



Blacklick Creek Watershed

**Ohio Department of Natural Resources  
Division of Soil and Water Resources  
Ohio Watershed Coordinator Grant Program  
2009-10 Annual Report**

# Introduction

The Ohio Watershed Coordinator Grant Program began a decade ago as a result of the collaboration of several partners including the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, Ohio State University Extension, Ohio Federation of Soil and Water Conservation Districts, Ohio Environmental Council, and others. Their goal was to advance watershed management in Ohio by fostering a new type of natural resources professional whose job it is to focus and magnify the energies and resources of many to solve difficult water resource issues on a watershed basis.

The grant program provides three or four year grants of \$35,000 per year or less. Twenty-percent match is typically required. Four-year grants are available to coordinate development of a local watershed action plan that meets Ohio endorsement criteria. Once a watershed action plan is endorsed, a 3-year grant may be awarded to coordinate the implementation of the plan.

Sixty-seven grants have been awarded during the first decade of this program. In that time, over 50 watershed action plans have received state endorsement, and over \$80,000,000 has been leveraged by watershed coordinators to implement watershed action plans... an 800% return on the state and federal investment in the program.

Watershed coordinators ensure all the people, organizations, and agencies that need to talk to each other are invited to watershed discussions. They work with these stakeholders to collect the important scientific data, analyze the information and communicate the status of their watershed to all those involved. They help the community make decisions about the best ways of improving and protecting local water resources. Finally, watershed coordinators do whatever is necessary to promote implementation of the watershed action plan. This may entail writing grant applications, reaching out to decision-makers, educating key constituencies, or even knocking on doors to talk to individual watershed residents.

Watershed coordinators have worked with thousands of stakeholders across Ohio to implement projects on every kind of landscape. They help farmers install filter-strips, change tillage practices, apply fertilizer more efficiently, and adopt a myriad of other "best management practices" to prevent polluted runoff. Watershed coordinators help communities in urban watersheds restore and protect wetlands and floodplains, which naturally prevent flooding, protect stream habitat, and filter pollutants from the water. Whether the job is to remove an abandoned dam impeding the natural flow of water, help fish return to streams written off as forever dead from coal mine drainage, or transform a city stream from an eyesore into an attractive and valuable asset, watershed coordinators are forging relationships and finding creative ways to get the job done.

This report represents our attempt to quantify some of the most measurable benefits and outcomes of supporting watershed coordinators in Ohio. Of course, this is still a small portion of what they have been able to collectively achieve. Because of their work, Ohio is regarded as a national leader in this field, and countless connections and opportunities have been created that would not have otherwise occurred to benefit Ohio waters and communities. Most importantly, the idea of comprehensive watershed management has taken root in Ohio... we can work together to ensure clean, healthy water.

