

2015 OHIO WATERSHED COORDINATOR GRANT PROGRAM

Photo © Scott Bechtel



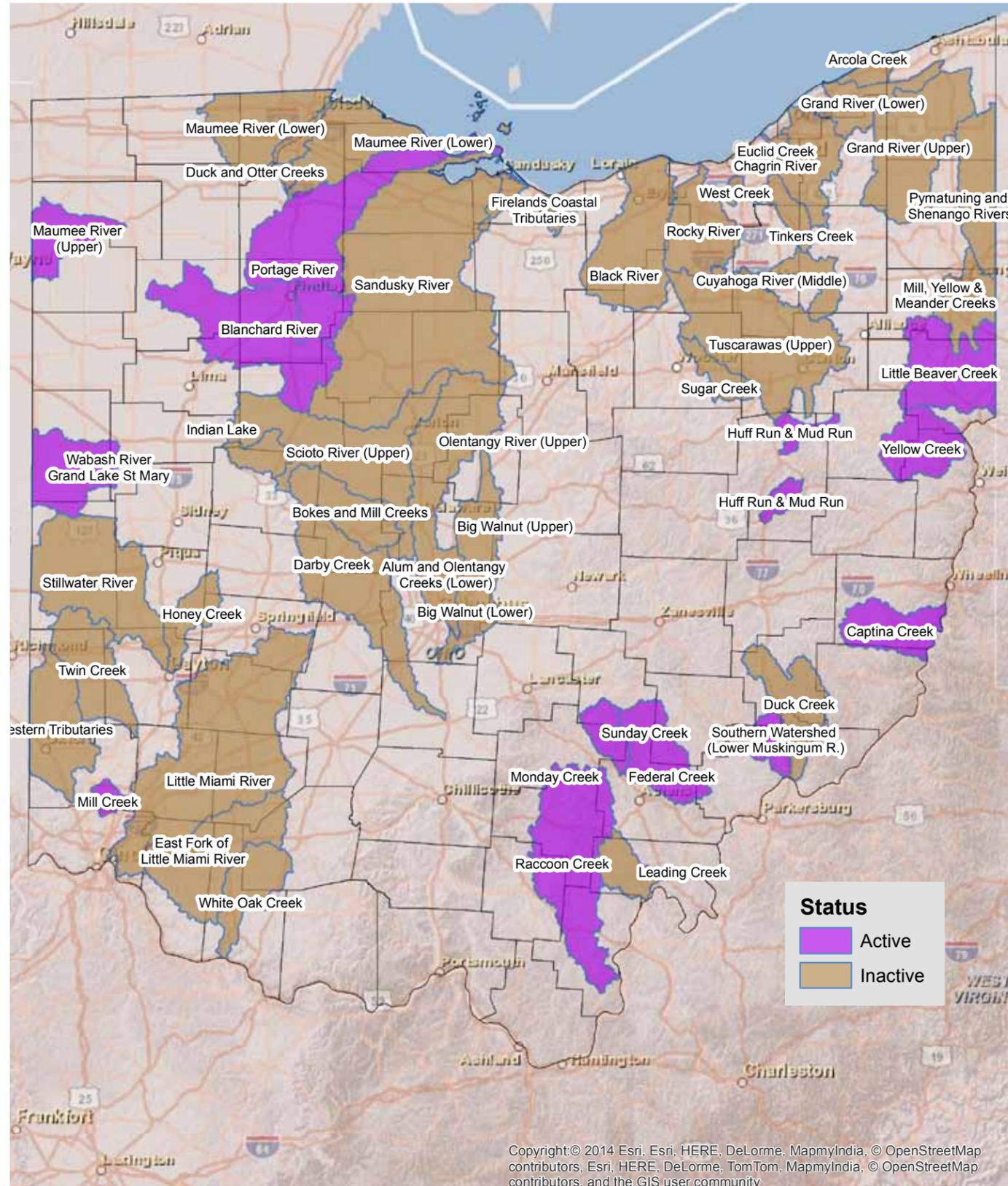
ANNUAL REPORT

Ohio Department of
NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF SOIL AND WATER

WATER.OHIODNR.GOV

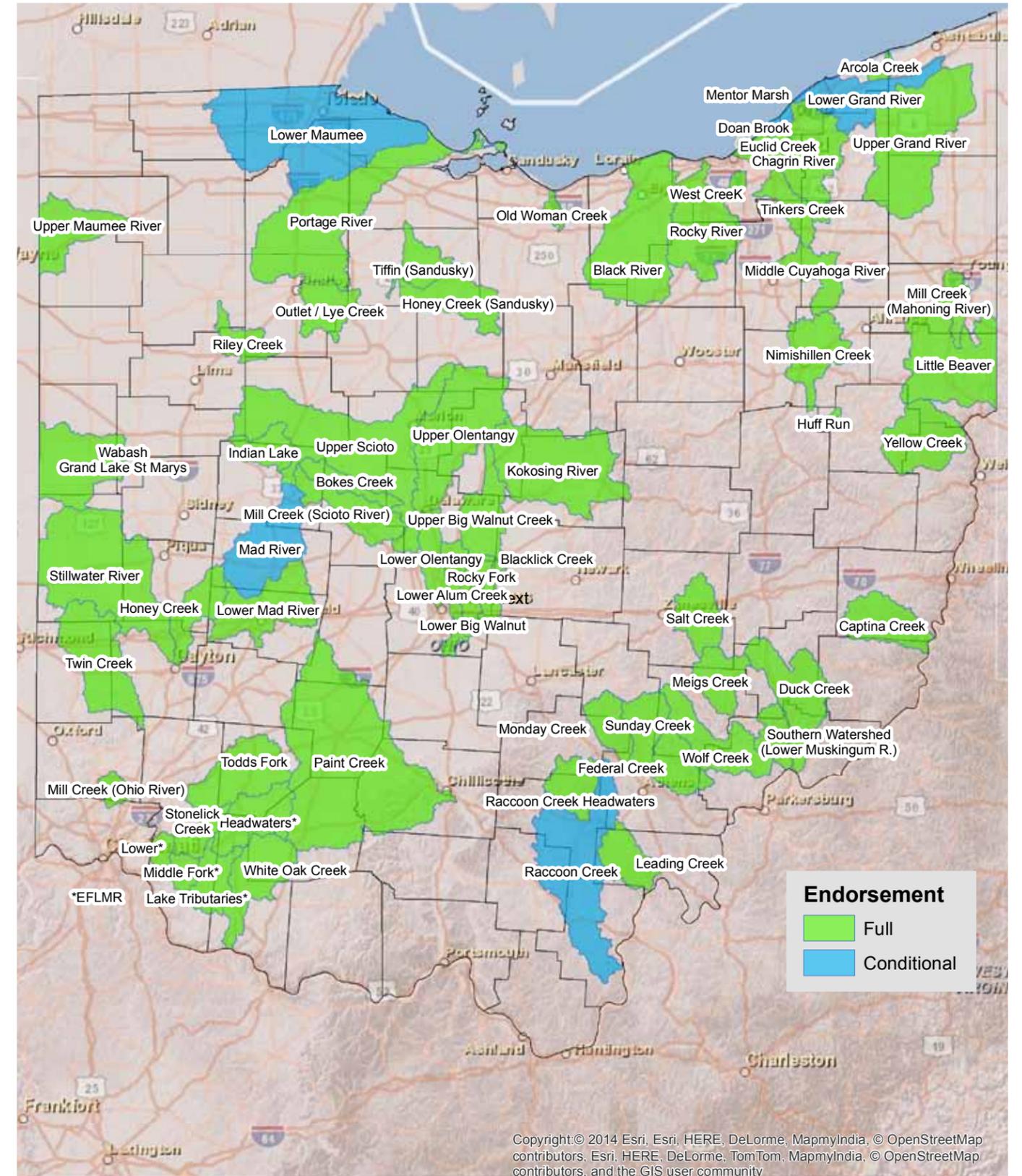
WATERSHED COORDINATOR GRANTS

2001-2015



STATE ENDORSED WATERSHED ACTION PLANS

AS OF JULY 2015



OHIO WATERSHED IMPLEMENTATION SUMMARY

JULY 1, 2014 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2015

Reported by Watershed Coordinators on behalf of all partners; and Soil and Water Conservation District data queried from Soil and Water Information Management System (SWIMS) for all watersheds with endorsed watershed action plans.

Practices	Total	Units
Plant Prairie Grasses in Riparian Areas	4	Acres
Remove/Treat Invasive Species	21	Acres
Plant Trees or Shrubs in Riparian Areas	975	Trees
Plant Trees or Shrubs in Riparian Areas	10	Acres
Restore Stream Channel	3,270	Linear Feet
Install Grade Structures	12	Structures
Reconstruct & Restore Wetlands	52	Acres
Plant Wetland Species	1	Acres
Remove Dams	1	Dams
Construct Lime Dosers	1	Dosers
Install Limestone Channels	250	Linear Feet
Repair Subsidence Sites	21	Repairs
Reclaim Abandoned Mine Land	20	Acres
Construct Acid Mine Drainage Wetland	5	Acres
Acquire Riparian Conservation Easements	158	Acres
Inspect Home Sewage Treatment System (HSTS)	158	Inspections
Repair or Replace Traditional HSTS	75	HSTS
Plant Cover/Manure Crops	10,860	Acres
Install Nitrogen Reduction Practices	337	Acres
Install Control Drainage System	667	Acres
Develop Nutrient Management Plans	1	Plans
Develop Whole Farm Management Plans	429	Acres
Implement Conservation Tillage Practices	12,471	Acres
Implement Prescribed & Conservation Grazing Practices	1,400	Acres
Install Alternative Water Supplies	4,025	Supplies
Install Erosion & Sediment Control Structures	31	Structures
Install Grassed Waterways	176,117	Linear Feet
Install Vegetated Buffer Strips	83	Acres
Install Livestock Crossings	5	Crossings
Install Heavy Use Feeding Pads	24	Pads

OHIO WATERSHED IMPLEMENTATION SUMMARY

(CONTINUED)

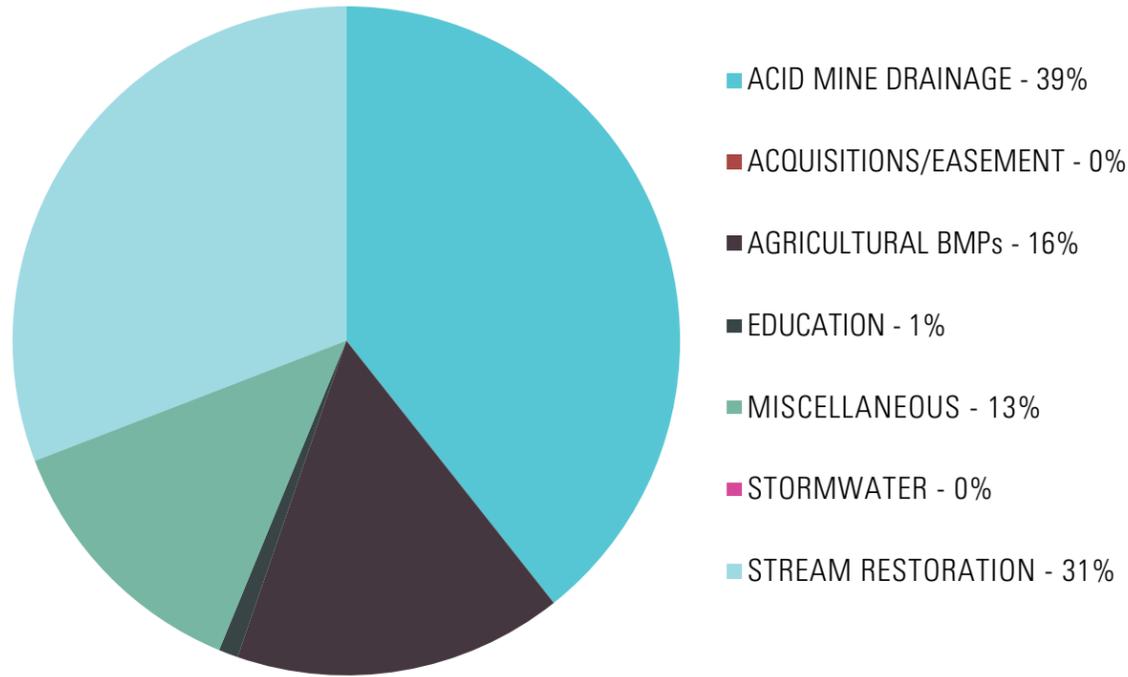
Install Livestock Exclusion Fencing	48,772	Linear Feet
Construct Animal Waste Storage Structures	6	Structures
Conduct Soil Testing	2,347	Tests
Implement Grass/Legume Rotations	5,995	Acres
Install Grass Manure Spreading Strips	14	Acres
Install Roof Water Management Practices	1	Practices
Execute Landowner Cost-Share Contracts	1	Cost-Share Agreements
Develop Brochures/Fact Sheets	10	Documents
Conduct Watershed Festivals	4	Festivals
Conduct Public Meeting	71	Meetings
Develop Press Releases	59	Press Releases
Create/Maintain Websites	13	Websites
Install Signs	76	Signs
Develop Displays	45	Displays
Conduct Tours	28	Tours
Conduct Tours via Canoe	7	Canoe Tours
Conduct Stream Clean-Ups	11	Clean-ups
Conduct Field Days - land owner / manager	11	Days
Conduct Workshops	23	Workshops
Conduct Training	10	Training Sessions
Develop Manual(s)	1	Manuals
Provide Technical Assistance to Group(s)	6	Groups
Deliver On-Site Technical Assistance	14,904	Site Visits
Develop Newsletters	24	Newsletters
Conduct Chemical Sampling	495	Sites
Conduct Macroinvertebrate (ICI) Sampling	91	Sites
Conduct Fish (IBI) Sampling	109	Sites
Conduct Habitat (QHEI or HHEI) Sampling	47	Sites
Conduct Nitrate Sampling (WATER)	8	Sites
Prepare and Submit Final Monitoring Report and Data	6	Reports
Reduce Phosphorus Loadings*	16,147	Pounds per Year
Reduce Sediment Loadings*	708	Tons per Year
Reduce Untreated Home Sewage*	7,200	Gallons Per Day
Treat Acid Water (acid & metal)*	3,219,245	Pounds per Year
Reduce Nitrogen Loadings*	64,978	Pounds per Year

