Almost every day in the national or Ohio media we are reminded of the importance of our water resources – from our very economic future, to our every day lives. More people than ever are conscious of the need to sustainably use and manage their resources – from the money in their wallet to the land and water in their community. Ohio’s watershed programs and specifically, the Ohio Watershed Coordinator Grant Program, fits right in with this thinking and behavior.

In watersheds across Ohio, efforts are focusing money, talent, and awareness to restore and protect our water resources. In turn, these efforts help sustain and improve Ohio’s economic and environmental conditions and quality of life for ourselves and future generations. We at the new Division of Soil and Water Resources at ODNR are proud of what is happening through local watershed projects and programs. We appreciate the opportunity to be one of many State of Ohio and Federal partners that help ensure the success of these local efforts.

While the challenges are many, it is gratifying to see so much success across the state... the partnerships created, the number of watershed action plans developed, and volume of resources leveraged to implement those plans with exciting local projects. I always appreciate seeing the numerous signs on roadways indicating which watershed one is entering. And it is even more gratifying to know that the projects behind those signs are leading to very significant restoration and protection efforts. So, congratulations to our partners! Keep up the good work.

- David Hanselmann
  Chief, Division of Soil and Water Resources
2008 Implementation Report

No single agency or individual can by itself effectively implement a watershed action plan, therefore an important role for watershed coordinators is to track and communicate progress on behalf of all watershed partners. Since 2006 the Ohio Watershed Coordinator Grant Program has transitioned from an emphasis on development of watershed action plans to implementation of those plans. In order to emphasize this transition, watershed coordinators were each asked to complete a comprehensive implementation report for the first time in 2008. In so doing, watershed coordinators requested data from partners such as soil and water conservation districts, local health departments, park districts, land trusts, and many others. The values expressed in this table represent the aggregation of all implementation reported to watershed coordinators in Ohio, August 2008.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Categories</th>
<th>Practices</th>
<th>Totals</th>
<th>Units</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Stream and Wetland Restoration</strong></td>
<td>Restore Streambank By Recontouring or Rerading</td>
<td>3,040</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Plant Grasses in Riparian Areas</td>
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<td>Plant Prairie Grasses in Riparian Areas</td>
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<td>Remove/treat Invasive Species</td>
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<td>Plant Trees or Shrubs in Riparian Areas</td>
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<td>Acquire Riparian Conservation Easements</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Restore Flood Plain</td>
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<td>Restore Stream Channel</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Reconstruct &amp; Restore Wetlands</td>
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<td>Plant Wetland Species</td>
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<td>Acquire Wetland Conservation Easements</td>
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<td>Modify Dam</td>
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<td>Dams</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Restore Natural Flow</td>
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<td><strong>Acid Mine Drainage Abatement</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Install Limestone Leach Beds</td>
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<td>Install Limestone Channels</td>
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<td>Repair Subsidence Sites</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Reclaim Abandoned Mine Land</td>
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<td>Reclaim Pit Impoundments</td>
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<td>Develop Nutrient Management Plans</td>
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<td>Develop Whole Farm Management Plans</td>
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<td>Implement Conservation Tillage Practices</td>
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<td>Implement Prescribed &amp; Conservation Grazing Practices</td>
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<td>Install Alternative Water Supplies</td>
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<td>Install Erosion &amp; Sediment Control Structures</td>
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<td>Install Grassed Waterways</td>
<td>285</td>
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<td>Install Vegetated Buffer Strips</td>
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<td>Install Heavy Use Feeding Pads</td>
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<td>Install Livestock Exclusion Fencing</td>
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<td>Install Chemical Mixing Pads</td>
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<td>Construct Animal Waste Storage Structures</td>
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<td>Implement Manure Management Practices</td>
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<td>Conduct Soil Testing</td>
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<td>Implement Grass/legume Rotations</td>
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<td>Install Grass Manure Spreading Strips</td>
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<td>Implement Manure Transfer Practices</td>
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<td>Install Roof Water Management Practices</td>
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<td>Execute Landowner Cost-Share Contracts</td>
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<td>Cost-share Agreements</td>
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<td>Execute Installer Contract (if paying installer directly)</td>
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<td><strong>Education and Outreach</strong></td>
<td>Develop Brochures/Fact Sheets</td>
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<td>Conduct Watershed Festivals</td>
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<td>Conduct Public Meeting</td>
<td>181</td>
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<td>Develop Press Releases</td>
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<td>Create/Maintain Websites</td>
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<td>Install Signs</td>
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<td>Develop Displays</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Conduct Watershed Tours</td>
<td>94</td>
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<td>Conduct Tours via Canoe</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>Canoe Trips</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Conduct Stream Clean-Ups</td>
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<td>Clean-Ups</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Conduct Field Days</td>
<td>155</td>
<td>Events</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Stencil Storm Drains</td>
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<td>Conduct Workshops</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Conduct Training</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>Events</td>
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<td>Develop Manual(s)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Deliver On-Site Technical Assistance</td>
<td>1,476</td>
<td>Site Visits</td>
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<td>Develop Newsletters</td>
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<td><strong>Local Land Use Policy</strong></td>
<td>Develop or Customize Model Local Conservation Statutes</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>Statutes</td>
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<td>Odoption of Local Conservation Statutes</td>
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<td><strong>Monitoring</strong></td>
<td>Conduct Chemical Sampling</td>
<td>627</td>
<td>Sites</td>
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<td>Conduct Macroinvertebrate (ICI) Sampling</td>
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<td>Sites</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Conduct Fish (IBI) Sampling</td>
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<td>Sites</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Conduct Habitat (QHEI or HHEI) Sampling</td>
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<td>Sites</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Conduct Nitrate Sampling (WATER)</td>
<td>1,782</td>
<td>Sites</td>
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<td><strong>Pollutant Load Reductions</strong></td>
<td>Reduce Phosphorus Loadings</td>
<td>692,208</td>
<td>Lbs/Year</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Reduce Sediment Loadings</td>
<td>68,985</td>
<td>Tons/Year</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Reduce Untreated Home Sewage</td>
<td>101,531</td>
<td>Gal/Day</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Treat Acid Water</td>
<td>312,440</td>
<td>Lbs/Year</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Reduce Nitrogen Loadings</td>
<td>1,160,931</td>
<td>Lbs/Year</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Ohio Watershed Coordinator Grants 2000-2008