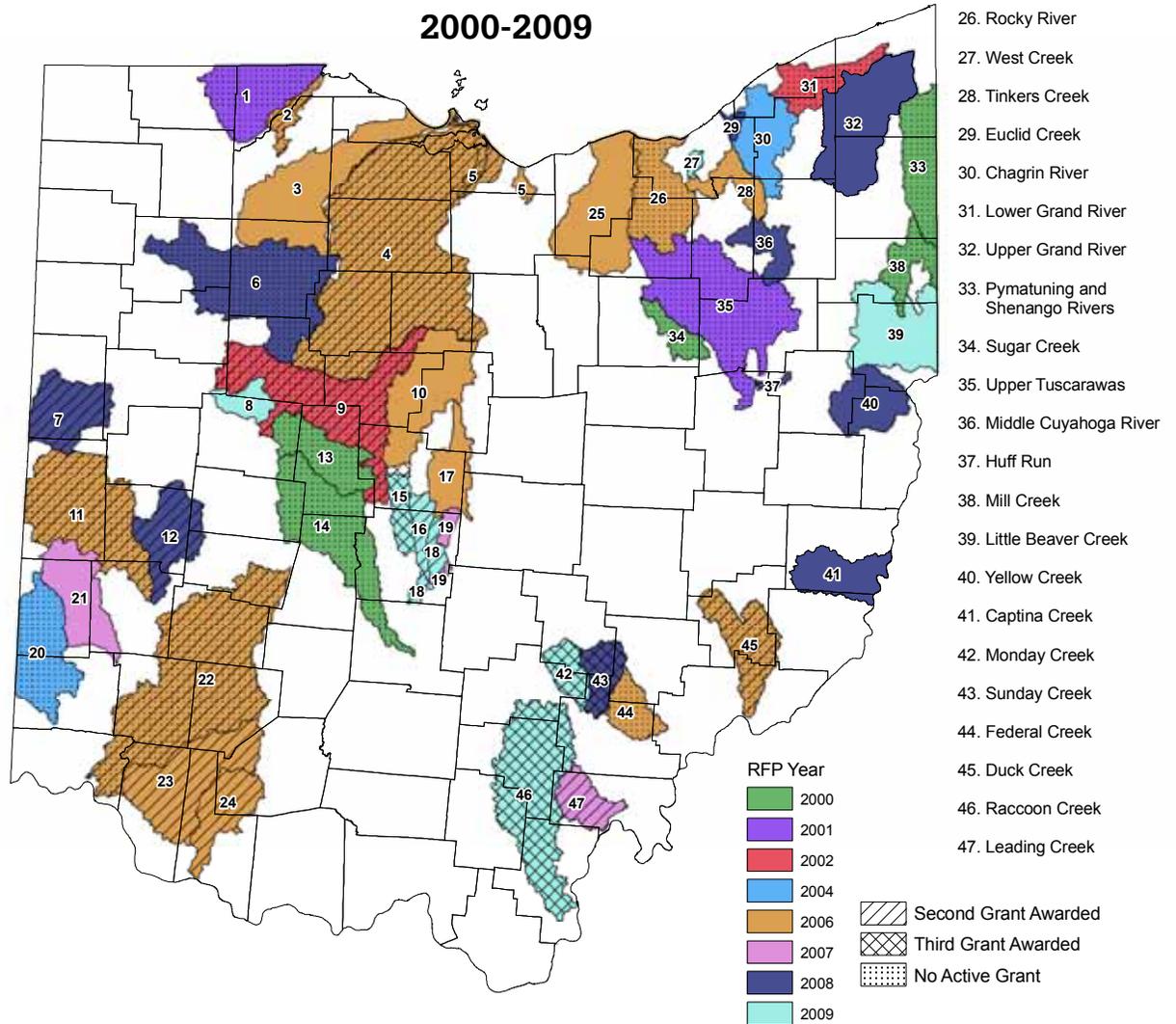
To learn more about the Ohio Watershed Coordinator Grant Program or contact a local watershed coordinator, please visit the following Web site: <http://www.dnr.state.oh.us/soilandwater/water/watershedprograms/default/tabid/9192/Default.aspx>  
You may also contact Greg Nageotte, Watershed Program Manager, at 614-265-6619, or by email at [greg.nageotte@dnr.state.oh.us](mailto:greg.nageotte@dnr.state.oh.us).