**Estimated loading reductions are only those reported by watershed coordinators, and are not calculated from all reported implementation. No load reduction estimates are associated with practices queried from SWIMS.*

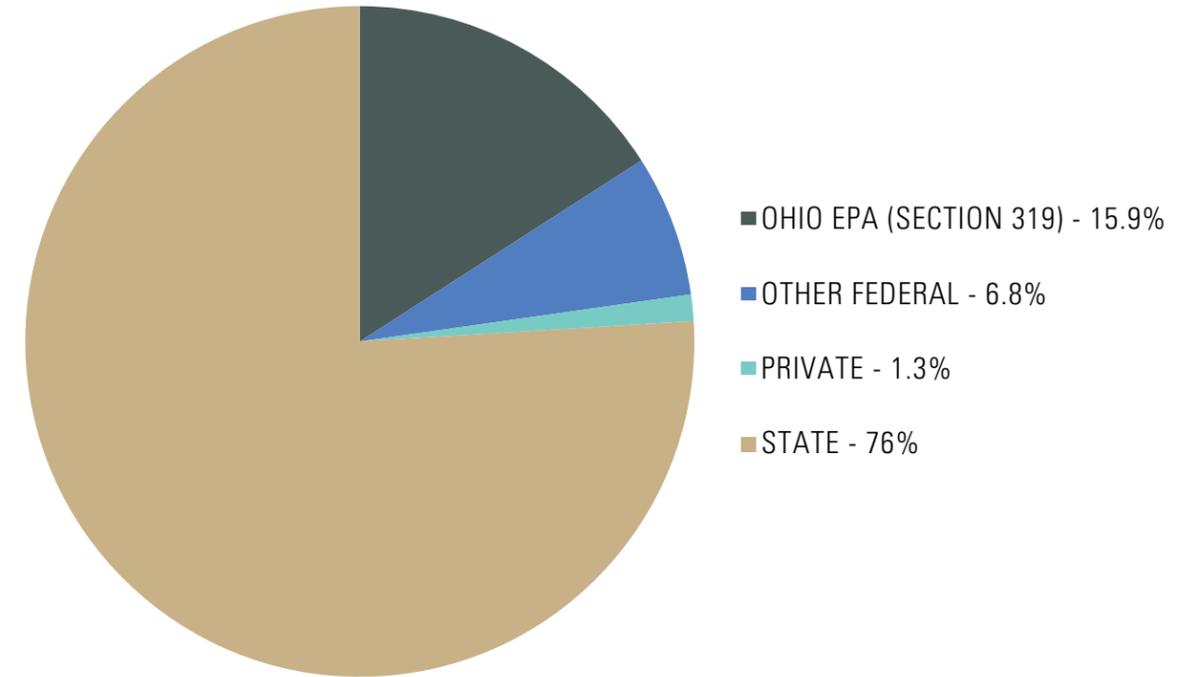
FUNDING LEVERAGED

FISCAL YEAR 2015

FUNDING LEVERAGED BY PROJECT



FUNDING LEVERAGED BY SOURCE



FUNDING SUMMARY

SOURCE	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	TOTAL
<i>Soil and Water Resources</i>	\$233K	\$300K	\$260K	\$278K	\$258K	\$265K	\$265K	\$275K	\$211K	\$213K	\$213K	\$213K	\$213K	\$213K	\$213K	\$3,623K
<i>Mineral Resources Management</i>	\$100K	\$100K	\$105K	\$105K	\$105K	\$105K	\$105K	\$118K	\$118K	\$118K	\$118K	\$140K	\$140K	\$140K	\$140K	\$1,757K
<i>Office of Coastal Management</i>			\$80K	\$74K	\$66K	\$59K	\$53K	\$82K	\$35K	\$105K	\$105K	\$70K				\$729K
<i>Ohio Wildlife</i>							\$35K	\$35K	\$70K	\$98K	\$98K	\$105K	\$105K	\$105K	\$105K	\$756K
<i>Ohio EPA (319)</i>	\$400K	\$167K				\$4,567K										
<i>revenue subtotal</i>	\$733K	\$800K	\$845K	\$857K	\$829K	\$829K	\$858K	\$910K	\$834K	\$934K	\$934K	\$695K	\$458K	\$458K	\$458K	\$11,432K



INDIVIDUAL WATERSHED COORDINATOR GRANT UPDATES

A watershed coordinator's scope of effort is extremely broad and diverse. Each builds and maintains a network of partners, communicates challenges, and facilitates decision-making. Implementation of "on-the-ground" practices involves designing programs suited for the specific demographics and activities in the watershed, discussion of solutions with land managers and relevant officials, drafting proposals and seeking grants and match commitments, marketing, formalizing agreements, tracking, monitoring, evaluation, and reporting.

At any given time, watershed coordinators are advancing several implementation priorities through the active cycle of project planning, resources acquisition, installation, and follow-up. Meanwhile, important activities that strengthen and maintain the integrity of the comprehensive watershed management effort are planned and executed: public events, educational workshops and field days, public relations and outreach, volunteer support, board development,

and improving the scientific, social, and economic understanding of the watershed. While successful watershed coordinators receive help from many individuals and institutions, the orchestration of work is primarily the responsibility of the watershed coordinator.

Organization of such broad effort is achieved under each grant through designation of priority projects referenced in a state endorsed watershed action plan. Actions and deliverables are determined for each priority project and compiled into annual work plans. We then summarize various reports provided by each watershed coordinator to link their work to water quality improvement and stronger watershed communities.

In short, each individual report which follows is a unique story of a watershed coordinator working with focus and determination, achieving many small successes which add up to lasting change.

BLANCHARD RIVER

www.blanchardriver.org

SPONSORED BY BLANCHARD RIVER WATERSHED PARTNERSHIP

PRIORITIES

- Reduce phosphorus and sediment loading in the Lye Creek and Findlay Reservoirs. Reduce pollution from private sewage runoff.
- Improve the aquatic habitat of Lye Creek by installing 2-stage ditch modifications, buffer strips, riparian corridors, and cropping systems.
- Repair or replace failing Home Sewage Treatment systems for low income residents in Hancock County.
- Provide local units of government water resource policy advice and assistance.

WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENTS

Estimated Load Reductions

- Sediment load reduction: 567 tons.
- Phosphorus load reduction: 4,756 pounds.

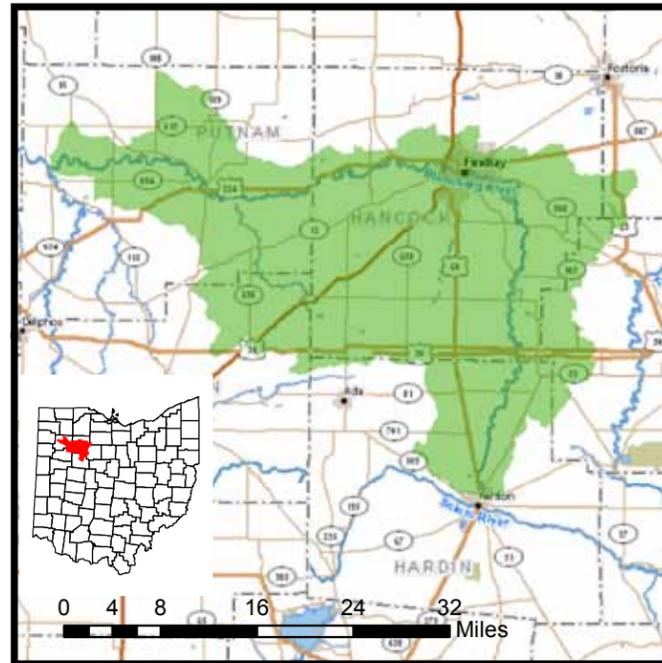
IMPLEMENTATION

Reporting Partners

City of Findlay
 Blanchard River Watershed Partnership
 Great Lakes Commission
 Hancock SWCD
 Health Departments
 Putnam SWCD
 Sierra Club



Blanchard River



Practices	Outcomes
Plant Prairie Grasses in Riparian Areas	1.5 Acres
Install Grade Structures	1 Structures
Repair or Replace Traditional HSTS	1 HSTS
Plant Cover/Manure Crops	1585.7 Acres
Implement Conservation Tillage Practices	2381.89 Acres
Install Grassed Waterways	13310 Linear Feet
Install Grass Manure Spreading Strips	13 Acres
Develop Brochures/Fact Sheets	2 Brochures/Fact Sheets
Conduct Public Meeting	5 Public Meetings
Develop Press Releases	4 Press Releases
Create/Maintain Websites	1 Website
Install Signs	12 Signs
Develop Displays	5 Displays
Conduct Stream Clean-Ups	1 Clean-Ups
Develop Newsletters	4 Newsletters
Conduct Chemical Sampling	77 Sites
Conduct Macroinvertebrate (ICI) Sampling	21 Sites

HIGHLIGHTS

- In the fall of 2014, the BRWP introduced 2 short videos, "Remember Me" and "Tom and My Watershed." A copy of each was given to every school system in the watershed. "Remember Me" received an Emmy Award from the National Academy of Television Arts and Science – Ohio Valley Chapter in the Public Service Announcement category. Both videos are available on YouTube and on the Blanchard River Watershed Partnership Web site: www.blanchardriver.org. This was the result of The Blanchard River Watershed Partnership receiving a two-year \$30,000 grant from the Findlay-Hancock County Community Foundation to increase the image and sustainability of the Blanchard River Watershed Partnership.
- A Great Lakes Commission grant of \$284,750 for the Upper Riley Creek watershed and the Putnam County portion of the Lower Riley Creek will wrap up December 2015. The program has resulted in 2,900 acres enrolled in conservation tillage and cover crops.
- A mini-grant of \$28,899 from the Great Lakes Commission has resulted in the enrollment of 210 acres of cover crops and conservation tillage.
- The BRWP Coordinated with City of Findlay, Hancock Park District, and the Village of Ottawa to oversee a \$94,370 grant to replace 900 trees lost to the Emerald Ash Borer. The Blanchard River Watershed Partners is serving as fiscal agent to facilitate the cross-boundary project.
- A \$100,000 grant from the Ohio EPA that the coordinator wrote for the Hancock SWCD is being used to installed a 1.5 acres riparian buffer along Eagle Creek for the City of Findlay and a rain garden

at Jefferson Primary School as a part of the "Kid's Place" which is an outdoors environmental education center. The BRWP will help design and build a 750-800 ft² rain garden. The remaining \$90,000 will be used to install demonstration agricultural BMPs.



Student Rain Barrel Competition

- The BRWP wrote a Great Lakes Basin grant for the PSWCD. The \$247,763 grant was for "Sediment and Phosphorus Reduction in the Miller City Cutoff and Pike Run-Blanchard River watersheds."
- The BRWP applied for a Great Lakes Basin mini grant for the Middle Riley Creek watershed. The \$29,930 grant was for conservation tillage and cover crops.
- The coordinator is involved with a grant the National Center for Water Quality Research Center at Heidelberg University and The Ohio State University to do research and collect data in the Blanchard River watershed. The coordinator will be doing transect data collection on field in the watershed. The Seneca SWCD is providing training.
- The BRWP partnered with the Sierra Club to set-up and run a volunteer "Ohio Sentinel" chemical testing program in the watershed. The chemical testing program with the Sierra Club started in March. Nearly 80 sites are being tested on a monthly basis from March until October. The testing will be done by trained volunteers. Over 15 stakeholders have been trained. ■

FUNDING ACQUIRED

Funding Source	Amount	Project Description
Ohio EPA – Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Grant	\$99,985	Innovative BMPs in the Eagle and Lye Creek watershed and a Rain Garden at Jefferson Primary school
Total:	\$99,985	

CAPTINA CREEK WATERSHED

www.belmontswcd.org

SPONSORED BY BELMONT SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

PRIORITIES

- Protection of riparian corridors
- Stabilization of eroding streambanks to improve habitat and reduce sedimentation
- Improve stream habitat and reduce erosion and nutrient enrichment by restricting livestock access
- Replace or repair failing Home Sewage Treatment Systems and promote maintenance
- Infrastructure improvements to restore fish passage and provide other wildlife benefits

WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENTS

According to Ohio EPA monitoring upstream of the Joy Fork Fish Passage Project, fish community evaluation score (Index of Biotic Integrity) improved from 44 to 54 and is currently attaining Exceptional Warmwater Habitat (EWH) criteria for fish. Joy Fork was already meeting EWH criteria for macroinvertebrates at this site.

