

THE BOARD ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES DOMESTIC NAMES COMMITTEE PROPOSAL FORM

This document is for those interested in proposing:

1. **A new name for a currently unnamed geographic feature, or**
2. **A change to an existing name, spelling, or where a name is applied.**

By submitting this form, the proponent acknowledges the [BGN Policies](#) and agrees to work with BGN staff regarding their proposal.



Domestic Geographic Name Proposal Form

The U.S. Board on Geographic Names (BGN) is responsible for standardizing the names of geographic features within the 50 States and in other areas under the sovereignty of the United States. The BGN retains the legal authority to promulgate all official names and locations of natural features (e.g. mountains, rivers, valleys), as well as canals, channels, reservoirs, and other select feature types.

This form is to propose a new name or name, spelling, or application change for a geographic feature for Federal use. A proponent should carefully review the proposal prior to submission to ensure that it is consistent with the [BGN policies](#). Please note all fields with a red outline are required prior to submitting this form.

The proponent should also be aware that the entire proposal—including personal identifying information and any associated correspondence—is in the public domain and may be made publicly available at any time.

- Submit Proposal: 1. Download and email this form and supporting documentation to: BGNESEC@usgs.gov
- Contact Us: BGNESEC@usgs.gov
- OR 2. Send by mail to:
U.S. BGN Executive Secretary, Domestic Names
12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, MS-523
Reston, VA 20192
- i. Save PDF using this format:
'State_GeographicNameProposed'
- ii. Email Subject: *ST_GeographicName*
- Please note that anything submitted by mail will be delayed.*

Naming Basics

Proposed Name:

Sylvan Run

Is this to change an existing name? Y N

If yes, please provide the official name and Feature ID as it appears in [the Geographic Names Information System \(GNIS\)](#).

Is this name in current local use? Y N

What is the Feature Type?

Stream

GNIS Name:

GNIS ID:

Location Basics



Where is the feature?

Latitude: (38.94741)

Longitude: (-77.36839)



General Location:

State: Ohio

County: Summit

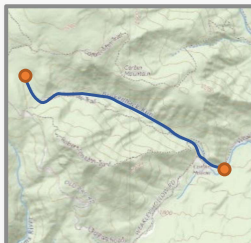
City/Town/
Township/
Borough: Peninsula

For Linear Features (e.g. stream or valley):

Mouth/Confluence

Latitude: 41.22100 (38.94741)

Longitude: -81.55000 (-77.36839)



Source/Headwater

Latitude: 41.22100 (38.94741)

Longitude: -81.57000 (-77.36839)

Public Land Survey System:

Section(s), Township, Range, Meridian

Feature Description

Physical shape, length, width, etc. (Maps can be submitted separately by email)

Feature Information:

Proposed Name: Sylvan Run

General Location Description:

Sylvan Run is a primary feeder stream to the Cuyahoga River. Its course runs within a narrowly defined geographical area, marking it as a significant natural feature contributing to the river's ecosystem. Despite its importance, it currently lacks an official place-name with the USGS.

Physical Characteristics (Physical shape, length, width, etc. Maps can be submitted separately by email):

Sylvan Run, proposed for official naming, spans a concise yet impactful course from its start at latitude 41.221, longitude -81.57, to its conclusion at latitude 41.221, longitude -81.55. This feeder stream's length and meandering path, nestled within the verdant landscapes of the Cuyahoga Valley, embody its serene essence. The width varies, reflecting the natural contours and the seasonal flux of the water flow, enhancing its role in the ecosystem. Surrounded by dense foliage, Sylvan Run is a vibrant artery contributing to the Cuyahoga River's vitality, supporting a diverse range of local flora and fauna. Its physical and ecological characteristics mark it as a significant natural feature deserving recognition.

Establishing an official name for this stream not only formalizes its identity but also aids in the conservation efforts and environmental stewardship of the area. Naming Sylvan Run enhances its visibility and significance in hydrological studies, conservation initiatives, and community awareness.

Name Details

Name information:

Please provide relevant information about the proposed name, such as origin, meaning, how long it has been in current use, as well as current or historical significance. Also include why you believe the feature requires a name or name change and why the proposed name is appropriate. Describe any documents that you will be submitting (separately by email) to support your proposal.

Significance of Feature:

This is a primary feeder stream to the Cuyahoga River with no official place-name with the USGS. The naming of Sylvan Run recognizes its role as a vital water source and natural component within the broader Cuyahoga River watershed.

Establishing an official name for this stream not only formalizes its identity but also aids in the conservation efforts and environmental stewardship of the area. Naming Sylvan Run enhances its visibility and significance in hydrological studies, conservation initiatives, and community awareness.