# 2009 Watershed Grant Implementation Report

Objectives	Practices	Units	Total
Streambank & Riparian Restoration	Restore Streambank Using Bio-Engineering	Linear Feet	175
	Restore Streambank By Recontouring or Regrading	Linear Feet	2,618
	Plant Grasses in Riparian Areas	Acres	23
	Plant Prairie Grasses in Riparian Areas	Acres	103
	Remove/Treat Invasive Species	Acres	872
	Plant Trees or Shrubs in Riparian Areas	Trees	8,193
	Plant Trees or Shrubs in Riparian Areas	Acres	59
Stream Restoration	Restore Flood Plain	Linear Feet	1,100
	Restore Stream Channel	Linear Feet	2,022
	Install In-Stream Habitat Structures	Structures	14
	Install Grade Structures	Structures	3
	Restore Natural Flow	Linear Feet	524
Reconstruct & Restore Wetlands	Reconstruct & Restore Wetlands	Acres	323
	Plant Wetland Species	Acres	17
Dam Modification or Removal	Remove Dams	Dams	2
	Modify Dams	Dams	1
	Restore Natural Flow	Linear Feet	10,560
Install Slag Leach Beds	Install Slag Leach Beds	Beds	2
	Install Limestone Channels	Linear Feet	2,741
	Reclaim Abandoned Mine Land	Acres	23
	Restore Positive Drainage	Acres	23
	Cover Toxic Mine Spoils	Acres	13
Conservation Easements	Acquire Riparian Conservation Easements	Acres	851
	Acquire Wetland Conservation Easements	Acres	124
Home Sewage Treatment Systems	Inspect HSTS	Inspections	4,909
	Repair or Replace Traditional HSTS	HSTS	449
	Repair or Replace Alternative HSTS	HSTS	28
Agricultural Best Management Practices	Plant Cover/Manure Crops	Acres	2,067
	Install Nitrogen Reduction Practices	Acres	468
	Install Control Drainage System	Acres	1,266
	Develop Nutrient Management Plans	Acres	4,226
	Develop Whole Farm Management Plans	Acres	9,175
	Implement Conservation Tillage Practices	Acres	85,327
	Implement Prescribed & Conservation Grazing Practices	Acres	1,540
	Install Alternative Water Supplies	Supplies	37
	Install Erosion & Sediment Control Structures	Structures	56
	Install Grassed Waterways	Acres	121
	Install Vegetated Buffer Strips	Linear Feet	989,082
	Install Livestock Crossings	Crossings	5
	Install Heavy Use Feeding Pads	Pads	17
	Install Livestock Exclusion Fencing	Linear Feet	33,659
	Install Chemical Mixing Pads	Pads	3
	Construct Animal Waste Storage Structures	Structures	20
	Implement Manure Management Practices	Acres	4,580
	Conduct Soil Testing	Tests	732
	Implement Grass/Legume Rotations	Acres	200
	Install Roof Water Management Practices	Practices	11
Execute Landowner Cost-Share Contracts	Cost-share Agreements	41	
Execute Installer Contract (if paying installer directly)	Contracts	12	
Education & Outreach	Develop Brochures/Fact Sheets	Brochures/Fact Sheets	44
	Conduct Watershed Festivals	Festivals	14
	Conduct Public Meetings	Public Meetings	146
	Develop Press Releases	Press Releases	157
	Create/Maintain Websites	Website	55
	Install Signs	Signs	23
	Develop Displays	Displays	67
	Conduct Tours	Tours	166
	Conduct Tours via Canoe	Canoe Trips	20
	Conduct Stream Clean-Ups	Clean-Ups	113
	Conduct Field Days - land owner / manager	Days	20
	Stencil Storm Drains	Drains	1,069
	Conduct Workshops	Workshops	273
	Conduct Training	Training Sessions	197
	Develop Manual(s)	Manuals	3
	Provide Technical Assistance to Group(s)	Groups	157
	Deliver On-Site Technical Assistance	Site Visits	439
	Develop Newsletters	Newsletters	106
Adoption of Local Conservation Statutes	Jurisdictions	5	
Monitoring	Conduct Chemical Sampling	Sites	3,279
	Conduct Macroinvertebrate (ICI) Sampling	Sites	131
	Conduct Fish (IBI) Sampling	Sites	45
	Conduct Habitat (QHEI or HHEI) Sampling	Sites	81
	Conduct Nitrate Sampling (SOIL)	Samples	3
	Conduct Nitrate Sampling (WATER)	Sites	825
	Prepare and Submit Final Monitoring Report and Data	Report	8

