

7. The Future Scorecards, Funding Opportunities

Scorecards

This Watersheds Plan was created to assess the natural resources in Portage County that are being affected by growth and development and to suggest ways to manage and conserve these resources in order to protect water quality. The wetland and woodland inventory and chapters on current conditions and issues in Portage County create a framework for strategies and actions. They will also provide a baseline for determining the progress towards the goals and objectives outlined in Chapter 5. The goals table suggests the timeframe for completing many of the actions. Some actions may be started and completed within a short timeframe (1 year), others within 2-3 years, and others over much longer periods of time.

A series of scorecards is included in Appendix 10 that will serve to document progress towards the goals. Circulated to the appropriate agencies and organizations in a timely fashion and at regular intervals, they will help those responsible for creating the Plan determine what is being accomplished and what may need additional or more focused attention. Regular communication among the original Steering Committee members and key participants will ensure the scorecards are kept up to date.

Funding

Few agencies, organizations or local governments have the financial capacity to tackle numerous watershed projects. A key component to this Watersheds Plan is to help focus efforts on priority conservation areas and maximize funding potential. Many grants require matching funding and a wide array of participants is necessary to even out the financial burden of a project. The end of this chapter is devoted to funding sources at state and federal levels. The list is by no means exhaustive, but is meant to give an idea of available funding sources related to natural resource conservation and watershed activities. Web addresses and contact information may change over time and should be checked for accuracy.

Conclusion

It is hoped the many hours spent compiling the information in the Watersheds Plan will serve to protect and enhance watershed health in Portage County as stated in the vision of the Plan. The protection and enhancement of natural resources, sustainable development, and public participation in watershed health are basic endeavors that transcend the label of “tree-hugging” since everyone is reliant on a clean water supply for survival. By making use of current technology such as the Internet and digital mapping we hope the project does not gather dust on a shelf, but becomes a working document and guide for projects of the future.

State & Federal Funding for Watershed Projects

Program	Purpose	Annual Allocation	Contact Information
Five-Star Restoration Challenge Grants	A competitive financial assistance program supporting community-based wetland, riparian and coastal habitat restoration projects that build diverse partnerships and foster local natural resource stewardship through education, outreach, and training activities.	2003: \$550,000 nationally In 1999, 2000, and 2001 combined, the program distributed 183 grants equaling \$1.89 million. Program established in 1999 as competitive program.	NFWF Tom Kelsch 1120 Connecticut Avenue NW Suite 900 Washington D.C. 20036 (202) 857-5662 (202) 857-0162 fax kelsch@nfwf.org Or view online: http://www.nfwf.org , Special Grant Programs
Great Lakes Program Funding	A reimbursement funding program that assists government and non-profit agencies in the protection and clean-up of the Great Lakes ecosystem.	Most recent allocation, FY 2002: \$3.1 million Program est. 1993. Funding has been consistent. 2002: \$2.9 million 2001: \$3.15 million	USEPA-GLNPO Michael Russ G-17J 77 West Jackson Blvd. Chicago, IL 60604 (312) 886-4013 (312) 353-2018 fax russ.michael@epa.gov glnpofunding@epa.gov Or view online: http://www.epa.gov/glnpofund
Lake Erie Protection Fund-Large Grants	A grant issue program designed to help the State of Ohio enhance and protect Lake Erie and its watershed through research, monitoring, demonstration, and education projects.	Most recent allocation, 2003: \$375,462 for implementation projects. Program est. 1992. 2002: \$340,168 (research projects) 2001: \$1,100,000 (implementation projects)	LEC Christian Hammond One Maritime Plaza, 4 th Floor Toledo, OH 43604-1866 (419) 245-2514 (419) 245-2519 fax lakeeriecommission@ameritech.net Or view online: http://www.epa.state.oh.us/oleo/Grant/grants.htm