Please provide a list of supporting documentation, including any web links:

Examples: Published sources showing the proposed name or letters of support (local government, historical society, etc.).

Online Information:

Sylvan Pond and Sylvan Run

Sylvan Pond offers serene settings for activities like fall color viewing and birdwatching within the Cuyahoga Valley National Park. It's part of over 100 lakes and ponds scattered throughout the park, providing valuable wetland characteristics and supporting a diverse ecosystem. The park, including Sylvan Pond, promotes a philosophy of maintaining the predator-prey relationship, encouraging catch-and-release fishing to conserve fish populations. Notably, Sylvan and Meadowedge Ponds are accessible from the Oak Hill Trailhead, emphasizing the park's commitment to natural preservation and outdoor recreation ([National Park Service](<https://www.nps.gov/cuva/learn/nature/lakesandponds.htm>), [National Park Service Fishing Info](<https://www.nps.gov/thingstodo/go-fishing-in-cuyahoga-valley-national-park.htm>)).

Recreational Opportunities

The Sylvan Pond - Oak Hill Loop Trail, a 2.3 km looped trail in Peninsula, Summit County, Ohio, is rated as medium difficulty and offers a tranquil hiking experience around Sylvan Pond, highlighting the area's natural beauty ([Hiiker](<https://hiiker.app/trails/ohio/summit-county/sylvan-pond-oak-hill-loop-trail/>)).

Geographic and Historical Context

Sylvan Pond is mapped and described on Mapcarta as situated near Oak Hill and Meadowedge Pond in Summit, Ohio. The area is rich in history and natural splendor, with notable places like Richfield Coliseum, Hale Farm and Village, and Blossom Music Center illustrating the region's cultural heritage and recreational allure ([Mapcarta](<https://mapcarta.com/W86576712>)).

These resources provide a glimpse into the recreational and natural significance of Sylvan Run and Sylvan Pond, their contributions to local biodiversity, and their place within the broader context of the Cuyahoga Valley National Park's conservation efforts. The inclusion of this information in the "Online Information" section will support the application's goal of recognizing and preserving the area's natural heritage.

Is the name [commemorative](#)? Does the name honor or refer to a person or persons? Y N

Please note that the BGN will only accept proposals for names that are intended to honor a person or persons deceased at least five years. The BGN will disapprove names that could be construed to honor living persons. The person being honored should have had either (1) some direct or long-term association with the feature, or (2) have made a significant contribution to the area, community, or State in which it is located; or (3) have outstanding national or international recognition. The BGN discourages the use of an individual's full name except to avoid ambiguity.

If yes, please provide the following:

Honoree's Date of Birth:

Honoree's Date of Death:

Short biography and significance or association with the geographic feature: *(list any additional honorees here)*

Is the feature in a Wilderness Area or Wilderness Study Area? Y N Unknown

If yes, please provide your justification for making an exception to [the Wilderness Policy](#):

Please note that the BGN will not approve new names for unnamed features within wilderness areas or wilderness study areas, unless an overriding need can be demonstrated by the proponent.

Is the name you are proposing intended to honor Native Americans, their language, or culture? Y N

If yes, to ensure that the proposed name is appropriate, the BGN strongly advises proponents to work with Tribal Leaders, Tribal Historic Preservation Officers, and/or Native American linguists or other expert(s) associated with the Tribe to determine the acceptability of the proposed name and application. Please review [the BGN's Cultural Sensitivity for Native American Names guidance](#).

Proponents should also seek letters of endorsement from the governments (e.g., Tribal Councils) of any affected Tribes. Please indicate below, or in documentation submitted separately (with this proposal or any time after the proposal is submitted), any efforts to solicit Tribal input.

Additional Information +

Is there any local opposition or conflict with the proposed name? Y N

If yes, please explain and describe any opposition:

Local Opposition or Conflict:

- There is no known local opposition or conflict with the proposed name, "Sylvan Run." It is believed that the naming would be broadly supported as a continuation of the already-named Sylvan Pond.

Additional notes, including any Tribal input details

Conclusion and Statement of Support:

We, at Oapsie Inc., along with the local community, believe that officially naming this feature "Sylvan Run" will preserve its historical significance, enhance its identity, and ensure its legacy for future generations. We respectfully submit this application in hopes of gaining official recognition and further promoting the area's natural and cultural heritage.