1. Lower Maumee River
2. Duck and Otter Creeks
3. Portage River
4. Sandusky River
5. Firelands Coastal/ Tributaries
6. Blanchard River
7. Wabash River/ Grand Lake St. Marys
8. Indian Lake
9. Upper Scioto River
10. Upper Olentangy River
11. Stillwater River
12. Honey Creek
13. Bokes and Mill Creeks
14. Darby Creek
15. Lower Olentangy
16. Lower Alum Creek
17. Upper Big Walnut Creek
18. Lower Big Walnut Creek
19. Rocky Fork and Blacklick Creeks
20. Western Tributaries
21. Twin Creek
22. Little Miami River
23. East Fork of Little Miami River
24. White Oak Creek

## Ohio Watershed Coordinator Grants 2000-2009



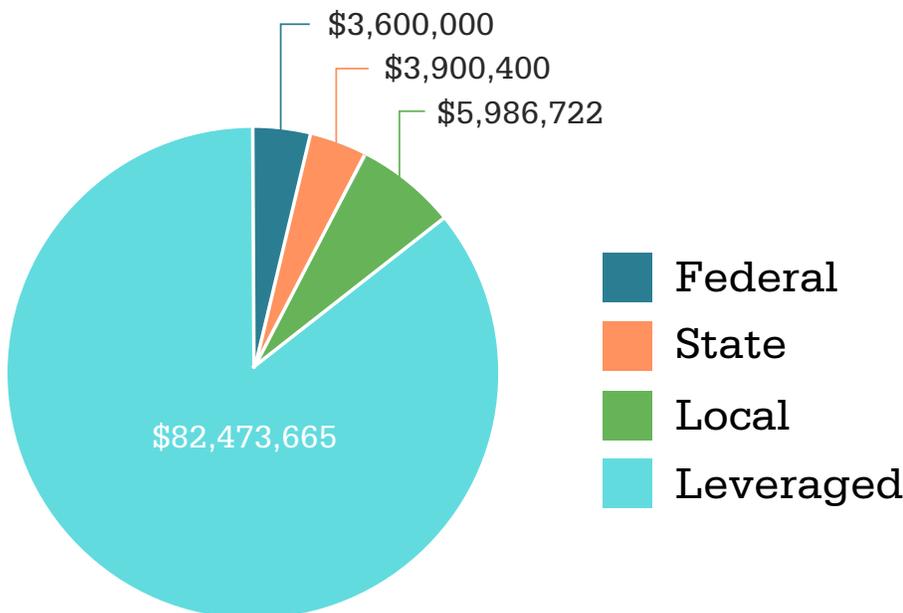
25. Black River
26. Rocky River
27. West Creek
28. Tinkers Creek
29. Euclid Creek
30. Chagrin River
31. Lower Grand River
32. Upper Grand River
33. Pymatuning and Shenango Rivers
34. Sugar Creek
35. Upper Tuscarawas
36. Middle Cuyahoga River
37. Huff Run
38. Mill Creek
39. Little Beaver Creek
40. Yellow Creek
41. Captina Creek
42. Monday Creek
43. Sunday Creek
44. Federal Creek
45. Duck Creek
46. Raccoon Creek
47. Leading Creek

**“The Little Beaver Creek Land Foundation has been instrumental in allowing us to complete our vision of the reforestation of Hellbender Bluff. The LBCLF has the capacity to do this work because of the Ohio Watershed Coordinator Grant program.”** -Michael West, Columbiana County Park District Vice-Chair