**2000 (6-year grants)**
- Bokes and Mill Creeks
- Darby Creek
- Duck and Otter Creeks
- East Fork Little Miami River
- Honey Creek
- Huff Run
- Little Miami River
- Lower Olentangy
- Mill, Yellow & Meander Creeks
- Monday Creek
- Pymatuning
- Raccoon Creek
- Sandusky River
- Stillwater River
- Sugar Creek
- White Oak Creek

**2001 (6-year grants)**
- Duck Creek
- Lower Maumee River
- Sunday Creek
- Upper Tuscarawas River

**2002 (6-year grants)**
- **Alum Creek**
- Euclid Creek
- Grand Lake St Marys
- Leading Creek
- Lower Grand River
- Upper Scioto River
- Wabash River
- West Creek

**2003 - no RFP**

**2004 (6-year grants)**
- **Chagrin River**
- Western Tributaries

**2005 - no RFP**
- Grand Lake St Marys and Wabash*

**2006 (3 or 4 year grants)**
- **Black River (4)**
- **Blacklick and Rocky Fork Creeks (4)**
- Duck and Otter Creeks^ (3)
- **Duck Creek (3)**
- East Fork Little Miami R. (3)
- Federal Creek^^ (3)
- Firelands Coastal Tribs (4)
- Little Miami River^^(^ (3)
- Lower Olentangy (3)
- Monday (3)
- Portage River (4)
- Raccoon Creek (3)
- Rocky River (3)
- Sandusky River (3)
- Stillwater River (3)
- Tinkers Creek (4)
- Upper Big Walnut Creek (4)
- Upper Olentangy (4) - Div. of Wildlife
- Upper Scioto River (3)
- White Oak Creek (3)