Proponent Information


Please provide one form of contact (email preferred):


 Proponent's Name: James Emmett O'Flanagan


Agency or Organization, if applicable:

O'Flanagan All-Purpose Services LLC

 Email: jim@oapsie.com

 Mailing Address: 250 Donaldson Dr
Munroe Falls, OH 44262

 Phone: (330) 256-1687

 Are you completing this form for someone else? Y N

If yes, please fill out the following:

Completed by:

Full Name:

Email:

Mailing Address:

Phone:

United States Bureau of Geographic Names Application for:
Sylvan Run

Submitted for consideration to USGS, March 30, 2024

Oapsie Inc.

James O'Flanagan, President

Summary

- Site Information
- Map
- About Oapsie Inc.
- About James O'Flanagan
- Additional Information

Site Information

Introduction

Sylvan Run is nestled in the scenic landscapes of the Cuyahoga Valley, an area renowned for its natural beauty and ecological diversity. This stream starts from the serene Sylvan Pond, situated at latitude 41.221 and longitude -81.57, and flows directly into the Cuyahoga River, marking its finish coordinates at latitude 41.221 and longitude -81.55. The stream spans approximately 1.8 miles, though its length varies slightly with natural shifts in the landscape and water flow.

The geography of Sylvan Run is characterized by its meandering path through dense forestation, with a mix of deciduous and coniferous trees lining its banks. This canopy provides a natural habitat for a variety of local wildlife and supports a rich biodiversity within the stream itself. The width of Sylvan Run varies from 5 to 15 feet, depending on the season and rainfall, reflecting the dynamic nature of this natural watercourse.

The streambed is composed mainly of sand and gravel, with areas of exposed bedrock, creating a varied habitat for aquatic species. The water quality of Sylvan Run is high, supporting a healthy ecosystem of fish, amphibians, and aquatic plants. This vibrant ecological community contributes to the overall health of the Cuyahoga River watershed.

Significance to Local Ecosystem and Community

Sylvan Run plays a vital role in the hydrological cycle of the area, contributing to groundwater recharge and serving as a crucial habitat for migratory bird species. Its presence enhances the ecological connectivity within the Cuyahoga Valley, linking terrestrial and aquatic environments in a symbiotic relationship.

The stream's serene environment and scenic beauty make it a cherished natural feature among the local community. It is a site for educational field trips, conservation projects, and recreational activities such as bird watching and photography. The formal naming of Sylvan Run will elevate its status as a valuable natural asset, fostering community engagement and stewardship of the local environment.

Conservation and Environmental Importance

Recognizing Sylvan Run officially underscores the need for conservation efforts in the area. It highlights the stream's role in maintaining the ecological balance and water quality of the Cuyahoga River. The proposed name, Sylvan Run, reflects the stream's forested surroundings and tranquil nature, embodying the community's connection to their natural heritage.

Map



Feature Information:

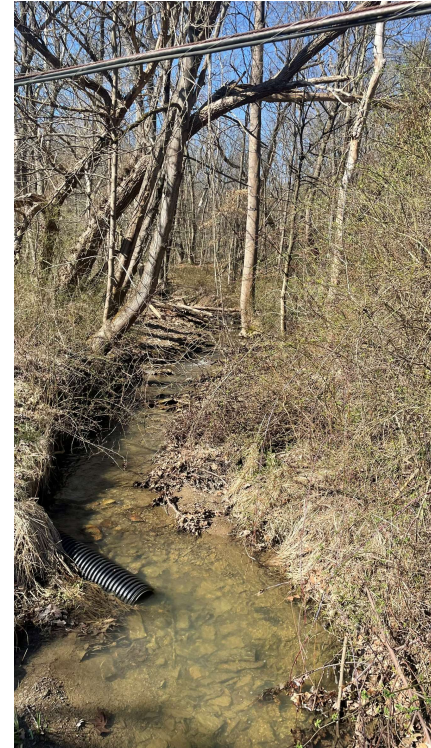
- Proposed Name:** Sylvan Run
- Feature Type:** Stream
- City:** Peninsula
- County:** Summit
- State:** Ohio

Specific Location:

- Start Coordinates:** Latitude 41.221, Longitude -81.57
- Finish Coordinates:** Latitude 41.221, Longitude -81.55

*Deep Lock, near Historic Downtown Peninsula, Ohio
Image taken from Google Maps*

Images



Images taken by James O'Flanagan on March 18, 2024

About Oapsie Inc.