# Funding leveraged by watershed coordinators 2001-2009

Watershed	2009	Cumulative 2001-2009
Alum Creek	\$9,840	\$395,740
Bokes/Mill	\$0	\$2,248,246
Chagrin	\$762,157	\$3,425,363
Darby Creek	\$0	\$5,592
Duck and Otter Cr.	\$0	\$416,705
Duck Creek	\$0	\$1,841,704
East Fork LMR	\$62,900	\$4,314,303
Euclid Creek	\$23,838	\$2,041,458
Firelands Tributaries	\$0	\$54,408
Grand Lake	\$219,550	\$1,920,034
Honey Creek	\$23,943	\$2,009,971
Huff Run	\$148,000	\$4,145,696
Leading Creek	\$122,528	\$490,833
Little Miami	\$215,000	\$11,404,512
Lower Olentangy	\$1,328,500	\$8,890,245
Middle Cuyahoga	\$62,556	\$62,556
Monday Creek	\$1,285	\$8,427,361
Raccoon Creek	\$100,000	\$2,865,553
Rocky River	\$74,231	\$3,046,586
Sandusky	\$21,450	\$3,610,497
Stillwater	\$249,089	\$2,977,834
Sunday Creek	\$8,979	\$2,435,083
Twin Creek	\$0	\$41,838
Upper Olentangy	\$0	\$150,000
Upper Scioto	\$250,000	\$462,820
West Creek	\$0	\$11,831,743
White Oak Creek	\$498,745	\$2,921,758
Yellow Creek	\$35,226	\$35,226
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$82,473,665</b>



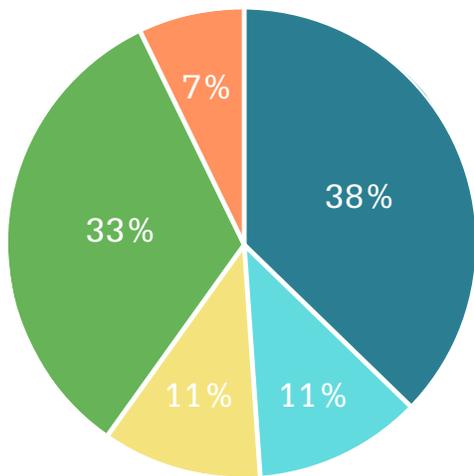
## Leveraged Funding

An important premise of the Ohio Watershed Coordinator Grant program is that investment in professionals “whose job it is to focus and magnify the energies and resources of many to solve difficult water resource issues on a watershed basis” will generate multiple returns in concentrated technical and financial resources for their local watersheds. The Division of Soil and Water Resources has surveyed watershed coordinators annually to document all grants and other funding leveraged as a result of watershed coordinator facilitation, assistance, or other involvement. In so doing, watershed coordinators were asked the following threshold question, “would the funding have been obtained or used in a targeted manner without a watershed coordinator?”

# Watershed Coordinator Grant Funding Summary 2001-2009

U.S. EPA / Ohio EPA	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	TOTAL
<b>Soil and Water Resources</b>	\$400,000	\$400,000	\$400,000	\$400,000	\$400,000	\$400,000	\$400,000	\$400,000	\$400,000	\$3,600,000
<b>Mineral Resources Mangement</b>	\$233,772	\$300,000	\$260,628	\$278,350	\$258,500	\$265,000	\$265,000	\$275,000	\$211,938	
<b>Office of Coastal Management</b>	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$105,000	\$105,000	\$105,000	\$105,000	\$105,000	\$118,000	\$118,000	
<b>Division of Wildlife</b>			\$80,000	\$74,200	\$66,780	\$59,200	\$53,280	\$82,752	\$35,000	
							\$35,000	\$35,000	\$70,000	
<b>State Subtotal</b>	\$333,772	\$400,000	\$445,628	\$457,550	\$430,280	\$429,200	\$458,280	\$510,752	\$434,938	\$3,900,400
<b>Local (Cash and In-kind Match)</b>	\$61,169	\$285,943	\$148,092	\$723,455	\$713,468	\$848,184	\$809,594	\$926,293	\$1,470,524	\$5,986,722
<b>TOTAL</b>	\$394,941	\$685,943	\$593,720	\$1,181,005	\$1,143,748	\$1,277,384	\$1,267,874	\$1,437,045	\$1,905,462	\$9,887,122