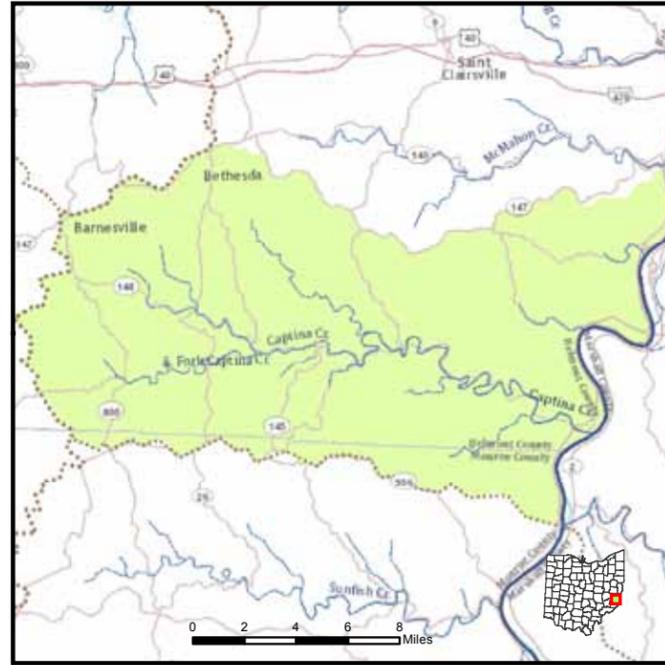
IMPLEMENTATION

Reporting Partners

Belmont Co. Health Department
 Captina Conservancy
 JB Green Team
 NRCS
 Ohio EPA
 Olney Friends School
 OSU Extension
 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

HIGHLIGHTS

- A 10-year wildlife habitat development protection for two projects along the South Fork, including landowner agreements with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) to maintain/protect the habitat for a minimum of 10 years.
- A one acre conservation easement along Pea Vine Creek has been established by Murray Energy Corporation to be held by the Captina Conservancy.
- A 10-year wildlife habitat project along Bend



Fork will enhance 0.1 acre of riparian corridor with maintenance/installation of tree plantings and protection of existing riparian vegetation.

- A Piney Creek sub-watershed landowner expressed interest in streambank restoration and conservation easement along Captina Creek.
- A streambank stabilization and riparian encasement project funded by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service was completed May 28, 2015 on the South Fork where bank erosion was causing sedimentation upstream of documented Eastern Hellbender breeding areas. 60 trees and 100 willow posts were added to the bank.
- Designs completed for the Joy Fork Stream Crossing Restoration/Improvement and Crabapple Creek Stream Crossing Improvement Culvert Replacement projects. The existing Joy Fork crossing is identified as a potential source of soil erosion and sedimentation affecting 1.6 miles. The existing submarine bridge on Washington Township Rd 84 crossing Crabapple Creek impedes streams flow, contributes to debris buildup, and serves as a barrier to fish migration. Design was a collaborative effort involving Hull & Associates, Belmont SWCD, USFWS, Goshen and Washington Township Trustees, and Belmont County Engineers Dept. Foundation material borings were completed

at both project sites as well as hydraulic and hydrologic studies. The completed Joy Fork design will be used to pursue additional funds for construction of the project. \$20,000 has been secured for the Crabapple Creek project from the USFWS National Fish Passage Program. Permits for both projects are being pursued.

- The Columbus Zoo and Aquarium Conservation Fund awarded \$4,797 for equipment and training for the Captina Creek Volunteer Water Quality Monitoring Program. A full-day Chemical Water Quality Monitoring Training was held on May 16, 2015. Participants received equipment, training and were sites within the watershed.
- An Ohio Environmental Education Fund Grant of \$1,850 enabled development and facilitation of a Streambank Stabilization and Riparian Enhancement Workshop held June 30, 2015 for 45 stakeholders from across the state. Joel Bingham and Randy Keitz of EnviroScience, Inc. led the workshop. Local sponsorship was provided by the Captina Conservancy, Gulfport Energy Corporation, Olney Friends School, and Belmont SWCD.
- Belmont SWCD received \$2,000 from the Belmont County Tourism Council Grants Assistance Program to develop a Captina Creek Birding Trail. The trail is being developed to attract birding enthusiasts to Belmont County.
- A half-acre vernal pool (ephemeral wetland) was created in the North Fork sub-watershed at the Olney Friends School in Barnsville, Ohio. The project included the installation of a wood duck box, two bat houses, a vernal pool fact sign, and planting 30 tree saplings. USFWS and Buckeye Hills RC&D provided funding for biological monitoring equipment for school students. ■

FUNDING ACQUIRED

Funding Source	Amount	Project Description
Farm Credit Services of Mid-America	\$1,125	Area 3 Envirothon
Columbus Zoo and Aquarium Conservation Fund	\$4,798	Captina Creek Volunteer Water Quality Monitoring Program
Belmont County Tourism Council Grants Assistance Program	\$2,000	Captina Creek Birding Trail Project
Gulfport Energy Corporation Donation	\$500	Watershed outreach
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Ohio River Basin Fish Habitat Partnership Grant	\$20,000	Additional funds to cooperative agreement for construction of Crabapple Creek Fish Passage Project
Buckeye Hills RC&D funds received through U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	\$2,700	Purchase of trees for 3 riparian tree planting projects and partial payment of stream crossing restoration project designs
Captina Conservancy	\$600	Match towards Streambank Stabilization Workshop
Ohio EPA Ohio Environmental Education Fund (OEEF)	\$1,850	Streambank Stabilization and Riparian Enhancement Workshop
Ohio University Ohio EPA 319 Grant (Sub-project)	\$500	Funds will go towards future riparian tree planting project
Total:	\$34,073	

Practices	Outcomes
Plant Trees or Shrubs in Riparian Areas	100 Trees
Plant Trees or Shrubs in Riparian Areas	0.57 Acres
Restore Stream Channel	600 Linear Feet
Reconstruct & Restore Wetlands	1.5 Acres
Acquire Riparian Conservation Easements	1 Acres
Inspect Home Sewage Treatment System	48 Inspections
Repair or Replace Traditional HSTS	48 HSTS
Develop Whole Farm Management Plans	387 Acres
Implement Conservation Tillage Practices	107.3 Acres
Implement Grazing Practices	997 Acres
Install Alternative Water Supplies	10 Supplies
Install Livestock Crossings	1 Crossings
Install Heavy Use Feeding Pads	10 Pads
Install Livestock Exclusion Fencing	10686 Linear Feet
Implement Grass/Legume Rotations	4 Acres
Develop Brochures/Fact Sheets	1 Document
Conduct Public Meeting	6 Public Meetings
Develop Press Releases	16 Press Releases
Create/Maintain Websites	2 Websites
Install Signs	3 Signs
Develop Displays	3 Displays
Conduct Field Days - land owner / manager	1 Day
Conduct Workshops	3 Workshops
Conduct Training	1 Training Session
Develop Newsletters	1 Newsletter
Conduct Chemical Sampling	29 Sites
Conduct Macroinvertebrate (ICI) Sampling	2 Sites
Conduct Fish (IBI) Sampling	2 Sites
Conduct Habitat (QHEI or HHEI) Sampling	2 Sites
Submit Final Monitoring Report and Data	1 Report

LITTLE BEAVER CREEK WATERSHED

www.clermontswcd.org

SPONSORED BY COLUMBIANA SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

PRIORITIES

- Install agricultural nutrient and sediment reduction practices: milkhouse waste management, cover crops, and exclude livestock from streams.
- Stream restoration through dam removal
- Stormwater monitoring

WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENTS

Estimated Load Reductions

- Reduced/Prevented 238.6 lbs. Nitrogen and 118.6 lbs Phosphorus through the installation of a milkhouse removal system.
- Reduced 885 lbs of Nitrogen and 810 lbs of Phosphorus by planting cover crops using the Columbiana SWCD no till drills.

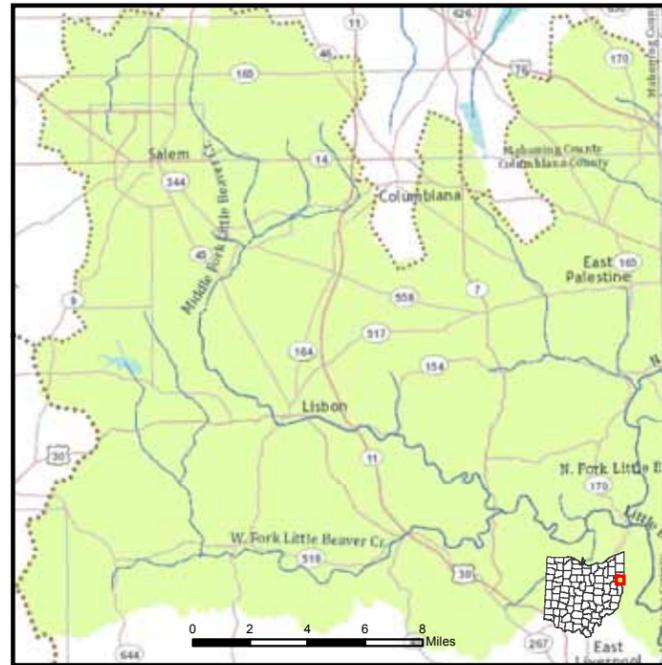
IMPLEMENTATION

Reporting Partners

- Columbiana County Health Department
- Columbiana SWCD
- Eastern Ohio Grazing Council/Crop Production Partnership
- LBCWSRAC
- ODNR Mineral Resources Management
- ODNR Scenic Rivers
- USDA-NRCS
- Western Reserve Land Conservancy



Lisbon Dam



Watershed Education

Practices	Outcomes
Remove Dams	1 Dams
Reclaim Abandoned Mine Land	2 Acres
Acquire Riparian Conservation Easements	18,719 Acres
Inspect Home Sewage Treatments Systems	110 Inspections
Repair or Replace Traditional HSTS	6 HSTS
Plant Cover/Manure Crops	388 Acres
Implement Grazing Practices	221.3 Acres
Install Alternative Water Supplies	4 Supplies
Install Heavy Use Feeding Pads	8 Pads
Conduct Stream Clean-Ups	1 Clean-up
Conduct Field Days - land owner / manager	4 Days
Provide Technical Assistance to Group(s)	2 Groups
Deliver On-Site Technical Assistance	22 Site Visits
Conduct Macroinvertebrate (ICI) Sampling	3 Sites

HIGHLIGHTS

- A collaborative group of public agencies including Columbiana SWCD was formed to discuss status of the Lisbon Dam. Ohio EPA included the Lisbon Dam removal into the Natural Resource Restoration Plan for the Nease Chemical Site; and the Village of Lisbon has agreed to removal. A pre-construction monitoring plan has been initiated including photography and macroinvertebrate sampling above and below the dam.
- One milkhouse waste removal system was completed. Monies were received through a nutrient trading program sponsored by American Farmland Trust and Electric Power Research Institute. This project was completed on an 80 acre / 60 head dairy operation. The manure is applied to the pasture through a sprinkler system. Columbiana SWCD evaluated additional dairy farms for milkhouse waste system installations.
- Columbiana SWCD no till drills were used to plant 500 acres of cover crops. Outreach included two press releases, newsletter article, and information at public events. To increase the incentive to plant cover crops, a discount to rent the drill was available if used on 20+ acres.
- The Crop Production Partnership (CPP) was initiated to provide educational workshops and field days to cash crop producers. Initial topics include cover crop demonstration plots and discussions on manure and fertilizer regulations, crop insurance, and importance of waterways.
- An inventory of potential livestock exclusion sites was completed. One exclusion fencing project was completed in the Tuscarawas Watershed. This was a good project demonstrating the process

for implementing exclusion fencing in the Little Beaver Creek Watershed. Additional landowners have expressed interest in livestock exclusion, and arrangements have been made to utilize U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) funding to implement projects. Contacts with USFWS biologists have been made to conduct pre-



construction monitoring site surveys.

Hellbender Young

- Coordination with the Village of Lisbon resulted in investigations of funding to repair two stormwater outlets in order to reduce erosion. Stormwater education will be expanded throughout the watershed, and a grant proposal was submitted to Ohio EPA Ohio Environmental Education Fund in order to provide materials for demonstrations and presentations.
- Assisted in organizing 4 field days demonstrating sustainable grazing methods for beef operations. Approximately 40-60 people attended each field day.
- 40 volunteers collected 31.75 tons of refuse and approximately 400 tires from Little Beaver Creek and tributaries.
- Participated in the Hellbender Partnership. 55 Hellbenders were released into the North Fork of the Little Beaver Creek, 23 were released in the West Fork of the Little Beaver Creek in August 2014. Funding from USFWS will allow for "Hellbender Huts" to be formed and installed in Little Beaver Creek. ■

FUNDING ACQUIRED

Funding Source	Amount	Project Description
USFW Partners of Fish and Wildlife	\$15,000	Agricultural BMP/Habitat Structures
Ohio River Basin Interstate Water Quality Trading Project (EPRI)	\$9,387	Agricultural BMP/Milkhouse Waste Treatment System
Total:	\$24,387	

MIDDLE TUSCARAWAS RIVER WATERSHEDS

www.ruralaction.org

SPONSORED BY RURAL ACTION

PRIORITIES

Reduce acid mine drainage with various passive and active treatment practices: Gob Pile Reclamations, Wetland Treatment Systems, Settling Ponds, and Treatment Channels.