Oapsie Inc.'s commitment to technology, conservation, and community is further exemplified by his active presence and contributions to various online platforms. Under the umbrella of the Galaxy of Edi, he manages a series of websites and digital outlets that focus on outdoor activities, conservation efforts, and engineering insights, showcasing his multifaceted interests and expertise. Below are the links to the Galaxy of Edi's key websites:

- **East Rim Trail:** [<https://eastrimtrail.com>] – A platform dedicated to promoting outdoor activities and conservation efforts, focusing on the beauty and significance of natural trails.
- **Oapsie Daisy Newsletter:** [<https://oapsie.com/oapsie-daisy-newsletter-1>] – Jim's channel for sharing his thoughts on technology, engineering innovations, and his advocacy for environmental conservation.
- **Galaxy of Edi:** [<http://galaxyofedi.com>] – A comprehensive portal for all of Jim's digital content, ranging from engineering tutorials to conservation discussions.
- **Galaxy of Edi on YouTube:** [<https://youtube.com/@galaxyofedi1979>] – Jim's video channel where he dives deeper into engineering challenges, software solutions, and environmental conservation through engaging visual content.

These digital platforms reflect Oapsie Inc.'s dedication to leveraging technology for knowledge sharing, community building, and advocating for the environment. Through these efforts, he continues to influence and inspire a broader audience beyond his immediate professional network.

About James O'Flanagan

James E. O'Flanagan, commonly known as Jim, is a visionary in the field of engineering, with a profound commitment to advancing technology and sustainability. As the President and Principal Engineer at OAPSIE Inc., Jim has spearheaded numerous innovative projects, notably the Pennantview Biophysics Software Suite, a computational methodology for enhancing baseball strategies through biophysical analysis. This suite, alongside other ventures like the OAPSIE Daisy Newsletter and significant contributions to environmental conservation, exemplifies his passion for merging technology with real-world applications.

Educated at The University of Akron and Case Western Reserve University, Jim has cultivated an extensive skill set ranging from servant leadership to software development, and artificial intelligence to mechanical engineering. His academic prowess is matched by his practical experience in various roles across prominent organizations, including Johnson Matthey, Hankook Tire, and Babcock & Wilcox, where he led critical projects involving naval nuclear components, natural gas extraction equipment, and tire design technology.

Jim's influence extends beyond the professional sphere into meaningful community engagement and environmental advocacy. His dedication to volunteer work, such as judging at the Northeastern Ohio Science and Engineering Fair and participating in Engineers Without Borders, demonstrates a commitment to leveraging his expertise for the greater good. Additionally, his recognition as a LinkedIn "Top Voice" in Engineering Management underscores his status as a thought leader and influencer in the engineering community.

Beyond his professional accolades, Jim values family, outdoor recreation, and the pursuit of knowledge, especially in physics and generative AI. His personal mission to deliver innovative engineering solutions that uplift humanity, preserve the environment, and foster community, defines his holistic approach to life and work.

With a career spanning over two decades, James O'Flanagan remains at the forefront of engineering innovation, blending technical expertise with a profound sense of social responsibility to inspire change and drive progress.



Additional Information

Environmental Significance

Sylvan Run plays a pivotal role in maintaining the ecological balance within the Cuyahoga Valley. Its waters support a diverse ecosystem, including several species of flora and fauna unique to this region. The stream's contribution extends beyond mere biodiversity; it plays a critical role in water quality improvement processes, acting as a natural filter and mitigating pollution runoff before it reaches the Cuyahoga River. Recognizing Sylvan Run officially will enhance local and regional conservation efforts, ensuring that this vital ecological corridor receives the attention and protection it deserves.

Community Engagement and Education

Sylvan Run's official naming and recognition can serve as a catalyst for increased community engagement and environmental education. It offers a unique opportunity for local schools, community groups, and environmental organizations to develop educational programs focused on water conservation, stream health, and local ecology. By highlighting Sylvan Run's role in the broader watershed, the initiative can foster a deeper appreciation for natural resources and motivate community-led conservation efforts.

Research and Monitoring Opportunities

Designating Sylvan Run with an official name will likely increase its visibility and accessibility for academic and citizen science research. Continuous monitoring and research efforts are essential for understanding the impacts of environmental changes on local waterways. This recognition can facilitate more detailed studies on water quality, habitat restoration, and climate change effects, providing valuable data to guide future conservation strategies.

Integration into Regional Conservation Plans

The formal acknowledgment of Sylvan Run contributes to a more integrated approach to watershed management and conservation planning. By incorporating the stream into regional conservation frameworks, it ensures that Sylvan Run's health is considered in land use decisions, development plans, and habitat restoration projects. This holistic approach is crucial for sustaining the ecological integrity of the Cuyahoga River watershed.

Promotion of Recreational and Cultural Values

Sylvan Run holds not only ecological but also recreational and cultural significance. The stream's scenic beauty and tranquility offer a natural escape for hiking, photography, and educational walks, promoting outdoor recreation and mental well-being. Official recognition can enhance the area's cultural heritage, celebrating the history and stories tied to the land and fostering a sense of place among community members.

Online Information

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