## Watershed Grant Sponsors by Category



- SWCD (38%)
- Local Government (11%)
- Regional Planning Agency (11%)
- Nonprofit (33%)
- University (7%)





# Watershed Coordinator Grant Annual Report 2009 Individual Grant Major Accomplishments:

**“Derek Schafer, the Conservation Project Manager and Watershed Coordinator with West Creek Preservation Committee (WCPC), is a valuable asset to the community and watershed. While effectively engaging elected officials and residents alike, WCPC has restored over two miles of stream, created the 16th Cleveland Metroparks Reservation, and transitioned a once lost valley into a priceless greenway gem. The Coordinator support provided to Mr. Schafer and WCPC is undoubtedly a wise investment for our region, and on behalf of the City of Parma, I’d like to extend my deep appreciation for their efforts and the program’s support.”** -Mayor Dean DePiero, City of Parma

## Big Walnut Creek (Upper)

Watershed Coordinator: Ed Miller

Sponsor: Delaware Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD)

4 year planning grant through September 2011

- New Watershed Coordinator hired
- Watershed Action Plan (WAP) under construction
- Website Updated



## Black River

Watershed Coordinator: Christina Znidarsic

Sponsor: Lorain County

4 year planning grant through December 2010

- New Watershed Coordinator hired
- WAP under construction
- Website updated

## Blacklick and Rocky Fork Creeks

Watershed Coordinator: Kurt Keljo

Sponsor: Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission

4 year planning grant through December 2010

- Rocky Fork WAP endorsed
- Blacklick Creek WAP endorsed
- Dr. Ward’s class from OSU completed morphology study of Dysart Run
- Project proposals for Dysart Run sub-watershed developed

## Blanchard River

Watershed Coordinator: Phil Martin

Sponsor: Blanchard River Watershed Partnership (BRWP)

1 year planning grant through December 2009

- Newsletters completed
- Draft WAP submitted for endorsement
- Memorandum of Understanding completed with city of Findlay for information sharing
- Volunteer Water Quality Monitoring Group established
- Western Lake Erie Basin capacity building grant awarded
- Freshwater Future grant awarded for website
- Hancock Community Foundation grant awarded
- Environmental Defense Fund Grant awarded for monitoring equipment

## Captina Creek

Watershed Coordinator: Bryan Smith

Sponsor: Belmont SWCD

4 year planning grant through December 2013

- Developed monitoring program with Olney Friends School
- Developed and maintained watershed website
- WAP water resource quality draft sections 1-5 of Appendix 8
- Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) study conducted

## Chagrin River

Watershed Coordinator: Amy Holtshouse Brennan

Sponsor: Chagrin River Watershed Partners, Inc

6 year planning grant through December 2010

- 16 Surface Water Improvement Fund (SWIF) proposals submitted by member communities
- 2 Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) proposals submitted
- Watershed Scale Great Lakes Basin Program (GLBP) grant submitted to Great Lakes Commission
- Lake Erie Protection Fund grant awarded
- Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District watershed grant awarded
- Balanced Growth Plan endorsed in 2009
- Submitted USEPA Brownfields grant proposal to implement Balanced Growth Plan
- Revised WAP

## Duck Creek

Watershed Coordinator: Jacki Zevenbergen

Sponsor: Washington SWCD

3 year implementation grant through March 31, 2010

- 24 septic systems repaired/replaced – Washington Co.
- 11 septic systems repaired/replaced – Noble Co.
- Total combined effluent treated 5.1 million gallons/yr.
- Clean Ohio Grant application

## East Fork Little Miami River

Watershed Coordinator: Rebecca McClatchey

Sponsor: Clermont SWCD

3 year implementation grant through December 2009

- Awarded \$98,200 Ohio Watershed Balanced Growth grant
- Stonelick Creek WAP developed and submitted
- Completed construction plan for Williamsburg lowhead dam removal
- 9 rain gardens installed at schools