**2007 - no RFP**
- Twin Creek**

**2008 (3 or 4 year grants)**
- Blanchard (1-yr grant)
- Captina Creek (4) - Div. of Wildlife
- Euclid Creek (3)
- Grand L. St. Marys/Wabash (3)
- Honey Creek (3)
- Leading Creek (3)
- Middle Cuyahoga (4)
- Stillwater River (3)
- Sunday Creek (3)
- Upper Grand River (4)
- Yellow Creek (4)

**BOLD** text denotes grant in active status
* Grand Lake St Marys and Wabash grants merge
** Western Tribs. grant transferred and scope reduced to Twin Creek
^ Duck and Otter grant discontinued 2008
^^ Federal Creek discontinued 2007
^^(^ Little Miami R. grant discontinued June 30, 2009

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>6 year grants: 30</th>
<th>Conditioned Endorsed WAPs: 7</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3-year grants: 19</td>
<td>WAPs In Review: 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>4-year grants: 10</td>
<td>WAPs Under Construction: 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Received second grant: 18</td>
<td>Groups Exited Program: 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Currently Active: 33</td>
<td>8 groups still active</td>
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<tr>
<td>Groups supported: 42</td>
<td>6 continue Watershed Coordinator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fully Endorsed Watershed</td>
<td>positions</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
The Sandusky River Watershed Coalition has been around for 12 years, and has brought in millions of dollars for various projects and conservation practices. These efforts, which are scattered around this very large watershed, have improved water quality and increased support for the SRWC. All of this could not have been accomplished without the assistance of the watershed coordinator grant program. The program allowed us to have a stable foothold to get us started and proceed with implementation. Our efforts have been worth the cost of the program, and we will continue to move forward.

- Robert Vargo
  Sandusky State Scenic River

**Leveraged Funding**

An important premise of the Ohio Watershed Coordinator Grant program is that investment in people dedicated to their watersheds will generate multiple returns in concentrated technical and financial resources for those watersheds. Twenty-six watershed coordinators voluntarily responded to a request to “compile (and report) all grants and other funding leveraged as a result of watershed coordinator facilitation, assistance, or other involvement in the... watershed since 2001.” In so doing, they were asked to consider the following threshold question, “Would this funding have been obtained or used in a targeted manner without a watershed coordinator.”
## Funding leveraged by watershed coordinators 2001-2008

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Watershed</th>
<th>Sponsor</th>
<th>Funds Leveraged</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>West Creek</td>
<td>West Cr. Preservation Society</td>
<td>$11,831,743</td>
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<tr>
<td>Little Miami R.</td>
<td>Little Miami R. Partnership</td>
<td>$11,189,512</td>
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<td>Monday Creek</td>
<td>Rural Action</td>
<td>$8,426,076</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lower Olentangy</td>
<td>Friends of Lower Olentangy River</td>
<td>$7,561,745</td>
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<tr>
<td>E. Fork Little Miami</td>
<td>Clermont SWCD</td>
<td>$4,370,639</td>
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<tr>
<td>Huff Run</td>
<td>Rural Action</td>
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<td>Sandusky</td>
<td>Sandusky River Watershed Coalition</td>
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<tr>
<td>Euclid Cr.</td>
<td>Cuyahoga SWCD</td>
<td>$2,017,620</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stillwater R.</td>
<td>Darke SWCD</td>
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<td>Raccoon Cr.</td>
<td>Ohio University</td>
<td>$2,765,553</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chagrin</td>
<td>Chagrin River Partners</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday Cr.</td>
<td>Rural Action</td>
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<tr>
<td>White Oak Cr.</td>
<td>Brown SWCD</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bokes/Mill</td>
<td>Union SWCD</td>
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<tr>
<td>Duck Cr.</td>
<td>Washington SWCD</td>
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<tr>
<td>Honey Creek (Great Miami)</td>
<td>Miami SWCD</td>
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<td>Grand Lake St. Marys - Wabash</td>
<td>Mercer SWCD</td>
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<td>Rocky River</td>
<td>Cuyahoga SWCD</td>
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<td>Duck and Otter Cr.</td>
<td>Duck and Otter Creek Partnership</td>
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<td>Leading Cr.</td>
<td>Meigs SWCD</td>
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<td>Alum Creek</td>
<td>Friends of Alum Creek and Tributaries</td>
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<td>Upper Scioto</td>
<td>Delaware SWCD</td>
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<td>Firelands Tributaries</td>
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<td>Twin Cr.</td>
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<td>Darby Creek</td>
<td>Union SWCD</td>
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**Total** $76,386,750