IMPLEMENTATION

Reporting Partners

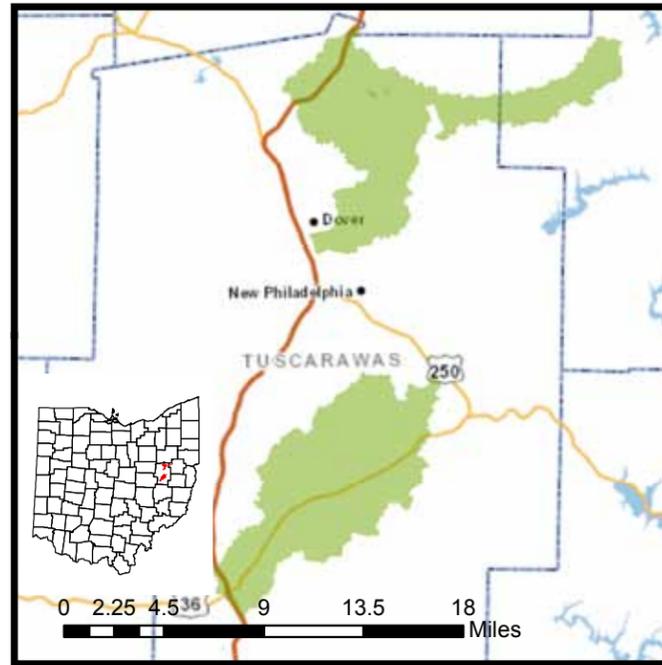
- AmeriCorps
- Carroll SWCD
- Harrison SWCD
- Historic Canal Dover Association
- Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District
- ODNR Mineral Resources Management
- Ohio University
- Rural Action
- Tuscarawas SWCD



Watershed assessment in Wolf Run

HIGHLIGHTS

- The HR-25/JS&L Restoration Project will result in installation of a one acre settling pond to remove 365,000 lbs of acid and 9,000 lbs of iron per year during the projected 20-year lifespan of the project. The Watershed Coordinator (WC) has been partnering with ODNR-Mineral Resources Management (MRM). A finalized design was accepted in February 2015. HR-25 has been approved to be funded with leftover Ohio EPA 319 Grant funds as well as matching funds from ODNR-MRM. A request for proposal



Practices	Outcomes
Develop Brochures/Fact Sheets	1 Document
Conduct Watershed Festivals	1 Festival
Conduct Public Meeting	18 Public Meetings
Develop Press Releases	11 Press Releases
Create/Maintain Websites	3 Websites
Develop Displays	2 Displays
Conduct Tours	4 Tours
Conduct Stream Clean-Ups	2 Clean-ups
Conduct Workshops	1 Workshop
Develop Newsletters	2 Newsletters
Conduct Chemical Sampling	36 Sites
Conduct Macroinvertebrate (ICI) Sampling	17 Sites
Conduct Fish (IBI) Sampling	12 Sites
Conduct Habitat (QHEI or HHEI) Sampling	17 Sites
Submit Final Monitoring Report and Data	1 Report

was distributed on February 18th, 2015, and Red Malcuit of Strasburg was awarded the bid for \$218,393.75 on May 8th, 2015. Construction is scheduled to be finished in September.

- The Farr Phase II Project includes installation of a new .5 acre treatment wetland: The WC worked with ODNR engineers to finalize the design for the Farr Phase II project, which

is being revisited and is yet to be accepted. The WC participates in monthly update meetings with the Acid Mine Drainage (AMD) north team (including biologist, hydrologist, engineers, project managers, and engineering managers) and keeps a detailed file on project advancement (along with calendar dates). The project is expected to be bid-ready in Fall 2015, with a Spring 2016 construction start. This will lead to a late summer/fall 2015 construction. The landowner has signed the Construction Right of Entry.

- The Mineral Zoar Phase II Project involves installation of sheet piling and river gravel to improve function of a passive acid treatment system. The WC has continued to work with MRM on monitoring and designing a phase II for this project. Chemical water quality samples have been taken per the 2015 Huff Run Watershed Water Quality Monitoring Plan. The WC lead educational tours of this project for over 400 students in My 2015.
- The HR-36 Project involves construction of settling pond to increase retention time of acid mine drainage to settle out metals. A hydrological study needs to be completed before design alternatives can be discussed, and the study cannot be completed until additional machinery is purchased for use on-site. The site is being sampled biannually as dictated in the 2015 Huff Run Watershed Water Quality Monitoring Plan. Design, bidding, and construction are expected for 2016.
- The Homes Wetland Project involves reconstruction of a 5-acre wetland. The WC has been taking chemical samples at 2-4 points on the project site, along with field parameters. The design is being finalized in July 2015. Funding has been discussed through the Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District's AMD cost-share program.

- The WC has partnered with Oxbow River & Stream Restoration, Inc to author a proposal to Ohio Department of Transportation for mitigation funding in the Tuscarawas River Watershed. In April 2014 we were notified that our site had been selected for \$1.7 million in project funding. It will include reconstruction approximately 8,000 linear feet of stream channel, diverting Huff Run to flow into the new (unpolluted) channel, and placing the project area in conservation easements. The project will be the first habitat-focused project in Huff Run, and an ecological uplift is expected to be shown in biologic and habitat evaluation ratings.
- The WC is continuing to work with Carroll and Tuscarawas Soil and Water Conservation offices on identifying landowners who would qualify for livestock exclusion fencing projects. Funding may be available through the Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District, or USDA Environmental Quality Incentive Program.
- The WC has worked with ODNR-MRM and an AmeriCorps member to do an initial delineation of the Wolf Run Watershed on March 25th, 2015. A map has been created with detailed sites outlined that are possible AMD project assessment areas. Biological and habitat evaluation sites are planned for sampling summer 2015.
- The WC continues to collaborate with a professor from Kent State University who is conducting research in the Huff Run Watershed focused on arsenic contamination in shale developments near coal-bearing geological layers. This partnership has resulted in not only in additional watershed research being conducted by other faculty and graduate students, but the submission of a National Science Foundation Grant application to measure sedimentation in the mainstream of Huff Run. ■

FUNDING ACQUIRED

Funding Source	Amount	Project Description
Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District	\$28,000	Outreach and education about watershed projects
Thrivent Financial - Community Action Grant	\$250	Material for the Huff Run Spring Clean-Up
ODNR - Step Outside Grant	\$500	Material for the Lake & Land Festival
Ohio EPA - 319 Grant	\$116,900	Expand watershed management to underserved populations
USDA - Wayne National Forest	\$40,000	Chemical water quality monitoring
Fundraising & Donations	\$4,500	Donations from community members and businesses
Ohio Dept. of Transportation - Mitigation	\$1,700,000	Huff Run stream restoration project
Total:	\$1,890,150	

MONDAY CREEK WATERSHED

www.ruralaction.org

SPONSORED BY RURAL ACTION

PRIORITIES

Reduce acid mine drainage with various passive and active treatment practices: Gob Pile Reclamations, Wetland Treatment Systems, Settling Ponds, Treatment Channels, Subsidence Closures, and Doser Installations.

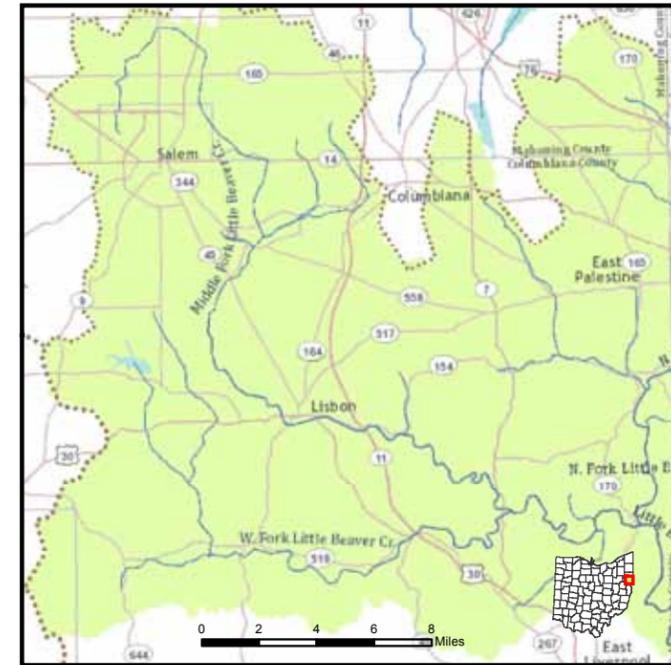
WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENTS

- Long Term Monitoring sampling event conducted in May 2015 indicates that pH has increased from 5.4 S.U. to 6.69 and net acidity has been reduced by 33 mg/L, from a pre-construction average of 12.7 mg/L to -21.3 mg/L.
- Monkey Hollow doser will lead to a 100% acid load reduction in Monkey Hollow, which is approximately 700 lbs/day. Excess alkalinity will be carried downstream to reduce impacts of other acid sources entering Monday Creek including Big Four Hollow, Snake Hollow and Bessemer Hollow.

IMPLEMENTATION

Reporting Partners

ODNR Mineral Resources Management
Office of Surface Mines
Ohio EPA
Ohio State University
Ohio University
Rural Action
U.S. Forest Service



Practices	Outcomes
Construct Lime Dosers	1 Doser
Repair Subsidence Sites	20.5 Acres
Develop Brochures/Fact Sheets	1 Document
Conduct Watershed Festivals	1 Festival
Conduct Public Meeting	3 Public Meetings
Develop Press Releases	1 Press Release
Create/Maintain Websites	2 Websites
Install Signs	1 Sign
Develop Displays	2 Displays
Conduct Tours	9 Tours
Conduct Tours via Canoe	1 Tour
Conduct Stream Clean-Ups	1 Clean-up
Conduct Training	1 Training Session
Provide Technical Assistance to Group(s)	1 Group
Develop Newsletters	5 Newsletters
Conduct Chemical Sampling	185 Samples
Conduct Macroinvertebrate (ICI) Sampling	18 Sites
Conduct Fish (IBI) Sampling	7 Sites
Conduct Habitat (QHEI or HHEI) Sampling	8 Sites

Monday Creek Canoe Float

HIGHLIGHTS

- A limestone doser was moved from the Essex mine seep to Monkey Hollow during the week of December 15th, 2014. The doser will be used to address acid mine drainage in Monkey Hollow and subsequently Monday Creek. By selecting this location for the doser, delivery of calcium oxide to Monday Creek will be rapid with little loss of alkalinity. Along with the dosing mechanism, a 35-ton storage silo, a concrete foundation for the silo, associated piping and access road construction / enhancement was installed. However, due to several unforeseen problems, the treatment was not able to operate, therefore corrective action was taken. The system is now able to convey water to the dosing mechanism and begin treating AMD within Monkey Hollow.
- Construction of the Bessemer Hollow Restoration Project is complete. Wayne National Forest is funding the loads of lime that are delivered to this site. Chemical and field samples collected by Monday Creek Restoration Partnership show that this restoration project is improving Bessemer Hollow.
- The proposed Big Four Hollow Wetland will be located in sections 14 and 15 of ward township, Hocking County, Ohio. The project will include the construction of 3 wetland cells totaling 2.4 acres. The goal of the project is to provide a location for aluminum to precipitate and bond with ions in the wetland therefore making them less toxic to fish in Monday Creek. During

this reporting period 2 pre-construction water quality monitoring events were conducted at the proposed project site to determine water quality and quantity for design purposes. A pre-bid meeting was held in May 2015.

- In partnership with a local engineering firm, AETcom, Rural Action will be completing a research project on waste water treatment plants in small communities (less than 250 households). The project is being funded by a grant from the Ohio Water Development Authority with matching funds from the Local Government Innovation Fund. The goal of this research project is to produce a guide for environmental planners that identifies treatment systems well-suited for small communities based on cost effectiveness and treatment effectiveness derived from environmental and demographic information. During this reporting period a survey was developed to be distributed to Ohio EPA staff which will help identify treatment systems that currently exist, whether or not they are meeting discharge standards, and Ohio EPA satisfaction with the systems. A guide book will be developed to help small communities make more informed decisions when selecting waste water treatment systems.
- One Dumpsite cleanup was held during this reporting period. With the help of Ohio University United Campus Ministries volunteers, 15 bags of trash and 30 tires were removed from Wayne National Forest property in the Watershed. ■

FUNDING ACQUIRED

Funding Source	Amount	Project Description
ODNR Step Outside Grant	\$500	Passport to fishing workshop
ODNR Step Outside Grant	\$500	Archery Workshop
Cooperation for National Community Service	\$21,070	AmeriCorps Members
Fundraising / Fee for service	\$2,850	Events, memberships, retail sales
Ohio Water Development Authority / Local Government Innovation Fund	\$110,513	Small Community Waste Water Treatment Research Project
ODNR Water Quality Monitoring Contract	\$43,850	Water Quality Monitoring / Maintenance
ODNR AmeriCorps Match	\$9,000	AmeriCorps Members
Total:	\$188,283	

PORTAGE RIVER WATERSHED

www.woodswcd.com

SPONSORED BY WOOD COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

PRIORITIES

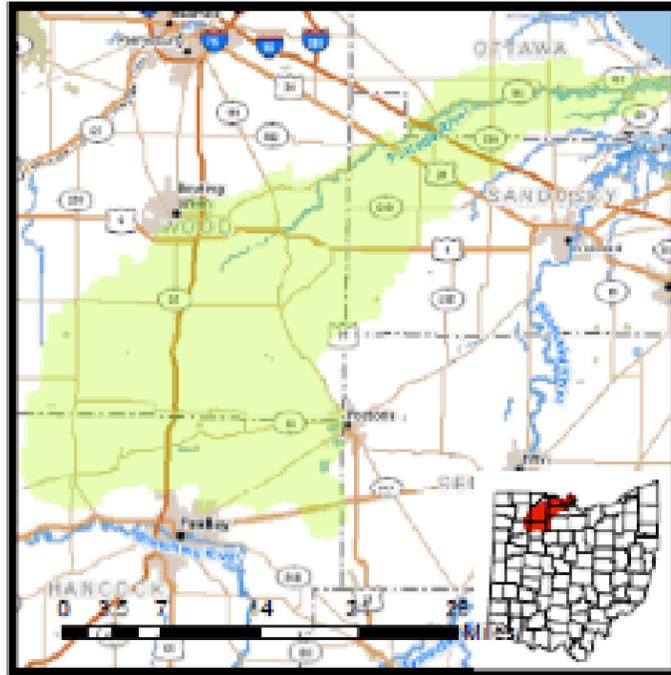
- Reduce phosphorus and sediment loading
- Improve the aquatic habitat of Portage River
- Repair or replace failing Home Sewage Treatment systems
- Provide water resource policy advice and assistance to local units of government

IMPLEMENTATION

Reporting Partners

Toledo Metropolitan Area Council of Governments
Wood County Parks

Practices	Outcomes
Plant Prairie Grasses in Riparian Areas	2 Acres
Remove/treat Invasive Species	21 Acres
Reconstruct & Restore Wetlands	25 Acres
Plant Cover/Manure Crops	267.7 Acres
Install Controlled Drainage System	461 Acres
Install Grassed Waterways	5090 Linear Feet
Conduct Public Meeting	1 Public Meeting
Develop Displays	1 Display
Conduct Field Days - land owner / manager	4 Days
Conduct Workshops	2 Workshops
Conduct Training	1 Training Session
Provide Technical Assistance to Group(s)	2 Groups
Deliver On-Site Technical Assistance	1 Site Visit
Conduct Chemical Sampling	2 Sites
Conduct Macroinvertebrate (ICI) Sampling	4 Sites
Conduct Fish (IBI) Sampling	2 Sites
Submit Final Monitoring Report and Data	1 Report



Billboard

Cover Crop

HIGHLIGHTS

- Approximately 3,000 acres within the South Branch and East Branch sub-watersheds were enrolled in cover crops, and funding remains for 5,000 additional acres.