## Euclid Creek

Watershed Coordinator: Claire Posius

Sponsor: Cuyahoga SWCD

3 year implementation grant through December 2011

- Submitted GLRI proposal
- Submitted SWIF grant proposal with member communities
- East Branch dam removal funded by USFWS, ODNR, Ohio EPA, and NRCS
- Pre-proposal submitted for Mayfair Headwater Restoration
- Pre-proposal submitted for East 185th spillway restoration/dam removal

## Firelands Coastal Tributaries

Watershed Coordinator: Breann Hohman

Sponsor: Friends of Old Woman Creek Association, Inc

4 year planning grant through December 2010

- Local business owner accepted chairperson position
- WAP fully endorsed
- Sustainable funding for watershed coordinator provided by NOAA
- GLRI proposal submitted
- GLBP watershed scale proposal submitted
- Water quality monitoring program successful in Pipe Creek

## Grand Lake St. Marys/Wabash River

Watershed Coordinator: Laura Walker

Sponsor: Mercer SWCD

3 year implementation grant through December 2011

- Quality Assurance Plan approved for monitoring program
- Participated in Indiana/Ohio Wabash River Partnership to reduce Gulf of Mexico hypoxia
- Worked with Mercer Co. Health Dept on American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) fund reports
- Provided multiple agencies and organizations water quality issue information

## Grand River (Upper)

Watershed Coordinator: George Warnock

Sponsor: Western Reserve Land Conservancy (WRLC)

4 year planning grant through December 2012

- Completed merger with WRLC as new sponsor
- Clean Ohio Fund Grant Awarded for Ashcroft Woods
- WAP under construction

## Honey Creek

Watershed Coordinator: Leigh Ann Gerardi McCulla

Sponsor: Miami SWCD

3 year implementation grant through December 2011

- Restored 524 ft of stream bank of Honey Creek, Miami Co.
- Reduced est. 41.4 tons of sediment through restoration project
- Facilitated participation of 3 landowners in water quality trading program
- Grants proposals submitted: ARRA, Miami Conservancy District Source Water Protection, River Network/Miller Coors Watershed Protection, Division of Watercraft Boating Safety Grant



## Huff Run

Watershed Coordinator: Maureen Wise

Sponsor: Rural Action

3 year implementation grant through December 2011

- Protected 4 miles of Huff Run through adoption of Sandy Township Riparian Setback Zoning
- Mineral Zoar Reverse Alkaline Producing System Project completed
- Blenden Project received awards from US Office of Surface Mining (OSM) and ODNR, Division of Mineral Resources Management
- Grant proposals submitted: Kimble Family Foundation and Miami Watershed Conservancy District

## Middle Cuyahoga River

Watershed Coordinator: Maia Peck

Sponsor: Northeast Ohio Four County Regional Planning and Development

4 year planning grant through December 2012

- Electronic newsletter completed
- Website created
- WAP under construction
- Draft WAP inventory completed

## Leading Creek

Watershed Coordinator: Raina Fulks

Sponsor: Meigs SWCD

3 year implementation grant through December 2011

- Leading Creek Water Trail established
- Jewell Environmental Covenant – protects 14 acres of riparian farmland
- Gaston Environmental Covenant – protects 42 acres in Sharps Run
- Purchase of land for Thomas Fork Doser Project

## Monday Creek

Watershed Coordinator: Mike Steinmaus

Sponsor: Rural Action

3 year implementation grant through December 2012

- Closing of 15 subsidences in 5 subwatersheds
- Finalized agreement with U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for the Monday Creek Ecological Restoration Project

## Portage River

Watershed Coordinator: Elaine Moebius

Sponsor: Toledo Metropolitan Area Council of Governments

4 year planning grant through December 2010

- Draft WAP submitted for endorsement
- Submitted 5 GLRI proposals for HSTS replacement
- Water quality sampling station installed in Woodville with support from USGS and Heidelberg Water Quality Lab