7. Funding Opportunities

Program	Purpose	Annual Allocation	Contact Information
Lake Erie Protection Fund-Small Funds	A grant issue program that provides seed money to test feasibility of large research efforts. Also available for small demonstration implementation projects, technical transfers, and public participation projects.	Most recent allocation, 2003: \$141,709 Program est. 1992 2002: \$120,000 2001: \$200,000	LEC Christian Hammond One Maritime Plaza, 4 th Floor Toledo, OH 43604-1866 (419) 245-2514 (419) 245-2519 fax lakeeriecommission@ameritech.net Or view online: http://www.epa.state.oh.us/oleo/Grant/grants.htm
Land and Water Conservation Program (LWCF)	These grants provide up to 50 percent reimbursement for outdoor recreation projects. A reimbursement program that authorizes federal assistance to the states in planning acquisition and development of needed land and water areas and facilities.	Most recent allocation, 2003. Approx. \$1.53 million. Program est. 1965. 2002: \$3 million 2001: \$2.9 million	ODNR-REALM Dameyon Shipley Grants Administrator 1952 Belcher Dr., Building C-4 Columbus, OH 43224 (614) 265-6646 (614) 267-4764 fax dameyon.shipley@dnr.state.oh.us Or view online: http://www.dnr.state.oh.us/grants.htm
Nature Works-Local Recreation Grants	A reimbursement funding program that provides grants to local units of government for acquisition, construction or reconstruction of local parks and recreation areas.	Most recent allocation, 2003: \$3.43 million. Program est. 1995. 2002: \$3.3 million 2001: \$4.6 million	ODNR-REALM Dameyon Shipley Grants Administrator 1952 Belcher Dr., Building C-4 Columbus, OH 43224 (614) 265-6646 (614) 267-4764 fax dameyon.shipley@dnr.state.oh.us Or view online: http://www.dnr.state.oh.us/grants.htm

7. Funding Opportunities

Program	Purpose	Annual Allocation	Contact Information
Ohio EPA Nonpoint Source Management Program (Sec. 319)	A reimbursement funding program that serves to protect and preserve the state's water resources from nonpoint source pollution.	Most recent allocation, 2003: \$7 million Program est. 1990 Funding dependant upon Congressional Appropriation 2002: \$7,068,000 2001: \$7,055,000	Ohio EPA-Division of Surface Water John Kessler P.O. Box 1049 Columbus, OH 43216 (614) 644-2020 (614) 644-2745 fax john.kessler@epa.state.oh.us Or view online: http://www.epa.state.oh.us/dsw/nps/319Program.html
Transportation Enhancement Funding (TE)	A funding program for transportation-related activities that are designed to strengthen the cultural, aesthetic and environmental aspects of the intermodal transportation system.	Total available funds are less than \$20 million. ODOT retains \$11 million and suballocates the balance to Ohio's 17 MPOs, which is \$8.4 million	Ohio Dept. of Transportation Randy Lane 1980 W. Broad St. Columbus, OH 43223 (614) 644-8211 (614) 466-0822 fax randy.lane@dot.state.oh.us Or contact local Metropolitan Planning Organizations
Water Pollution Control Loan Fund (WPCLF)	A low interest loan program that provides financial and technical assistance to protect and improve the quality of Ohio's rivers, streams, lakes, and other water resources.	Program est. in 1989. Average allocation per year: \$250 million	Ohio EPA-Division of Environmental and Financial Assistance Bob Monsarrat Manager, Environmental Planning Section PO Box 1049 Columbus, OH 43216-1049 (614) 644-3655 (614) 644-3687 fax bob.monsarrat@epa.state.oh.us Or view online: http://www.epa.state.oh.us/defa/

7. Funding Opportunities

Program	Purpose	Annual Allocation	Contact Information
Water Resource Restoration Sponsor Program (WRRSP)	A discount feature of the Ohio Water Pollution Control Loan Fund designed to counter the loss of ecological function and biodiversity current jeopardizing Ohio's water resources.	Program began in 2000. Since then, \$44.9 million has been allocated.	Ohio EPA-Division of Environmental and Financial Assistance Bob Monsarrat Manager, Environmental Planning Section PO Box 1049 Columbus, OH 43216-1049 (614) 644-3655 (614) 644-3687 fax bob.monsarrat@epa.state.oh.us Or view online: http://www.epa.state.oh.us/defa/
Watershed Coordinator Grant Program	The WCP is intended to provide community leaders with personnel and technical assistance in setting up and sustaining a nonpoint source pollution control program and identifying water resources management goals.	2004: \$855,000 (statewide) Funding decreases during grant period.	ODNR-Division of Soil and Water Conservation Rosida Porter Watershed Coordinator 4383 Fountain Square Drive, Building B-3 Columbus, OH 43224-1362 (614) 265-6647 (614) 262-2064 fax rosida.porter@dnr.state.oh.us Or view online: http://www.dnr.state.oh.us/soilandwater/watershedprograms.htm
Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP)	A voluntary program that offers landowners payments for restoring and protecting wetlands on their property, while allowing them to maintain ownership of their land.	Most recent allocation, 2003: \$3,700,000 2002: \$4,000,000 2001: \$3,245,000	USDA-NRCS John Armentano, WRP Coordinator 200 North High St. Columbus, OH 43215 (614) 255-2469 (614) 255-2548 fax john.armentan@oh.nrcs.usda.gov Or view online: http://www.oh.nrcs.usda.gov