**Average** $2,937,952
### Watershed Coordinator Grant Funding
#### Summary 2001 - 2008

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<th></th>
<th>2001</th>
<th>2002</th>
<th>2003</th>
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<th>2005</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2008</th>
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<td>U.S. EPA / Ohio EPA</td>
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<td>$400,000</td>
<td>$400,000</td>
<td>$400,000</td>
<td>$400,000</td>
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<td>Soil and Water Conservation</td>
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<td>$105,000</td>
<td>$105,000</td>
<td>$105,000</td>
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<td>Division of Wildlife</td>
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<td><strong>Sub-Total</strong></td>
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<td>$800,000</td>
<td>$845,628</td>
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<td>$830,280</td>
<td>$829,200</td>
<td>$858,280</td>
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<td>$713,467</td>
<td>$848,184</td>
<td>$809,594</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
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<td>$993,720</td>
<td>$1,581,005</td>
<td>$1,543,747</td>
<td>$1,677,384</td>
<td>$1,667,874</td>
<td>$1,837,045</td>
</tr>
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Watershed Grant Sponsors by Category

- 45% Soil and Water Conservation Districts
- 31% Non-profit Organizations
- 6% Universities
- 9% Regional Planning Agencies
- 9% Local Government
Recent conservation and restoration projects have resulted in tremendous improvements of the Middle Cuyahoga River water quality. The ODNR watershed grant program has enabled local authorities to expand these types of improvement efforts into the sensitive tributaries, which is absolutely necessary for the continued sustainability of the watershed.

- Bob Brown
  City of Kent, Ohio

### Alum Creek
Watershed Coordinator: Kimberly Williams
Sponsor: Friends of Alum Creek and Tributaries
6-year grant through December 2009
Facilitated removal of 2 lowhead dams, Academy-Wolfe Park and Nelson Park
  - Coordinated volunteer tree planting and invasive plant removal in Wolfe and Nelson Parks
  - Initiating program to install “rain gardens” to reduce and filter stormwater

### Big Walnut Creek (Upper)
Watershed Coordinator: Vacant
Sponsor: Delaware Soil and Water Conservation District
4-year grant through December 2010
  - Developed and submitted draft Watershed Action Plan for review

### Black River
Watershed Coordinator: Dan Gouch
Sponsor: Lorain County Commissioners
4-year grant through December 2010
  - Watershed Action Plan under construction
  - Coordinated French Creek Volunteer Monitoring Initiative
  - Developed French Creek Aquatic Habitat Project Study Plan
  - Advised local officials regarding post-construction erosion control regulations for Lorain County; and municipal riparian and wetland zoning

### Blacklick and Rocky Fork Creeks
Watershed Coordinator: David Rutter
Sponsor: Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC)
4-year grant through December 2010
- Completed Draft Rocky Fork Creek WAP and submitted for review
- Coordination development of Blacklick Creek WAP
- Evaluated Dysart Run for stream restoration project
- Developed lowhead dam inventory of Blacklick Rocky Fork Creeks watersheds