- The watershed coordinator is assisting NRCS with recruitment of producers to participate into available programs to implement conservation in the Portage River Watershed.
- Participated in TMACOG restructuring of the Portage River Basin Council with an emphasis on sustainability and self-sufficiency.
- The Wood County Conservation ATV Tour held in 2014 featured the Portage River Watershed as well as some of the innovative agricultural practices being demonstrated.



Fish Sampling in the Watershed



Fish Sampling in the Watershed

- TMACOG and the Portage River Council created a half-day CEU program Realtors to familiarize them with rural water and wastewater systems, current state regulations, and issues such as rural water lines and Critical Sewered areas. This will enable realtors to more accurately represent their clients when buying or selling property that isn't connected to public utilities. ■



Fish Sampling in the Watershed

FUNDING ACQUIRED

Funding Source	Amount	Project Description
Ohio EPA - 319	\$166,533	Agriculture practices to reduce sediment and phosphorous loads
Great Lakes Commission	\$244,413	Agriculture practices to reduce sediment and phosphorous loads
Farm Bureau Education Grant	\$5,000	Farm4CleanWater campaign
Total:	\$415,946	

RACCOON CREEK WATERSHED

www.ohio.edu/voinovichschool

SPONSORED BY OHIO UNIVERSITY VOINOVICH SCHOOL OF LEADERSHIP AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

PRIORITIES

Reduce acid mine drainage with various passive and active treatment practices: Wetland Treatment Systems, Settling Ponds, Treatment Channels, and Spoil removal.

WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENTS

- 42 stream miles of Raccoon Creek are meeting criteria (fish and macroinvertebrates) for warm water habitat (according to 2014 NPS report). This will not be updated again until 2015.
- 116 of 117 miles of long term monitoring sites are meeting the pH target of 6.5. Biological communities continue to recover throughout the watershed, primarily in the Headwaters of Raccoon Creek, and in Little Raccoon Creek.
- 68 species of fish have been recorded in the Raccoon Creek watershed.

IMPLEMENTATION

Reporting Partners

- AmeriCorps
- Appalachia Ohio Alliance
- Athens Conservancy District
- Gallia SWCD
- ODNR Mineral Resources Management
- Office of Surface Mines
- Ohio EPA
- Ohio University
- Raccoon Creek Partnership
- Raccoon Creek Water Trail Association



Middleton Run Reclamation Project



Practices	Outcomes
Plant Trees or Shrubs in Riparian Areas	250 Trees
Install Limestone Channels	250 Linear Feet
Reclaim Abandoned Mine Land	15 Acres
Construct Acid Mine Drainage Wetland	4 Acres
Conduct Watershed Festivals	2 Festivals
Conduct Public Meeting	20 Public Meetings
Develop Press Releases	10 Press Releases
Create/Maintain Websites	2 Websites
Develop Displays	22 Displays
Conduct Tours	5 Tours
Conduct Tours via Canoe	2 Tours
Conduct Stream Clean-Ups	1 Clean-up
Conduct Workshops	2 Workshops
Conduct Training	4 Training Sessions
Provide Technical Assistance to Group(s)	1 Group
Deliver On-Site Technical Assistance	6 Site Visits
Develop Newsletters	2 Newsletters
Conduct Chemical Sampling	273 Sites
Conduct Macroinvertebrate (ICI) Sampling	36 Sites
Conduct Fish (IBI) Sampling	12 Sites
Conduct Habitat (QHEI or HHEI) Sampling	12 Sites
Submit Final Monitoring Report and Data	1 Report

HIGHLIGHTS

- The Middleton Run Reclamation Project was completed May 2015. This project included excavation and disposal of spoil sites, application and disking of pre-lime onto spoil and acidic soils, application of resoil material to cap acid forming materials and provide a growing medium for vegetation, and revegetation. Post Construction monitoring has occurred with 2 rounds of sampling with data analysis yet to occur.
- Construction for the Lake Morrow project was completed September 2014. Lake Morrow was drained and the concrete culverts were installed through the spoil dam. Completion occurred in 2014 with pre-liming of spoil, resoiling, revegetation and the installation of 3 tied concrete mat channels. Post Construction monitoring has occurred with 2 rounds of sampling with data analysis yet to occur. There are still

- tires on the site, we are going to try to find a grant to pay for the disposal of the tires.
- The Ilesboro/Griffith Road Reclamation Project is under investigation (recon). A grad student is assisting to determine which pits/areas are of the highest priority for reclamation. All landowners are on board with the project and have provided property access for project planning purposes. Project construction is currently planned for 2016.
- Watershed residents expressed concern regarding Wellston lowhead dam on Little Raccoon Creek near Lake Alma State Park, (Wellston Ohio, in Jackson County). The dam impedes flow of Little Raccoon Creek, and may inhibit fish passage in that section of stream. The small dam has been located and photographed. Landowner willingness to remove the dam and funding opportunities will be investigated. ■

Lake Morrow Project



FUNDING ACQUIRED

Funding Source	Amount	Project Description
ODNR DMRM/AML	\$1,509,396	Middleton Run Project completion
ODNR DMRM/AML	\$43,054	Flint Run Wetland Berms Project completion
ODNR DMRM/AML	\$567,006	Lake Morrow Project Completion
Memberships and donations to Raccoon Creek Partnership	\$5,690	Outreach and education, monitoring supplies, education center maintenance
ODNR Division of Water Craft Boating Safety and Education Grant	\$1,575	Canoe / Boating Safety training for watershed personnel
ODNR Step Outside Grant	\$500	Watershed Camp Supplies
EPA 319 Grant	\$250,000	Appalachian Ohio Clean Watershed Initiative
Quidel QCARES Program	\$1,930	Monitoring and maintenance equipment and supplies
Kroger Community Rewards	\$361	General expenses
Raccoon Creek Water Quality Specialist (new 2 year contract)	\$72,423	Water Quality monitoring, data analysis, and project maintenance in Raccoon Creek (July 2015-June 2017)
Total:	\$2,451,937	

SUNDAY & FEDERAL CREEKS WATERSHED

www.ruralaction.org

SPONSORED BY RURAL ACTION

PRIORITIES

Reduce acid mine drainage with various passive and active treatment practices: Gob Pile Reclamations, Wetland Treatment Systems, Settling Ponds, Treatment Channels, Subsidence Closures, Doser Installations.

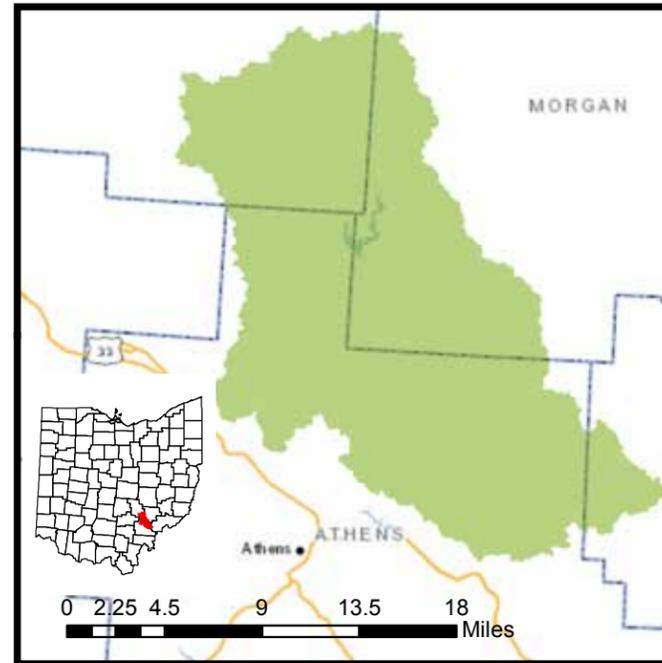
WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENTS

- Median pH values at monitoring sites adjacent to the Pine Run Doser have improved from 3.95 to 7.23. Load reduction of acid is estimated to be 126,655 lbs/year and metal reduction of 32,029 lbs/year.
- The Drakes wetland has improved pH values from 3.52 to 7.46; and acidity decreased from 33.2 mg/L to 4.68 mg/L.
- Monitoring downstream of the West Branch Headwaters project site indicate improvement of pH from 5.14 to 6.47, acid load of 311 to -696 lbs/day, aluminum from 8.98 to 4.97 mg/L, and iron 3.94 to 1.59 mg/L. Annual load reductions are estimated to be 8,030 lbs of acid and 2,920 lbs of metal.

IMPLEMENTATION

Reporting Partners

Appalachia Ohio Alliance
Athens Soil and Water Conservation District
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southeast Ohio
Buckeye Trail
Burr Oak Lodge
Camp Otý'Okwa
Hocking College
Little Cities of Black Diamonds
Little Cities of the Forest Collaborative
ODNR, Division of Mineral Resources
Burr Oak State Park



Reporting Partners (cont..)

ODNR, Division of Watercraft
Office of Surface Mining
Ohio Environmental Council
Ohio Mineland Partnership
Ohio State University Extension
Ohio University
Ohio's Hill Country Heritage Area /Winding Rd
Perry SWCD
River Network
Southeast Ohio Watershed Council
U.S. Forest Service, Wayne National Forest
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
University of Akron
Village of Corning
Village of Glouster
Water Management Association of Ohio
Western Reserve Land Conservancy

Practices	Outcomes
Plant Trees or Shrubs in Riparian Areas	25 Trees
Plant Wetland Species	1 Acre
Construct Acid Mine Drainage Wetland	1 Acre
Develop Brochures/Fact Sheets	4 Documents
Conduct Public Meeting	10 Public Meetings
Develop Press Releases	10 Press Releases
Create/Maintain Websites	1 Website
Develop Displays	6 Displays
Conduct Tours	6 Tours
Conduct Tours via Canoe	2 Tours
Conduct Stream Clean-Ups	5 Clean-ups
Conduct Training	1 Training Session
Develop Manual(s)	1 Manual
Develop Newsletters	4 Newsletters

HIGHLIGHTS

- Since operation began in January 2013, Sunday Creek staff has completed weekly maintenance visits to the Pine Run doser and completed monitoring along the pH profile sites downstream. We have fairly consistently measured pH values near or above 7 along the entire length of the West Branch. We have been sharing maintenance responsibilities with Monday Creek's Water Quality Specialist. This partnership works well, as the staff is also responsible for maintaining the Jobs Doser, which is located only a few miles from Pine Run. The doser was cleaned more comprehensively quarterly, and worked well throughout this time period.
- The West Branch Headwaters Project reclaimed 1.28 acres of coal mine spoils, eliminated four stream captures, installed a settling wetland, one limestone leach bed, and 1,524 linear feet of limestone channels along the West Branch Headwaters tributary in the uppermost reaches of the West Branch of Sunday Creek in Perry County. Sunday Creek staff continued quarterly post construction water quality monitoring at four stations on site and two downstream stations and have been making site visits to check for maintenance issues. The wetland

constructed to treat the WBHW 19 mine seep is functioning and this season, we have cattail cover throughout the pond. The purpose of the wetland is to capture iron from WBHW 19 before it can enter into the stream.

- The Drakes Wetland Enhancement project is reclamation of an existing wetland located in the Sunday Creek watershed on



Drakes Wetland

private lands outside the town of Drakes, Ohio. Designed and constructed in 2014 by the ODNR Division of Mineral Resources Management, the Drakes Wetland project enhanced approx. 0.8 acre wetland that currently works to settle and retain metals from acid mine drainage prior to entering into the West Branch of Sunday Creek. Construction was complete in November.

- Pre-construction monitoring and site reconnaissance for the Sulpher Run Tipple Project has been taking place



Drakes Wetland Signage

SUNDAY & FEDERAL CREEKS WATERSHED (CONT.)

SPONSORED BY RURAL ACTION

during the first six months of 2015. Site visits by both Sunday Creek Watershed staff and ODNR staff have occurred. The project engineer has visited the site and surveying is complete. Monitoring is being completed downstream of the original proposed project site near the tipple. Recent reconnaissance has shown significant changes in the stream channel with the absence of beaver dams that existed when the historical water quality data was collected. Preliminary project design includes plans to reinforce and expand an existing dam that forms a small wetland. The wetland will be expanded and enhanced to increase retention time and allow time for more iron to settle into the wetland.

