland environment which envelops the land, opportunities for general public recreation are somewhat limited.





## Future Considerations

MetroParks may place a few signs along the western edge of the property that prominently display the park district's logo and identify the land as a conservation area. The signs should be visible from certain areas of the retail center's parking lot. The land will remain as open space without public access into the foreseeable future. However, MetroParks will continue to analyze the property's potential for additional improvements from time to time. As with any of MetroParks' properties, individuals with qualified research interests will be able to contact the park district to obtain permission to tour the property.

Any future developments on the property would have to consider the area's wetland characteristics, demand from the public, and the preserve's limited access. Among the options that MetroParks could consider in the future would be the construction of a boardwalk or observation deck. Bird houses and possible wildlife habitat enhancements are also possible. Additionally, a connection could be made to the conceptual Mosquito Creek Corridor Boardwalk, which would pass along Mosquito Creek about a half mile east of the site before connecting with the existing Howland Township Boardwalk Trail. Another possibility may be to simply preserve the existing land as it is and allow it to grow naturally.

### *Implementation Checklist*

#### *Phase I – Signage*

- Install parkland signage along western edge of property that identify the land as a conservation area

#### *Phase II – Habitat Creation*

- Install bird houses on the property to enhance habitats for native bird species and perform other desired wildlife habitat restorations

#### *Phase III – Public Access*

- Construct observation deck to allow public access
- Provide educational signage along any public access where appropriate
- Allow space for a possible extension or westward spur from the existing Howland Boardwalk

#### *Phase II Alternative – No Action*

- Allow land to develop naturally

## Elm Road - Bazetta Property Statistics

### **Parkland Attributes:**

Acreage: 65.95

Land Cover: Open Wetlands & Forest, Floodplain

Surrounding Land Uses: Moderate Intensity

Commercial, Vacant Woodland

\* Substantial Wetlands

\* Limited Access Via Privately Owned Retail Center

Daily Traffic Counts:

SR 5: 16,920 Vehicles per day

SR 82: 34,900 Vehicles per day