Blanchard River
Watershed Coordinator: Phil Martin; Sponsor: Blanchard River Watershed Partnership (BRWP)
1-year grant through December 2009
- Developing a watershed action plan for the Outlet/Lye Creek Watershed and the five sub-watersheds
- Launched new Web site and produced first newsletter

Captina Creek
Watershed Coordinator: Eric Gibson
Sponsor: Belmont Soil and Water Conservation District
4-year grant through March 2013
- Developing a watershed action for Captina Creek
- Launched new web site
- Engaged local coal mining interests in planning process
- Conducted water quality monitoring in partnership with Ohio EPA

Chagrin River
Watershed Coordinator: Amy Holtshouse Brennan
Sponsor: Chagrin River Watershed Partners, Inc
6-year grant through December 2010
- Facilitated model regulation adoption
  - 1 community for conservation subdivision
  - 3 communities for riparian and wetland setbacks
  - 3 communities for erosion and sediment contro
  - 4 communities for comprehensive stormwater management
  - 4 communities for illicit discharge and illegal connections
- Coordinated completion of design development permit process for one dam removal and 700 feet of stream/floodplain restoration
- Launched implementation of three Clean Water Act 319 grant projects awarded to local communities
- Coordinated restoration of Sunny Lake, City of Aurora
- Implemented 2 Low Impact Development demonstration projects
- Developed Balanced Growth Plan
- Updated model ordinances

Duck and Otter Creeks
Watershed Coordinator Becky Simpson
Sponsor: Duck and Otter Creeks Partnership, Inc
3-year grant through December 2009 – Discontinued September 2008
- Participated in Ownes Community College Environmental Fair
- Participated in Oregon Fest
- Coordinated contaminated sediment removal risk management project
Duck Creek
Watershed Coordinator: Jacki Zevenbergen  
Sponsor: Washington Soil and Water Conservation District  
3-year grant through December 2009  
- Contacted farmers to recruit participation in available conservation programs  
- Coordinated discussions with Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District for project funding opportunities  
- Initiated Ales Run restoration project in partnership with ODNR, Division of Mineral Resources Management

East Fork Little Miami River
Watershed Coordinator: Becky McClatchy  
Sponsor: Clermont Soil and Water Conservation District  
3-year grant through 2009  
- Coordinated 300 feet of streambank/riparian habitat restoration in partnership with Clermont County Engineers  
- Facilitated repair or replacement of 10 home sewage treatment systems in partnership with Highland and Brown County Health Departments  
- Administered 8 mini-grants for installation of rain gardens  
- Facilitated preservation of 100 acres of land protection with conservation easements  
- Avey’s Run Stream Restoration Project received American Council of Engineering Companies State of Ohio Honor Award

Euclid Creek
Watershed Coordinator: Claire Posius  
Sponsor: Cuyahoga SWCD  
3-year grant through December 2011  
- Completed design report for Euclid Creek East Branch Dam Removal project  
- Facilitated adoption of riparian and wetland setback ordinances in 3 communities  
- Submitted Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program proposal to NRCS for East Fork dam removal  
- Facilitated process to receive Water Resource Restoration Sponsor Program funding for East Branch Dam removal project  
- Facilitated South Euclid Rain Barrel Allowance legislation – allows disconnection of downspouts  
- Developed The Great Lakes Watershed Restoration Program Grant application with Rocky River to enable stormwater retrofit to all communities  
- Facilitated one of the first green infrastructure detention basin retrofit projects in Cuyahoga County. The project includes wetland restoration, detention basin retrofit project, and planting 13,000 native plants  
- Obtained Funding for Dusty Goldenrod Conservation Easement Project to protect 12.5 acres  
- Conducted the Euclid Creek Environmental Awareness Survey