- ODNR-MRM is planning a Public Health and Safety project at the abandoned AVIS mine site in the headwaters of Sunday Creek. The scope of work will include closing off all portals to the abandoned complex, removing the remnants of the old mining structure, moving the coal refuse from the immediate floodplain of the local stream, re-soiling the site, and establishing vegetation. Construction is planned for summer 2016.

The Sunday Creek Coordinator has been and will continue working with the project officer on the public health and

safety project to complete additional work through leveraged funding. The goal of the habitat project is to establish a wetland that drains to the stream in the area adjacent to Tatman Road. Another goal is to augment the revegetation the revegetation efforts on site with native plants and wildlife plots. Channel stabilization may be a positive addition once mine spoil is pulled away from the stream channel. The habitat in this area is degraded due to steep stream banks of mine spoil.

The coordinator has worked on identifying and applying for additional funding to supplement this project being funded through ODNR. The watershed coordinator continues to work on acquiring additional funds to supplement the ODNR support. Most recently, inquiries have been made to the US Fish and Wildlife Service.

Two landowners have already signed exploratory right of entries with ODNR and are supportive of the Public Health & Safety Project. One landowner is supportive of adding a wetland to the project as well.

- The watershed coordinator met with the Perry County Soil and Water Conservation District staff and AmeriCorps members

to discuss strategies to involve more members of the agricultural community in watershed programs. The watershed coordinator has been attending the SWCD's Ag Breakfast held every month in Somerset, and presented at the April meeting, encouraging attendees to provide feedback on watershed restoration needs in their community. Potential projects on agricultural land were discussed. At this time, no additional farmers within the watershed have committed to installing new livestock exclusion fencing, but additional information will be distributed to identified farmers during the remaining months of 2015.

- Sunday Creek staff continues to document water levels at the five Corning mine pool monitoring wells monthly. Sunday Creek staff worked with two Ohio University students who are working on research concerning the Corning Mine Pool. The watershed coordinator was involved in a TV production, "Tech Know" with Ohio University faculty highlighting the Corning Discharge, mining issues in the region, and the research underway to reclaim mined lands.
- A partnership with Rural Action's Zero Waste program and the Glouster Village council resulted in trees being planted and the streamside cleaned-up in the Glouster Village Council to plant trees in the Glouster Memorial Park as part of a litter prevention and beautification grant. They were very supportive of the idea and the Parks and Recreation Committee assisted with this project. Future tree planting plans in the park along Sunday Creek include working with the Hocking River Commission. Many of the older trees along the creek and in the park are beginning to fall over and council members would like to concentrate on the areas with the oldest trees first to ensure we don't have clear spots in the future. As part of the tree planting project, we also hosted three different clean ups in the park, along the banks of Sunday Creek.

- Research utilizing water from the Truetown Discharge is taking place through partnerships between Ohio University professors and students in the engineering department and the Wayne National Forest. The watershed coordinator maintains contact with Ohio University faculty and students at Ohio University for updates on their findings and possible application of this technology at Truetown. Also coordinated with a retired engineer with the Wayne National Forest, and discussed possible treatment scenarios at Truetown. ■

FUNDING ACQUIRED

Funding Source	Amount	Project Description
Corporation for National & Community Service	\$16,140	1 AmeriCorps Member
Fundraising and Events	\$2,500	Donations, Registrations, Earned Income
ODNR Mineral Resources Management	\$6,349	Pine Run Doser Maintenance
ODNR Mineral Resources Management	\$68,360	Drakes Wetland Enhancement Project
ODNR Mineral Resources Management	\$6,335	AmeriCorps Match
ODNR Step Outside Grant	\$5,000	Aquatic Education Grant - Day Camps & Passport to the Outdoors Event
OSM	\$28,440	Drakes Wetland Enhancement Project
Total:	\$133,124	

UPPER MAUMEE RIVER WATERSHED

www.defiance-county.com/swcd

SPONSORED BY DEFIANCE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

PRIORITIES

- Install agricultural nutrient and sediment reduction practices: milkhouse waste management, cover crops, and exclude livestock from streams.
- Stream restoration through dam removal
- Stormwater monitoring

WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENTS

Estimated Load Reductions

- Reduced/Prevented 1,154.49 lbs Nitrogen and 175.93 lbs Phosphorus through the installation/use of rain gardens, rain barrels, VTR and the planting of cover crops.

IMPLEMENTATION

Reporting Partners

Defiance County Health Department

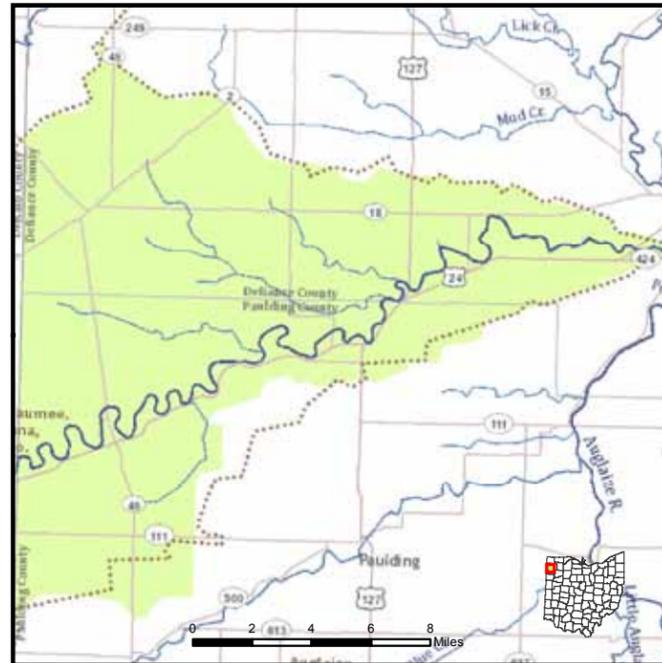
Defiance SWCD

Land to Lake

Upper Maumee Partnership



Rain Garden Site



Practices	Outcomes
Repair or Replace Traditional HSTS	16 HSTS
Install Nitrogen Reduction Practices	327.4 Acres
Install Controlled Drainage System	136.5 Acres
Implement Conservation Tillage Practices	5424.4 Acres
Nutrient Management Plans	68 Acres
Cover Crops	92 Acres
Install Grassed Waterways	1220 Linear Feet
Conduct Soil Testing	70 Tests
Conduct Public Meeting	6 Public Meetings
Develop Press Releases	6 Press Releases
Create/Maintain Websites	1 Website
Install Signs	60 Signs
Develop Displays	3 Displays
Conduct Tours	2 Tours
Conduct Tours via Canoe	2 Tours
Conduct Workshops	15 Workshops
Conduct Training	2 Training Sessions
Develop Newsletters	6 Newsletters
Conduct Chemical Sampling	8 Sites
Conduct Macroinvertebrate (ICI) Sampling	8 Sites
Conduct Habitat (QHEI or HHEI) Sampling	8 Sites
Conduct Nitrate Sampling (WATER)	8 Sites
Submit Final Monitoring Report and Data	1 Report

HIGHLIGHTS

- The Upper Maumee Watershed Action Plan was endorsed by the Ohio EPA, Ohio Department of Natural Resources, and Indiana Department of Environmental Management, and U.S. EPA Region 5.
- Mailings were distributed to eligible landowners for the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Nutrient Reduction Program (GLRI-NRP) in the Defiance County portion of the South Turkeyfoot and Flatrock Creek watershed. As a result, 23 acres of cover crops, 68.8 acres of precision soil sampling/fertilizer placement/cover crops, and 524.6 acres of soil tests have been enrolled.
- The Platter Creek Nutrient Reduction Ohio EPA 319 grant has been approved. This will provide cost-share for 6,000 acres of cover crops, 4,000 acres of variable rate fertilizer application, 4000 acres of gypsum with no-till, 10 grade stabilization structures, and 3 saturated buffers.
- The Upper Maumee Watershed Tributary Volunteer Monitoring Program completed one year of monthly monitoring with the assistance of an Ohio Lake Erie Commission grant. Data was collected stream side for dissolved oxygen, pH, temperature, and total suspended solids. Water samples were analyzed by Heidelberg laboratory for soluble nitrogen and phosphorus and total phosphorus. The data was used to develop a report card to educate the public on current conditions and suggestions for improvement.
- As part of the project effort to promote more recreation on the Maumee River, 2 kayak trips were held in cooperation with ODNr Scenic Rivers Program. One trip was geared towards families while the other targeted local leaders and included a water quality presentation.

FUNDING ACQUIRED

Funding Source	Amount	Project Description
Ohio EPA - 319 Grant	\$366,493	Platter Creek Nutrient Reduction Program
Total:	\$366,493	

- Land to Lake is a regional watershed outreach campaign designed to increase environmental awareness of local water quality issues and provide tools necessary to actively improve the watershed. It was funded by an Ohio EPA Environmental Education Fund grant. Activities included: 2 Public Canoe Trips • 2 Local Leaders Canoe Trips, Landscaper Workshop, 2 issues of Land to Lake magazine, Facebook Page (landtolake.com), Movie Screenings, Public Rain Gardens, 80 Private Rain Gardens, Rain Barrel contest, 5 Billboards, 150 Rain Barrels, 12 Rain Garden & Rain Barrel Workshops, and Volunteer Stream Monitoring.



Stream Monitoring

- Initiated the Defiance County Health Department Septic System repair program. Funding was authorized through the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA) Water Pollution Control Loan Fund in cooperation with the Ohio Department of Health. Defiance County has been awarded \$100,000 and estimates a minimum of six (6) household sewage treatment systems may be replaced. ■



YELLOW CREEK WATERSHED

www.jeffersonswcd.org

SPONSORED BY JEFFERSON SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

PRIORITIES

- Acid Mine Drainage remediation
- Reduce nutrient loading by repairing or replacing failing home sewage treatment systems
- Protection of high value watershed features including wetlands and riparian forests
- Excluding livestock from streams to improve habitat and reduce nutrients.

IMPLEMENTATION

Reporting Partners

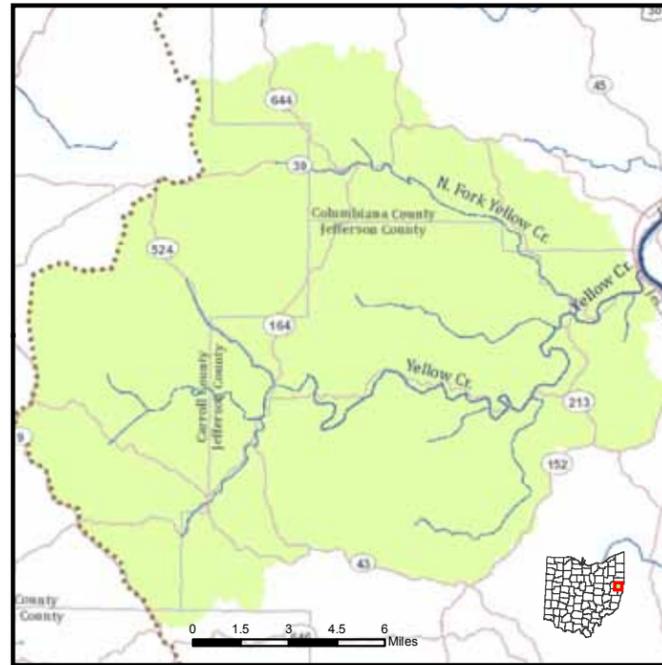
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Western Reserve Land Conservancy

Practices	Outcomes
Plant Trees or Shrubs in Riparian Areas	600 Trees
Plant Trees or Shrubs in Riparian Areas	2.58 Acres
Acquire Riparian Conservation Easements	134 Acres
Repair or Replace Traditional HSTS	3 HSTS
Plant Cover/Manure Crops	15 Acres
Develop Whole Farm Management Plans	25 Acres
Implement Grazing Practices	179 Acres
Install Alternative Water Supplies	1397 Supplies
Install Livestock Exclusion Fencing	2940 Linear Feet
Develop Brochures/Fact Sheets	1 Document
Conduct Public Meeting	2 Public Meetings
Develop Press Releases	1 Press Release
Create/Maintain Websites	1 Website
Develop Displays	1 Display
Conduct Tours	2 Tours
Conduct Field Days - land owner / manager	2 Days
Deliver On-Site Technical Assistance	30 Site Visits
Conduct Fish (IBI) Sampling	3 Sites

HIGHLIGHTS

- Negotiations continue with a stream side landowner for public stream access, including a canoe launch facility. Survey work is in the process as well as



Leading Tours

developing a strategic plan for transferring the parcel to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources.

- Continued coordination of Ohio EPA funded stream restoration project at the Toronto Band Camp located on Town Fork. Construction is to begin Fall 2015
- Addressing steam bank failures, which are causing sedimentation issues, by working with landowners and the Apex Companies LLC of Cincinnati.

