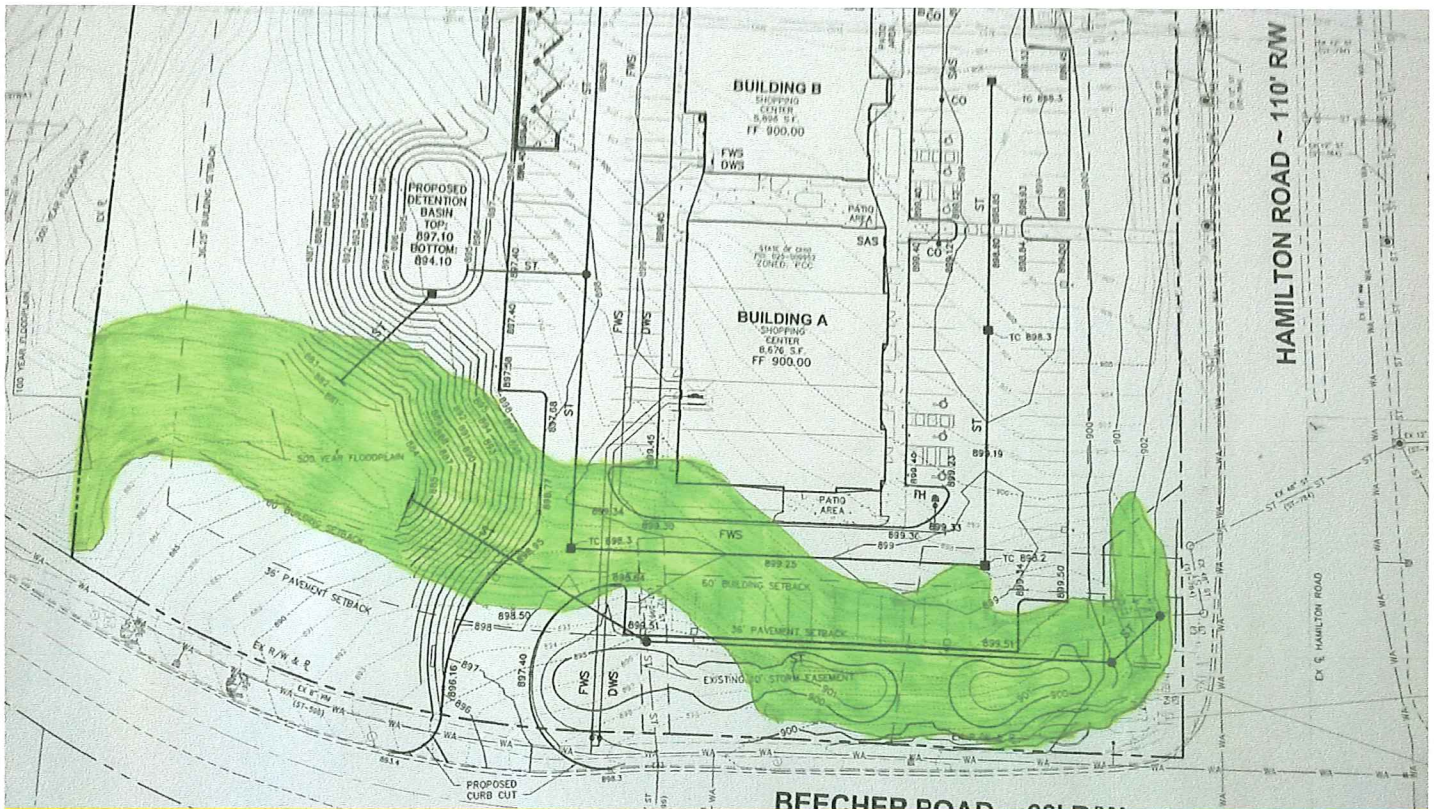# Please protect the ravine and the significant stand of trees along Beecher Road.

There is a ravine along Beecher Road. The proposed plan involves filling in that ravine and failing to protect slopes that exceed 20%. The Gahanna Code says the development shall be laid out to reduce cut and Fill. It also calls upon you to minimize alteration of natural features including slopes that exceed 20%. On the map below, I have estimated the location of the ravine that is protected by the code. I have attempted to color in the area of the ravine where the slope exceeds 20% based on the topographical map provided by the developer (20% means 2 feet drop per ten feet of horizontal distance). As you can see, the plan involves filling the ravine to install parking and the corner of a building. Please protect as much of the ravine along Beecher as possible. As indicated below, the ravine is home to a significant stand of trees.