Firelands Coastal Tributaries
Watershed Coordinator: Breann Hohman  
Sponsor: Friends of Old Woman Creek Association, Inc  
Employer: Erie Soil and Water Conservation District  
4-year grant through December 2010  
- Submitted draft Old Woman Creek watershed action plan for preliminary review  
- Updated Erie County stormwater and floodplain regulations  
- Established 2 rain garden demonstration sites and conducted 6 workshops  
- Developed plans for Brod Ditch and Old Woman Creek restoration projects  
- Coordinated hardwood restoration project at Old Woman Creek Reserve  
- Coordinated water quality monitoring training sessions for volunteers
• Organized Pipe Creek litter clean-up event
• OWC International Coastal Clean up
• Hosted Friends of Old Woman Creek “open house”
• Biocycle Magazine and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Website featured articles on the Old Woman Creek rain garden program

**Grand Lake St. Marys and Wabash River**

Watershed Coordinator: Laura Walker  
Sponsor: Mercer Soil and Water Conservation District  
3-Year grant through December 2011
- The Grand Lake St. Marys and Wabash River Watershed Action Plan received full endorsement
- Recruited and documented participation in conservation practices identified in the Grand Lake St. Marys / Wabash River Watershed Action Plan
- Facilitating implementation of a special Environmental Quality Incentive Program for the Grand Lake St. Marys watershed
- Facilitated communication between lake resident and agricultural stakeholders

**Grand River (Lower)**

Watershed Coordinator: Vicky Domonkos  
Sponsor: Grand River Partners, Inc.  
6-year grant through December 2008
- Coordinated local involvement in Vrooman Road bridge replacement project
- Facilitated purchase of 287 acres of high quality wetlands and riparian forest for protection
- Facilitated protection of 7 acres with conservation easement
- Coordinated restoration of 25 acres “Ashcroft Woods” located adjacent to Grant River

**Honey Creek**

Watershed Coordinator: Leigh Ann Gerardi  
Sponsor: Miami Soil and Water Conservation District  
3-year grant through December 2011
- Implementing the Honey Creek Watershed Action Plan

“The watersheds that have coordinators supported by this program are substantially ahead of other watersheds who rely solely on volunteers, governments or contractors, especially in terms of implementing watershed plans and carrying out restoration.

- Jane Goodman  
  Communications Director,  
  Cuyahoga River Community Planning
Huff Run
Watershed Coordinator: Maureen Wise
Sponsor: Rural Action
3-year grant through December 2011
• Implementing the Huff Run Watershed Action Plan

Leading Creek
Watershed Coordinator: Raina Fulks
Sponsor: Meigs Soil and Water Conservation District
3-year grant through 2011
• Completed feasibility study and preliminary design for the Thomas Fork Doser Project to reduce acid runoff from abandoned mines
• Drafted contracts and funding agreements to initiate reclamation at three other top acid mine drainage sites, including Casto’s Seep, Hysell Run, and Bailey Run
• Submitted proposal and awarded a 2008 Natural Resource-Based Public Awareness Project grant from U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to support stream clean-ups, youth education, wetlands tours, and publication of the Leading Creek newsletter

Little Miami River
Watershed Coordinator, Dennis TenWolde
Sponsor: Little Miami River Partnership
3-year grant through December 2009 - Discontinued June 2009
• Assisted with development of application for Little Miami River Conservation Reserve Enhancement Project

Middle Cuyahoga
Watershed Coordinator: Maia Peck
Sponsor: Northeast Ohio Four County Regional Planning and Development
4-year grant through 2012
• Developing Middle Cuyahoga River Watershed Action Plan

Monday Creek
Watershed Coordinator: Mike Steinmaus
Sponsor: Rural Action
3-year grant through December 2009
• Developed plans and specifications for Shawnee Steel slag leach bed reclamation project
• Obtained agency commitments and developed plans for 10 subsidence closures to reduce acid runoff to streams
• Facilitated $20 million appropriation to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for watershed restoration
Olentangy River (Lower)
Watershed Coordinator: Heather Dean
Sponsor: Friends of the Lower Olentangy
3-year grant through December 2009
• Coordinated volunteer workdays for Como Park reforestation
• Gathered data for development of Rush Run restoration project
• Coordinated with local partners to explore needs for Clean Water Act Section 319 grant funding
• Facilitated planning efforts in partnership with Division of Watercraft for the Columbus Water Trail
• Hosted 6 decision maker forums on the following issues:
  • Land use policy
  • Zoning and development code analysis
  • Green infrastructure meeting
• Hosted 5 rain barrel workshops