- A conservation easement was obtained on a 134 acre parcel adjacent to Yellow Creek though coordination with a local land trust. The property contains over 3,700 feet of Yellow Creek, and the riparian planting was completed Spring 2015. Discussion is underway with several additional land owners along the main stem of Yellow Creek to establish conservation easements.
- Participation continues within the Ohio Hellbender Partnership including assisting with locating and monitoring hellbender populations in the watershed.
- Participated in planning efforts regarding the Amsterdam Sewer Project sponsored by the village and Jefferson County and supported by the Rural Community Assistance Program. This project is a priority because the village has a high volume of direct sewage outflow entering Yellow Creek.
- Utilizing funds and equipment provided by US Fish and Wildlife Service, over 600 individual trees were planted to complete a riparian forest restoration project along 3,750 feet of Yellow Creek.
- A partnership with the Western Reserve Land Conservancy leveraged \$100,000 in private funds. The funds will be maintained in escrow to be used to purchase a "centerpiece" conservation easement along the mainstem of Yellow Creek.
- Two events were organized on repatriation of hellbender salamander, a state-listed endangered species, into Yellow Creek. Both events were extremely well attended with most of the major landowners along Yellow Creek participating. The event demonstrated strong community support

FUNDING ACQUIRED

Funding Source	Amount	Project Description
Ohio Water Development Authority & Ohio EPA	\$24,747	Home Sewage Treatment Repair/Replacement
US Fish & Wildlife	\$1,156	Riparian Tree Planting
Ohio EPA - SWIF	\$16,531	Toronto Band Camp Stream Restoration
Private donations	\$100,000	Conservation Easement Escrow
Total:	\$142,434	

for efforts associated with endangered species preservation and maintenance of high quality waters. ■



Leading Tours



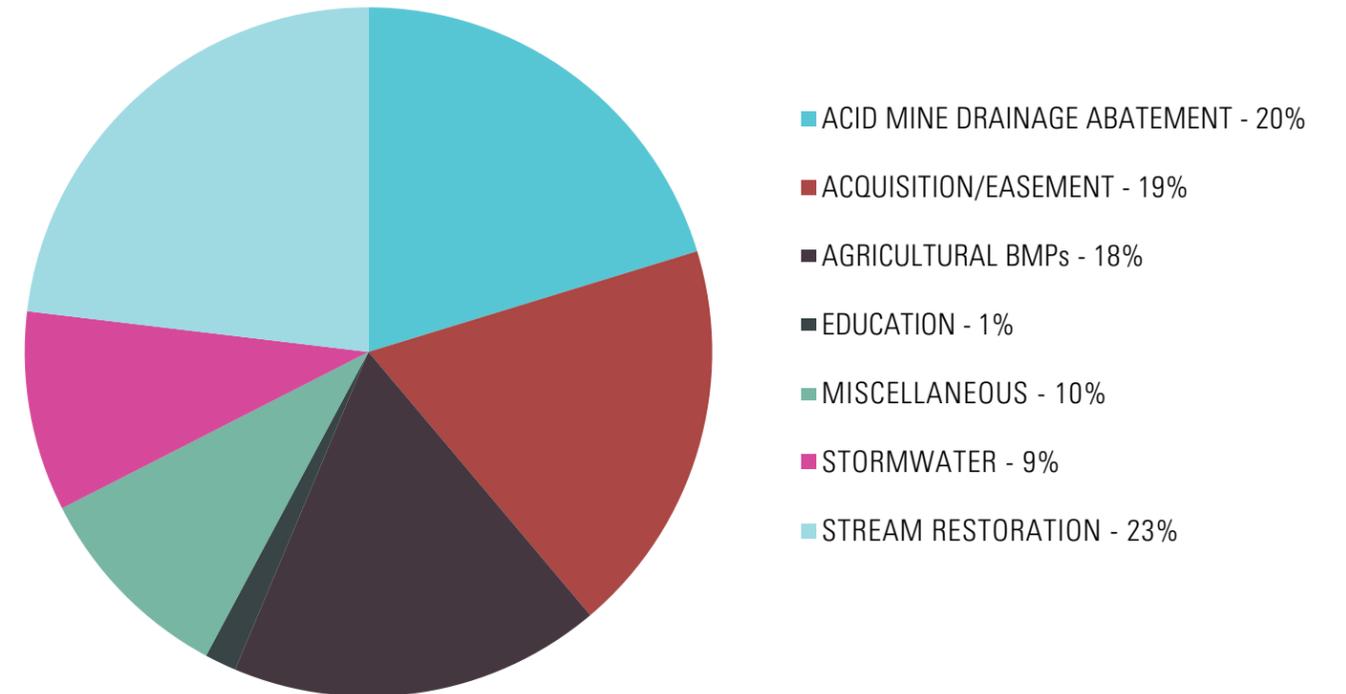
UPDATES FROM PAST GRANT RECIPIENTS

The Ohio Watershed Coordinator Grant Program has helped establish many positions in local agencies and organizations throughout Ohio. Most of those employed in these positions continue to coordinate watershed partnerships, and others use their expertise and established networks to support their employers' program goals and priorities. The following updates were submitted in response to a request for contributions to this report. The time and effort to help us showcase a few examples of how the Ohio Watershed Coordinator Grant Program continues to benefit local watersheds is greatly appreciated.

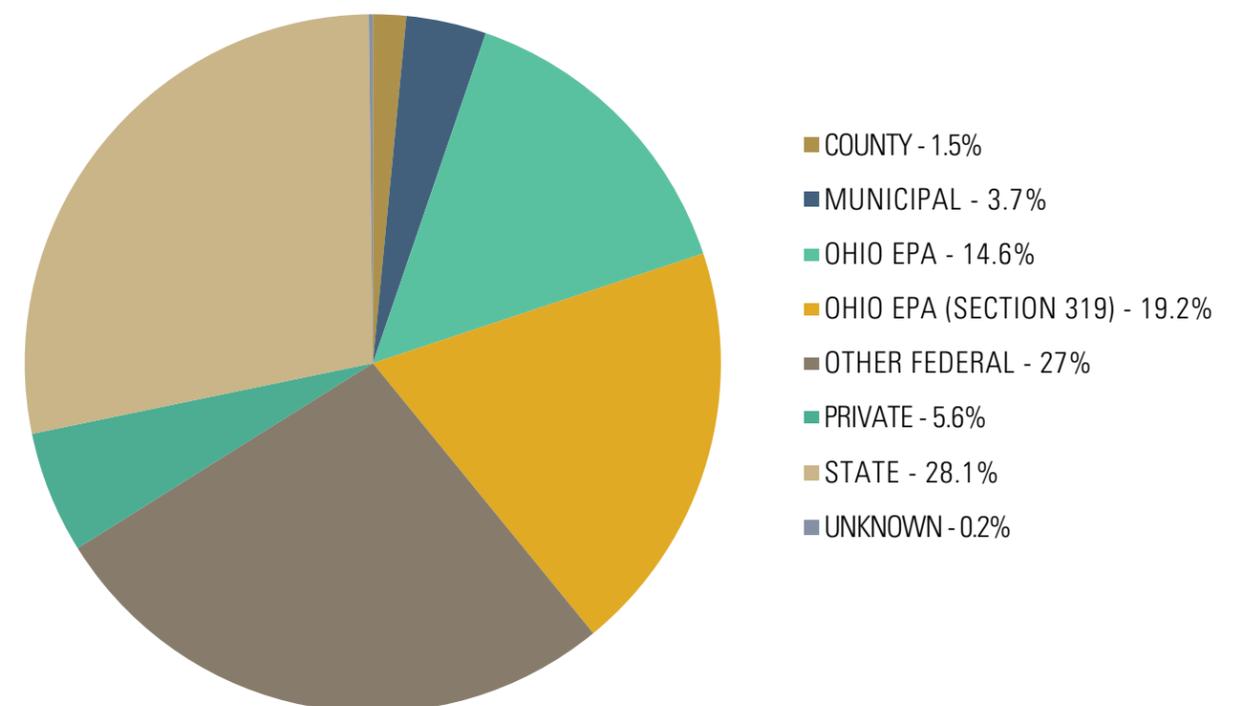
FUNDING LEVERAGED

2001 THROUGH 2015

FUNDING LEVERAGED BY TYPE



FUNDING LEVERAGED BY SOURCE



LOWER BIG WALNUT WATERSHED

www.franklinswcd.org

SPONSORED BY FRANKLIN SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

MOST RECENT YEAR ON GRANT: 2013

PRIORITIES

- Reducing stormwater impacts
- Addressing failing HSTSs
- Protecting riparian corridor
- Reducing nutrient runoff from farm fields

IMPLEMENTATION

Reporting Partners

City of Columbus

City of Reynoldsburg

Ohio EPA

Friends of Blacklick Creek

Friends of Big Walnut Creek and Tributaries

OSU Extension

OSU FAGE Capstone students

WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENTS

Before and after biologic monitoring was conducted in association with a 2013 installation of “stream inserts”/bioreactors into a headwater tributary of Blacklick Creek. Although the stream remains heavily degraded from flashy, urban hydrology, fish populations have increased. Whereas, no fish were found prior to implementation, 2 fish were found in 2014, and 7 in 2015. The stream physical structure improvements have also been observed.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Pervious parking lot project – The watershed coordinator proposed the project to the City of Reynoldsburg and drafted a grant proposal for the project. The City of Reynoldsburg submitted the proposal and oversaw the implementation of the project.
- Stream buffer project – Planted a landscaped stream buffer in Huber Park in

November 2014.

- Effluent treatment – OSU Capstone students installed an insert/bioreactor in a small, concrete channel that conducts stormwater and aerator effluent.
- Stormwater pond floating island – OSU Capstone students installed a floating island in Reynoldsburg to begin to address some of the nutrient loading in that pond.
- Crawford Farms Park Stormwater Treatment Wetland project – Funding for the project was obtained in 2013 through a Ohio EPA Section 319 grant. The project was finally implemented in May and June 2015. A one acre, dry stormwater basin was retrofitted to be a one acre treatment wetland.
- Developed a grant proposal for Grove City that resulted in the implementation of a blue roof, underground stormwater storage, and stormwater infiltration/evapo-transpiration. ■

EUCLID CREEK WATERSHED

www.euclidcreekwatershed.com.org

SPONSORED BY CUYAHOGA SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

MOST RECENT YEAR ON GRANT: 2014

PRIORITIES

- Improve stream quality and function by removing/modifying dams and restoring natural, stable structure.
- Restore upland and floodplain wetlands.
- Reduce stream structure instability by promoting stormwater retention and improve stormwater infrastructure.
- Educate landowners on best management practices for watershed-friendly land use.

IMPLEMENTATION

Reporting Partners

Friends of Euclid Creek

Euclid Creek Watershed Council member communities

Cleveland Metroparks

Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District

Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

West Creek Conservancy

HIGHLIGHTS

Riparian Tree Buffer Education and Outreach Program - Amount Awarded: \$13,370.00

- Program Brochures created and mailed to 1,418 streamside property owners
- 109 riparian landowners (7.2%) enrolled in the program
- 3 Distribution events held – 28 volunteers assisted; 90 participants picked up trees
- 429 3 gallon trees and 4,725 tree and shrub seedlings were distributed to 90 streamside property owners
- Those receiving seedlings own a combined 2.17 miles of stream, and enrolled 4.33 miles (12.7 acres) of 25 foot-wide riparian corridor in the program.
- 35 sites (40% of participants') properties inspected to ensure that trees and plants were planted, and 89% of those inspected were

planted successfully along the streamside.

- Euclid Creek consists of roughly 30 miles of above ground stream, of which ~7 miles is protected parkland with adequate riparian buffer, therefore this program helped restore 9.4% of Euclid Creek’s riparian area watershed wide.

AOC Habitat Restoration Planning & Concepts/Costs Grant - Amount Awarded: \$49,977.11

- Implementing this project in 2015/early 2016: The purpose of this project is to inventory and prioritize potential sites for habitat restoration in the Euclid Creek watershed (2015 deliverables). The top 5-8 priority sites will have conceptual designs and cost estimates developed in order to pursue future funding if implementation funding becomes available.
- Cleveland Metroparks Acacia Reservation Restoration Projects - involved in reviewing design build teams being hired for major restoration project in park
- Day in the Life of Euclid Creek Event held and planning meetings and site visits (3) held to coordinate and make successful – 83 people participated in event
- Euclid Eagle Scout Candidate Rain Garden project - met with and helped assist with rain garden installation at Euclid Municipal Parking lot island - created signage for project
- Rain Garden installed at Mayfield Heights Community Center with Mayfield Middle School students
- Wildwood Park Cleanups – Organized Spring & Fall Cleanup events
- Watershed Presentations to 7 groups
- Rain Barrel workshops – 4 held; Green Cleaning workshops – 2 held
- 698 volunteers contributed a total of 2,199 hours of time to the Euclid Creek Watershed program installing trees and native plants, pulling invasives, water quality monitoring, attending watershed meetings, tabling events, etc. This is a monetary value of \$50,730.93 to the program. ■

EAST FORK LITTLE MIAMI RIVER WATERSHED

www.clermontswcd.org

SPONSORED BY THE EAST FORK LITTLE MIAMI RIVER PARTNERSHIP

MOST RECENT YEAR ON GRANT: 2009

PRIORITIES

- Reduce sediment and nutrient runoff from agricultural and urban areas
- Restore aquatic habitat in the East Fork LMR and tributaries
- Maintain the river's Exceptional Warm Water habitat Designation
- Repair/replace failing septic systems

IMPLEMENTATION

Reporting Partners

Clermont Office of Environmental Quality
East Fork Watershed Collaborative/Coop.
Highland SWCD
Brown SWCD
Clinton SWCD

HIGHLIGHTS

- Working with Ohio Valley RC&D, the Ursulines of Brown County and Brown SWCD, secured \$367,805 in Ohio EPA 319 funding to remove the dam and restore Solomon Run, a tributary to the East Fork Little Miami River.
- Working with the Valley View Foundation and the Village of Batavia, secured \$783,000 in Ohio EPA WRRSP funding to remove a low-head dam on the East Fork Little Miami River in the Village of Batavia.
- Working with the Village of Williamsburg, \$674,000 of WRRSP funding was awarded to remove a low-head dam on the East Fork Little Miami River.
- Shank Park Storm Water Retrofit: Partnering with the Village of Amelia, secured \$95,000 from Ohio EPA SWIF to retrofit an existing detention basin using bio-infiltration.
- Conservation Innovation Grant—Grassy Run: Working closely with the East Fork

Watershed Cooperative to implement/research agricultural BMP effectiveness. Project includes focused planting cover crops in a subwatershed of Grassy Run, a tributary of the upper EFLMR; installation of an innovative BMP – combination detention basin and submerged vegetated bed – in an eroded waterway on a farm within the watershed. Documented Water Quality Improvements: Initial sampling results show significant removal of phosphorus in the detention basin and nitrogen in the vegetated bed.

- Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) Grant: USDA funding secured for 5-years at \$600,000 to implement agricultural BMPs and research effectiveness. Collaborating with Clermont OEQ, NRCS and East Fork Watershed Cooperative to install agricultural BMPs, including cover crops, gypsum application and nutrient management). Project area includes the East Fork Little Miami River watershed, upstream of Harsha Lake where harmful algal blooms (HABs) have been observed. The goal is to reduce nutrient loading and help control harmful algal blooms. The project also includes edge-of-field monitoring at two farms (both with paired control and treatment fields); develop a fertilizer app that will be based on the Tri-State Fertility Guide enabling farmers to enter crop and soil test information and obtain fertilizer recommendations.
- Shayler Creek Bioretention Project: Working with USEPA ORD, Shayler Crossing Hometown Association to install a storm water bioretention system in a suburban subdivision located in the headwaters of Shayler Creek, a tributary of the East Fork Little Miami River. Utilizing funds from the Duke Energy Foundation, project partners will monitor flow reductions and pollutant removal after installation. ■

FIRELANDS COASTAL TRIBUTARIES WATERSHED

www.erieconserves.org

SPONSORED BY ERIE CONSERVATION DISTRICT/OLD WOMAN CREEK NERR

MOST RECENT YEAR ON GRANT: 2009

PRIORITIES

- Sediment and nutrient reduction of agricultural land use

IMPLEMENTATION

Reporting Partners

Old Woman Creek NERR
ODNR Division of Soil and Water Resources
Friends of Old Woman Creek
NRCS, Huron SWCD

HIGHLIGHTS

Old Woman Creek Watershed

- Installation of 900 ft of overwide ditch, 2,520 ft of 2 stage ditch, 250 ft of streambank protection, 4 septic systems replaced, 2 grassed waterways installed, manure storage facility, 200 acres of cover crops, farmer group formed, watershed monitoring and development of annual report cards.

Firelands Coastal Tributaries Watersheds

- 2 pervious parking lots installed, 4 commercial rain gardens installed, 618 rain barrels made, Cover Crop Aggregation Program initiated, watershed monitoring and development of annual report cards, modeling/monitoring water quantity and quantity of stormwater LID practices, living shoreline demonstration project, G.R.E.E.N. Bean Clean up trailer

Additional Highlights

- The watershed program is supported by the ODNR Division of Wildlife on behalf of Old Woman Creek NERR which is funded under the Coastal Zone Management Act
- Increased engagement and activity for floodplain management, stormwater

management through the development of the Clean Water Coalition, and new partnerships for reviewing site design and monitoring construction sites for erosion and sediment control.

- Outreach focus has included general adult programs focusing on watershed monitoring data and stewardship needs (i.e. report cards), farmer group facilitation, biweekly articles in newspaper.

FUNDING LEVERAGED

- \$90,000 annually from ODNR DOW to support the Firelands Coastal Tributaries watershed program
- \$109,000 from Great Lakes Commission for conservation ditch projects
- Other overlapping grants assisted with cover crops, grass waterways, septic system replacements, LID studies and installs through partnerships with Sandusky River Watershed Coalition, Huron SWCD, Chagrin River Watershed Partners. ■

LOWER OLENTANGY RIVER AND ALUM CREEK WATERSHED

SPONSORED BY FRANKLIN SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT www.franklinswcd.org

MOST RECENT YEAR ON GRANT: 2013

PRIORITIES

- Stormwater Mitigation Planning for Targeted Volume Reduction
- Restoring and Protecting Riparian Corridors
- Urban Forestry

IMPLEMENTATION

Reporting Partners

City of Columbus

City of Westerville

Friends of Lower Olentangy Watershed

Friends of Alum Creek and Tributaries

OSU Engineering Capstone students

WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENTS

Developing a tracking mechanism through the Subwatersheds GIS mapping project to aid in tracking implementation and water quality benefits. Working with partners to establish a monitoring program in the future.

HIGHLIGHTS

Urban Watershed Forestry

- Bill Moose Run Conservation Easement – A project aimed at the removal of invasive vegetation and planting of native trees over several years to restore approximately 15 acres of upland forest. To date over 4,000 trees have been planted.
- Glen Echo / ReLeaf Linden - Framework developed for the Friends of the Lower Olentangy Watershed to target tree planting within highly developed urban neighborhoods. This project involved mapping of existing canopy cover and plantable space within the Glen Echo subwatershed of the Olentangy River. Worked with land owners to plant trees to aid in stormwater mitigation for a stream hard hit by urban impacts.
- Branch Out Columbus, 300K by 2020 - Working closely with the City of Columbus and the

Green Team and Ecological Systems working group to target tree planting in low percentage canopy cover areas of the City. The goal is to increase the canopy cover one percent per year over five years, working with land owners and within the road right-of-way to plant 300,000 trees.

- GreenSpot Backyards – In partnership with the City of Columbus and multiple municipalities Franklin Soil and Water Conservation District is offering a rebate for the purchase of native trees to help meet Branch Out Columbus goals, native plants, compost bins, and rain barrels.

Columbus Watersheds / BluePrint Columbus

- Providing accurate storm sewer delineation through a GIS platform using lidar based data coupled with comprehensive drainage, impervious and natural resource datasets. The goal is to use the data provided to target problematic areas and implement a system to keep rain water out of the sanitary with the possible inclusion of green infrastructure practices.
- To date, approximately 1,800 subwatersheds have been delineated within Franklin and surrounding counties, representing a more accurate portrayal of an urban watershed.
- In addition, approximately 2,700+ individual stormwater basin inlets have been delineated in key areas to help the City better model impacts and possible solutions.

Spring Run Stormwater Mitigation Plan

- Working with the City of Westerville in developing a Stormwater Mitigation Plan for Spring Run, a tributary of Alum Creek. Spring Run has been hard hit by suburban development with documented loss of property, erosion and flooding for residents along the creek. The planning effort relied heavily on GIS analysis to help understand the impacts of hydro-modification and aid in prioritizing implementation strategies for stormwater volume reduction goals and methods, policy changes, and outreach and education methods. ■

ROCKY RIVER WATERSHED

www.cuyahogawcd.org

SPONSORED BY CUYAHOGA SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

MOST RECENT YEAR ON GRANT: 2013

PRIORITIES

- Habitat improvement, sediment and nutrient load reduction

IMPLEMENTATION

Reporting Partners

Rocky River Watershed Council

Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District

Cleveland Metroparks

Medina County Parks

Medina SWCD

WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENTS

2014-15 monitoring performed by OEPA, NEORS and Cleveland Metroparks indicates that all 11.8 miles of the Main Stem of the Rocky River are now in complete attainment of its WWH designated aquatic life use (previously had been mostly in partial attainment with sections in complete nonattainment). These same monitoring efforts demonstrate that the removal of 3 low head dams in 2012 have restored the lower 0.9 miles of Baldwin Creek to full attainment of its WWH designated aquatic life use.

HIGHLIGHTS

- 540 acres cover crops installed, leading to load reductions of 1350 tons sediment, 1732 lbs total phosphorus and 3465 lbs nitrogen
- Other cropland practices (grassed waterways, tillage) leading to a load reduction of 111 tons sediment, 142 lbs total phosphorus and 285 lbs nitrogen
- 1200 feet of streambank restoration, leading to load reductions of 77 tons/year sediment, 98 lbs/yr total phosphorus and 198 lbs/yr nitrogen.
- 530 LF restoration of an ephemeral channel in a former horse pasture, restoring a

headcut and adding 2 acres riparian forest to protect sensitive downstream coldwater habitat.

- Restoration of 2200 LF stream channel and 2 acres floodplain along Champion Creek by the City of Medina, resulting in improved instream habitat and floodplain access, and load reductions of 94 tons/yr sediment, 321 lbs/yr total phosphorus and 1561 lbs/yr nitrogen.
- Construction of a stormwater treatment wetland, 2.3 acre forested wetland buffer and 625 LF vegetated swale to protect sensitive downstream habitat at Princess Ledges Nature Preserve by Medina County Parks, resulting in load reductions of 11 tons/yr sediment, 14 lbs/yr total phosphorus and 28 lbs/yr nitrogen.
- Awarded funding through Lake Erie Protection Fund for “Bucks for Buffers,” a pilot program that utilizes a reverse auction delivery mechanism to implement riparian reforestation on urban/suburban residential properties.
- Rocky River Watershed Council conducted its first ever fundraising event, “Clean Water – Craft Beer – Fine Wine,” in 2015.
- Rocky River Watershed Council “Stream Teams” formed in 5 subwatersheds to improve watershed program presence at the local level.
- 10 acres forested riparian buffer established through 7 volunteer tree planting events.
- “Watershed-friendly Stream Maintenance: A Guide for Communities” guidance document completed and distributed.
- Article about Great Lakes Commission-funded “Stopping Sediment at its Source in the Rocky River” published in July-August 2015 issue of Land & Water Magazine.
- Completed Bank Erosion Hazard Index (BEHI) study of Baldwin Creek, quantifying streambank erosion and identifying priorities for streambank restoration. ■

UPPER WABASH WATERSHED

www.mercercountyohio.org/swcd

SPONSORED BY MERCER, AUGLAIZE, AND DARKE COUNTIES

MOST RECENT YEAR ON GRANT: 2015

PRIORITIES

- Septic systems
- Soil Health
- CNMPs
- Storm Drains
- Rain Barrel Workshop

IMPLEMENTATION

Reporting Partners

Soil and Water Conservation Districts
Natural Resources Conservation Service
Ohio Department of Natural Resources
Farm Service Agency

HIGHLIGHTS

- Held Rain Barrel Workshop for the very first time in April with 35 people in attendance.
- Septic System information station at a local Builders' Association Home Show in March with Mercer Health Department. 40 people reached.
- Lawn and Garden Soil Test Program with 133 soil tests.
- Presented at several Garden classes offered by Mercer Extension on soil health, composting, and fertilizers.
- Completed 7 chalk drawings with 12 people to raise awareness for storm drains in Celina.
- 15 people participated in cover crop program for garden beds.

Other Highlights - organizational, funding, outreach, initiatives, etc.:

- Presented "Manure Structures in Grand Lake" to Ohio Cattlemen's Association Annual Roundup.
- Conservation Wild Conservation Camp in

June with 40 participants.

- Presented at Shelby County Conservation Camp with 130 participants.
- Lake Clean Up Day had 55 participants and collected 73 bags of trash in a scavenger hunt!
- Started monitoring the Wabash at TMDL locations. Purchased DO meter and Colorimeter.
- Spoke at WMAO Conference

FUNDING LEVERAGED

- Applied for Western Reserve Land Conservancy and Dominion Gas Watershed Mini Grant, received for \$1500.
- Farm Bureau provided funding for Rain Barrel Program (\$820). ■

UPPER OLENTANGY RIVER WATERSHED

www.delawareohio.net

SPONSORED BY CITY OF DELAWARE

MOST RECENT YEAR ON GRANT: 2014

PRIORITIES

- Reduce nutrient, sediment, and pesticide runoff from agriculture through promotion of filter strips, riparian corridor restoration, cover crops, and other agricultural practices.
- Reduce stream structure instability by promoting stormwater retention and infiltration practices, i.e. rain gardens, rain barrels, and stormwater infrastructure upgrades.
- Restore stream function and habitat through removal of low head dams.

IMPLEMENTATION

Reporting Partners

City of Delaware
Health Departments
Soil and Water Conservation Districts
Natural Resources Conservation Service

WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENTS

Estimated load reductions from constructed wetlands and pervious pavement installation: 3.1 pounds of nitrogen per year, 0.8 pounds of phosphorus per year, 0.31 tons of sediment per year.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Two low-head dams were removed on the south side of the City of Delaware in the Olentangy River. This project was funded by the Ohio EPA's Surface Water Improvement Fund.
- The City of Delaware was awarded a 319 grant through the Ohio EPA to help fund the Blue Limestone Park Wetland Restoration Project. This project removed 39,662 square feet of impervious surface and replaced it with 9,387 square feet of

pervious pavement along the new driveway and in the new parking stalls. Also included in this project was the installation of a bioswale, bioretention areas, conservation areas, and educational signage.

- Hosted 2 rain barrel workshops in Spring/Summer of 2015.
- A total of three floating treatment wetlands were installed in late spring at Preservation Parks' Gallant Farms, Preservation Parks' Deer Haven, and Morrow County's Headwaters Outdoor Education Center. All were planted with approximately 150 buttonbush cuttings.
- The second annual NOW (Northern Olentangy Watershed) Festival was celebrated on June 20, 2015. Approximately the same number of attendees from the previous year also attended this second event despite the rain through the entire time. All of the activities were moved inside to adapt with the elements.
- The City of Delaware has installed an upgraded water treatment facility. With the new facility, the City is setting aside an educational room that can be utilized by the public. This educational room is in need of educational material regarding water quality and other important water related topics. Installation of the educational material will occur in spring 2016.

FUNDING LEVERAGED

- The City of Delaware was awarded \$5,000 from the Ohio EPA's Ohio Environmental Education Fund for their water treatment plant education center.
- The City of Delaware was awarded \$152,900 from the ODNR – Division of Watercraft's Cooperative Boating Facility Grant for three canoe/kayak launch sites. ■

2015 OHIO WATERSHED COORDINATOR GRANT PROGRAM ANNUAL REPORT

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