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For Immediate Release

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MEDIA ADVISORY

TorchFest – Xtinguish Celebration at the Cuyahoga River Homecoming Press Conference– Friday, June 21st at noon

Akron, Ohio, June 18, 2019 – Please join City of Akron officials and partners of the watershed for the passing of the Xtinguish Torch in commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the famed Cuyahoga River Fire.

WHAT: The press conference will highlight the 50 years of environmental progress of the Cuyahoga River, including the Cuyahoga River Water Trail, with a symbolic passing of the torch down the Cuyahoga River.

WHO: Speakers include:

- Chris Ludle, Deputy Service Director, City of Akron
- Richard Swirsky, Akron City Council
- Patrick Gsellman, Program Manager, Akron Waterways Renewed
- Lisa King, Executive Director, Summit Metro Parks
- Representative of Summit County Executive's Office
- Peter Bode, West Creek Conservancy, Xtinguish Chair
- Christine Craycroft, Executive Director, Portage Parks (Cuyahoga River Water Trail Partners Chair)
- Tom Arbour, Land and Trails Coordinator, ODNR
- Patricia Trap, Acting Regional Director - Midwest Region, Nat'l Park Service

WHEN: **Friday, June 21, 2019** – Noon to 1:00pm
Passing of the Torch at 12:30pm

WHERE: **Cascade Valley Metro Park - Chuckey Area**
837 Cuyahoga Street, Akron, Ohio

DETAILS: Media parking is available inside the park in the second parking area on Peck Rd. The entrance will be closed to the general public and there will be people (including children) walking on the road so please exercise caution. Event is rain or shine. It is a short walk to the ceremony site on the river bank. There is a tent for the ceremony. For more information, please visit: www.akronwaterwaysrenewed.com/community/blue-heron-homecoming

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