Olentangy River (Upper)
Watershed Coordinator: Brian McCombs
Sponsor: City of Delaware
3-year grant through December 2009
• Informed and educated the public regarding Central Avenue low-head dam removal
• Promoted controlled agricultural drainage demonstration project
• Recruitment and documentation of participation in conservation practices identified in the Upper Olentangy Watershed Action Plan

Portage River
Watershed Coordinator: Elaine Moebius
Sponsor: Toledo Metropolitan Area Council of Governments (TMACOG)
4-year grant through December 2010
• Developing Portage River Watershed Action Plan
• Implementing Clean Water Act Section 319 grant to replace failing home sewage treatment systems – 75 replaced
• Assisted Ohio EPA with total maximum daily loads public participation process
• Coordinated communication of local viewpoints regarding flooding to state and federal agencies
• Maintained communications with Wood County Engineer on ditch petition to clean out 32 miles of South and East Branch Portage River

Raccoon Creek
Watershed Coordinator: Ben McCament
Sponsor: Voinovich School, Ohio University
3-year grant through December 2009
• Raccoon Creek Headwaters Watershed Action Plan received full state endorsement
• Reduced acid load reductions in Raccoon Creek at all acid mine drainage implementation projects is 4,706 lbs/day, and metal loads (Fe, Al, and Mn) have been reduced by 849 lbs/day
• Assessment of the East Branch acid mine drainage treatment project consisting of 7 steel slag leach beds shows improvement of pH from 4 to 6
• 23.3 stream miles with the watershed have recovered to meet water quality standards for warm water since 1995
Educating citizens about watersheds is crucial. Considering the major role that water plays in the lives of every Ohioan, continuing to support watershed partnerships and their coordinators should be a priority for the state.

- Karen Chapman
Concerned Citizen

**Rocky River**
Watershed Coordinator: Jared Bartley
Sponsor: Cuyahoga SWCD
3-year grant through December 2009
- Coordinated removal of Baldwin Dam
- Developed restoration framework documents for Baldwin Creek, Abram Creek, Healy Creek and Upper East Branch
- Coordinated 2 volunteer riparian plantings
- Developed and submitted grant proposal for stormwater retrofits in Baldwin and Abram Creek sub-watersheds
- Planned demonstration rain garden installation at Broadview Heights City Hall

**Sandusky River**
Watershed Coordinator: Cindy Brookes
Sponsor: WSOS Community Action Commission, Inc
3-year grant through December 2009
- Coordinated training of Certified Crop Advisors on soil testing protocols to reduce phosphorus runoff
- Coordinated stratified soil testing project to reduce phosphorus runoff
- Provided leadership in Cooperative State Research, Education and Extension Service (CSREES) survey to assess social and behavior change in Rock Creek sub-watershed
- Conducted 3 tours of the Sandusky River to increase awareness of local decision makers and stakeholders

**Scioto River (Upper)**
**Stillwater River**
Watershed Coordinator: Greg McGlinch
Sponsor: Darke/Miami Joint Board of Supervisors
3-year grant through December 2009
- Hosted a Manure Management Field Day for 80 farmers
- Submitted Letter of Intent sent into the Army Corp of Engineers for the feasibility and deconstruction of the West Milton dam
- Received funding to reconstruct 2 waterways, install 1 rain garden, and conduct 150 lawn soil samples in the Stillwater Watershed
- Signed up two producers and assisted others with information about the Great Miami Water Quality Trading Program
- Assisted 4 producers with participation in the Water Pollution Control Loan Fund Program
- Continued the promotion of the Annie Oakley Corridor Project and assisted in signing up an additional 6 acres
- Coordinated a volunteer clean-up event, which removed 5440 lbs of litter and debris from the Stillwater River
- Recruited and documented of participation in conservation practices identified in the Stillwater Watershed Action Plan
**Sunday Creek**  
Watershed Coordinator: Kaabe Shaw  
Sponsor: Rural Action  
3-year grant through December 2011  
- Pursued funding to implement several acid mine drainage reduction projects  
- Coordinated agreements to establish Trimble Land Lab to promote youth education  
- Sunday Creek Stewardship book printed and distributed to local watershed residents