## Raccoon Creek

Watershed Coordinator: Ben McCament/Jennifer Bowman

Sponsor: Voinovich School/ILGARD, Ohio University  
3 year implementation grant through December 2012

- WAP submitted for Hewett Fork to Elk Fork subwatershed
- Pierce Run reclamation project under construction
- EPA 319 grant submitted for West Branch Acid Mine Drainage project
- 131 chemical samples collected, analyzed and documented
- ArcIMS online database maintained

## Rocky River

Watershed Coordinator: Jared Bartley

Sponsor: Cuyahoga SWCD

3 year implementation grant through December 2009

- Awarded Ohio Environmental Education Fund (OEEF) grant to assist credible data collectors
- SWIF proposals submitted for Baldwin Creek dam removal and a stormwater retrofit project
- Submitted grant proposal to US Fish and Wildlife for Baldwin Creek dam removal
- Submitted revised WAP
- US Fish and Wildlife grant awarded for stormwater retrofit

## Sandusky River

Watershed Coordinator: Cindy Brookes

Sponsor: WSOS Community Action Commission, Inc

3 year implementation grant through December 2009

- Developed plan for sustainable funding with fertilizer dealers
- Submitted GLRI proposal nutrient management and erosion practices
- Submitted GLBP watershed scale proposal
- Initiated pharmaceutical collection program in Crawford County
- Continued GLPF Stratified Soil Testing Program
- Continued USEPA targeted watershed grant for phosphorus and nitrogen reduction practices

## Sunday Creek

Watershed Coordinator: Kaabe Shaw/Amber Leasure-Earnhardt

Sponsor: Rural Action

3 year implementation grant through December 2011

- Awarded OSM grant on Phase I WBHW project
- Installed 4 monitoring wells in WBHW mine pool
- Worked on WAP to gain full endorsement
- Little Hocking Stream Capture Project

## Tinkers Creek

Watershed Coordinator: Mike McNutt

Sponsor: Cuyahoga County Board of Health

4 year grant through December 2010

- Tinkers Creek WAP endorsed
- Bear Creek Restoration Project funded
- Laurel Creek Restoration and Dam Removal Project funded
- Hudson High School Stream Restoration Project funded

## Twin Creek

Watershed Coordinator: Monica Rakovan

Sponsor: Miami University

3 year implementation grant through June 2010

- Assist OEPA with TMDL and draft report published
- Acquired 388 acres in conservation easements
- Two wetlands restored
- Tillage survey conducted by Miami University staff and students
- Source Water Protection Plan presented at WMAO conference
- Trained 8 volunteer monitors

## White Oak Creek

Watershed Coordinator: Melody Drago

Sponsor: Brown SWCD

3 year implementation grant through December 2010

- Rumpke/Walnut Run Farms conservation easement reviews
- Research and discussion on Georgetown dam removal
- 78 White Oak Creek water quality contacts
- 4 additional acres in Wetland Conservation Easement obtained by Brown SWCD
- OEPA 319 grant – Conservation, Stream Restoration and Grazing
- Management planning

## Yellow Creek

Watershed Coordinator: Maggie Corder

Sponsor: Jefferson SWCD

4 year planning grant through December 2012

- Facilitated dialogue with Mayors of Bergholz, Amsterdam and Irondale and Ohio EPA, Rural Community Assistance Program
- Developed list of illegal dump sites
- MAIS sampling conducted
- Hosted OMP tour and meeting
- Database of watershed residents developed



**“The greatest impact to our area has been the general public and political community realizing what a watershed is and the true importance of water quality.”** - Chris Rogers, Brown SWCD District Administrator



**Sean Logan, Director**

Ohio Department  
of Natural Resources  
[www.ohiodnr.com](http://www.ohiodnr.com)

**David Hanselmann, Chief**

ODNR Division of Soil and Water Resources  
[www.ohiodnr.com/soilandwater](http://www.ohiodnr.com/soilandwater)

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