7. Funding Opportunities

Program	Purpose	Annual Allocation	Contact Information
Clean Ohio Conservation Fund (Open Space & Water Conservation)	A funding program for eligible conservation projects, including the purchase of open space and the cost of making them accessible to the public; and for the protection of stream corridors	Legislation determines this level of funding for this program. Is funded through the 19 local districts of the Ohio Public Works Commission.	Larry Bicking Executive Director Ohio Public Works Commission 65 East State St., Suite 312 Columbus, OH 43215 (614) 466-0880 (614) 466-4664 fax laurence.bicking@pwc.state.oh.us Or view online: www.pwc.state.oh.us/clean_ohio.htm
Clean Ohio: Agricultural Easement Program	Preserve farmland through the purchase of agricultural easements from landowners.	Annual allocation: 2006: \$3.125 million	Ohio Dept. of Agriculture Office of Farmland Preservation 8995 East Main St. Reynoldsburg, OH 43068-3399 farmlandpres@mail.agri.state.oh.us Or view online: http://www.ohioagriculture.gov/pubs/divs/farm/farm-index.stm
Clean Ohio: Trail Fund	To acquire property for land acquisition and the construction of recreational trails.	Annual allocation: Next 4 years- \$6.25 million per year.	Ohio Department of Natural Resources William E Daehler, Recreation Services Administrator Division of Real Estate and Land Management 2045 Morse Rd., Building C-4 Columbus, OH 43224-1386 (614) 265-6402 (614) 267-4764 fax Bill.Daehler@dnr.state.oh.us Or view online: http://www.dnr.state.oh.us/cleanohiofund/admin.htm

7. Funding Opportunities

Program	Purpose	Annual Allocation	Contact Information
Forest Legacy Program in Ohio (Federal-USDA & State-ODNR program)	To protect working forests from being converted to non-forest uses. A conservation agreement is reached between landowners and Ohio Department of Natural Resources.	2005: \$493,000	Ohio Dept. of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry Rich Cappell, Program Administrator 2045 Morse Rd., Building H-1 Columbus, OH 43229 (614) 265-6706 rich.cappell@dnr.state.oh.us Website: http://www.ohiodnr.com/forestry/landowner/legacy/default.htm
Drinking Water Assistance Fund Program (DWAF)	To maximize below market rate loans to eligible public water systems to fund improvements to eliminate public health threats and ensure compliance with federal and state drinking water laws and regulations.	2006: \$65 million 2007: \$65 million	Ohio EPA-Division of Drinking & Ground Waters Kirk Leifheit, Assistant Chief 122 S. Front St. Columbus, OH 43215 (614) 644-2752 (614) 644-2909 fax kirk.leifheit@epa.state.oh.us
Village Capital Improvement Fund	Jointly administered by Ohio EPA & Ohio Water Development Authority to provide loans to villages for the planning and designing of improvements to wastewater and drinking water system infrastructure.	Annual allocation potential: Up to \$25,000 for planning. Up to \$50,000 for design.	Ohio EPA-Division of Environmental & Financial Assistance Sharon Williamson 122 S. Front St. Columbus, OH 43215 (614) 644-2798 (614) 644-3687 fax

7. Funding Opportunities

Program	Purpose	Annual Allocation	Contact Information
North American Wetlands Conservation Act Small Grants (U.S. FWS)	To acquire, create, enhance and restore wetlands and wetland-associated uplands located within the United States.	2005: \$2 million total for 40 grants up to \$50,000.	Small Grants Coordinator- Division of Bird Habitat Conservation, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 4401 N. Fairfax Dr., Mailstop MB 4075, Arlington, VA 22203 (703) 358-1784 nawca_smallgrant@fws.gov

Further Resources for Funding of Watershed Projects

- EPA Office of Water Grants and Funding
<http://www.epa.gov/water/funding.html>
- Catalog of Federal Funding Sources for Watershed Protection
www.epa.gov/watershedfunding
- EPA Environmental Justice Grants
<http://www.epa.gov/compliance/environmentaljustice/grants/index.html>
- ESRI Conservation Program-ECP Grants
<http://www.conservationgis.org/ecpstory/ecpform.html>
- George Gund Foundation
<http://www.gundfdn.org>
- Great Lakes Basin Program
<http://www.glc.org/basin/>
- ODNR Grants
<http://www.dnr.state.oh.us/grants.htm>
- The Environmental Support Center's Environmental Loan Fund
<http://www.envsc.org/es06000.htm>
- Local Government Environmental Assistance Network
<http://www.lgean.org>