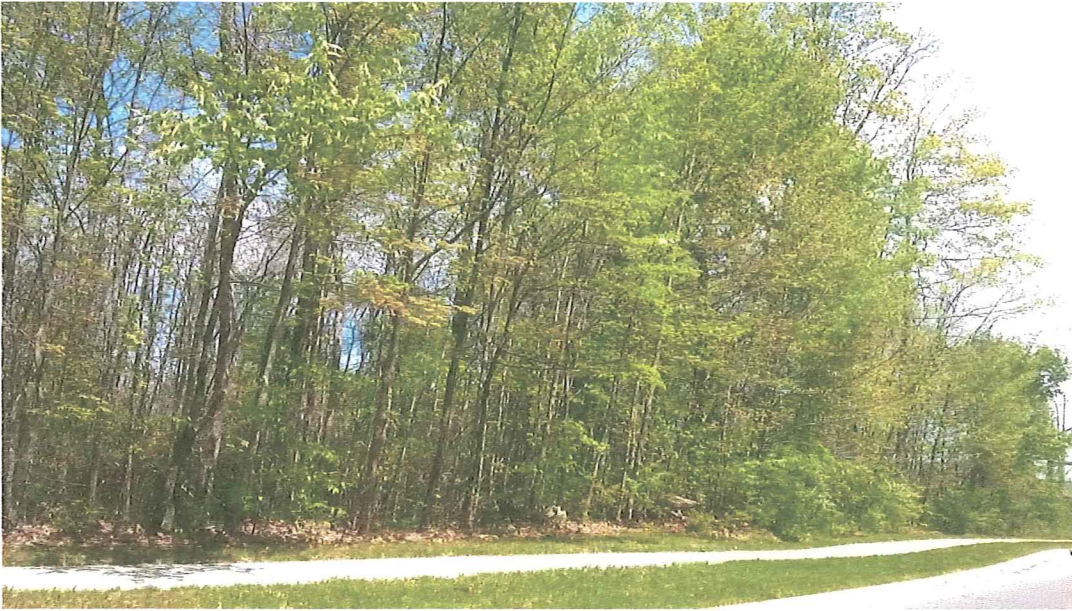Relevant Code Language:

1108.01 - GENERAL REQUIREMENTS.

… the following principles and standards shall be observed:

(c) To the maximum extent practicable, development shall be located to preserve the natural features of the site, to avoid areas of environmental sensitivity, and to minimize negative impacts and alteration of natural features such as:
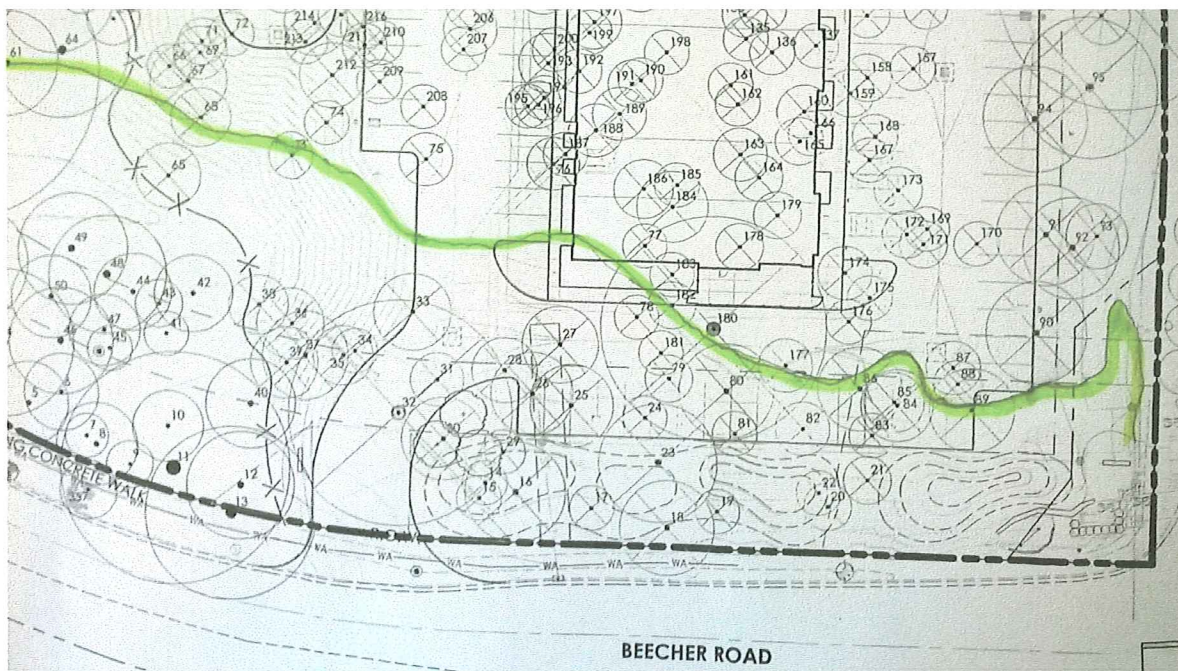
(1) Unique and/or fragile areas including wetlands.

(4) Steep slopes in excess of 20 percent as measured over a 10 foot interval.

***

(d) The development shall be laid out to reduce cut and fill; ….

This photograph from today shows the significant stand of trees along Beecher Road. (The greenery will soon be much thicker). The Gahanna code calls upon you to protect significant stands of trees where practicable.

The map below identifies the existing trees. I have estimated the northern edge of the ravine based on the previous map image, showing that a large number of trees will be preserved if the ravine is preserved.

BEECHER ROAD

Relevant Code Language:

1108.01

(c) To the maximum extent practicable, development shall be located to preserve the natural features of the site, to avoid areas of environmental sensitivity, and to minimize negative impacts and alteration of natural features such as:

(1) Unique and/or fragile areas including wetlands.

(2) Significant trees or stands of trees.