**Tinkers Creek**  
Watershed Coordinator: Mike McNutt  
Sponsor: Cuyahoga County Board of Health  
4-year grant through December 2010  
- Submitted Draft Tinkers Creek Watershed Action Plan for preliminary review  
- Developed and submitted Clean Water Act Section 319 for restoration of 4,000 feet of Hudson High School Creek  
- Hosted statewide stormwater conference for over 500 participants  
- Hosted “Breakfast for the Mayors” for 19 participating local mayors  
- Coordinated stream litter removal event

**Twin Creek**  
Watershed Coordinator: Monica Rakovan  
Sponsor: Miami University Institute of Environmental Sciences  
3-year grant through June 2010  
- Coordinated restoration of 2 wetlands with buffers, totaling 10 acres  
- Initiated volunteer monitoring program  
- Explored use of native grasses as alternative to growing switch grass in order to reduce runoff of sediment and nutrients  
- Development of source water protection plan and nitrate study

**Upper Grand River**  
Watershed Coordinator: George Warnock  
Sponsor: Grand River Partners, Inc  
4-year grant through December 2012  
- Developing Upper Grand River Watershed Action Plan

**West Creek**  
Watershed Coordinator: Colby Sattler  
Sponsor: West Creek Preservation Committee
Watershed Coordinator Grant Annual Report
2008 Individual Grant Major Accomplishments:

6-year grant through December 2008
• Submitted and received full endorsement of the West Creek Watershed Action Plan
• Initiated West Creek Confluence Floodplain Restoration Project with removal of 200,000 square foot building and parking lot and re-vegetation of the site
• Coordinated purchase of 55 acres of land for preservation to protect 7,000 feet of West Creek

White Oak Creek
Watershed Coordinator: Melody Dragoo
Sponsor: Brown SWCD
3-year grant through December 2009
• Recruitment and documentation of participation in conservation practices identified in the White Oak Watershed Action Plan

Yellow Creek
Watershed Coordinator: Maggie Corder
Sponsor: Jefferson Soil and Water Conservation District
4-year grant through December 2012
• Developing Yellow Creek Watershed Action Plan
The Ohio Watershed Coordinator Grant Program works because an army of dedicated people, agencies and organizations makes it work. Collectively, we accepted and support the premise that providing relatively modest grants to fund watershed professionals is an effective way to align and focus resources for our watersheds. Less than a decade out, watershed coordinators have proved this premise by multiplying the program at least ten-fold with grants and other funding leveraged for their watersheds. They achieved this by developing intimate understandings of their watersheds and the people and institutions working within them. So, let’s reserve the greatest recognition for the watershed coordinators themselves. They are the catalysts, facilitators, gatherers, interpreters, communicators, and day-to-day work-horses of watershed management in Ohio. Their collective enthusiasm and passion for the resources and communities they serve is truly inspiring, and it is a privilege working beside them.

-Greg Nageotte  
Watershed Program Manager  
ODNR Division of Soil and Water Resources

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This product or publication was financed in part or in whole through a grant from the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency and the United States Environmental Protection Agency, under the provisions of section 319(h) of the Clean Water Act. The contents and views, including any opinions, findings, or conclusions or recommendation, contained in this publication are those of the authors and have not been subject to any U.S. EPA or Ohio EPA peer or administrative review and may not necessarily reflect the views of either agency. No official endorsement should be inferred.