

**OHIO PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION – DISTRICT 10
NATURAL RESOURCE ASSISTANCE COUNCIL
SCORING METHODOLOGY**

Applicant Name: _____
Applicant Contact: _____
Project Name: _____

PART 1: PRELIMINARY SCREENING

YES NO

___ ___ Applicant is an eligible entity
___ ___ Complete application received by deadline

Project purpose must involve at least one of the following from A. or B. below

A. OPEN SPACE (per Ohio Revised Code 164.22A)

___ Acquires land for parks
___ Acquires land for public forests
___ Acquires land for wetland preservation or restoration
___ Acquires land for natural areas protecting endangered species
___ Acquires land for other natural areas
___ Acquires land for connecting corridors for natural areas
___ Openspace acquisition
___ Permanent conservation easement (requires current appraisal to be submitted with the application)
___ Constructs or enhances facilities necessary to make open space accessible and usable by the general public

B. RIPARIAN CORRIDORS OR WATERSHEDS (per Ohio Revised Code 164.22B)

___ Protects or enhances riparian corridors or watersheds including the protection and enhancement of streams, rivers, and other waters of the state

C. WOULD THE PROJECT:

YES NO

___ ___ Initiate or perpetuate hydromodification projects such as dams, ditch development, or channelization?
___ ___ Fund current legal obligations (such as fines, penalties, litigation expenses, mitigation, or reclamation) under state or federal laws or local ordinances?

___ ___ Fund facilities other than those required to provide public access to or use of openspace?

___ ___ Fund facilities for active recreation, such as tennis courts, ball fields, or recreation centers?

IF “YES” TO ANY OF THE ABOVE IN SECTION C, THE PROJECT IS INELGIBLE (PER OHIO REVISED CODE SECTION 164.22)

IF PROJECT MEETS THE PRELIMINARY SCORING REQUIREMENTS, CONTINUE ON TO SCORING

PART II: PROJECT EMPHASIS
(per Ohio Revised Code Section 164.22)

Does the project emphasize one or more of the following, based on information provided by the applicant?

An * indicates a project type that is of special interest to the District 10 NRAC. Up to ten (10) points are given for project types with two (**), up to six (6) points are given for project types with one (*), and up to two (2) points are given for the other project types (96 points maximum).

- 1)___ (**)The protection of habitat for rare, threatened, and endangered species or the preservation of high quality, viable habitat for plant and animal species;
- 2)___ (**)The preservation of existing high quality wetlands or other scarce natural resources within the geographical jurisdiction of the council;
- 3)___ (**)The inclusion of wildlife linkages to, or adjacent to, existing open-space preserves;
- 4)___ (**)The preservation or restoration of water quality, natural stream channels, functioning floodplains, wetlands, streamside forests, and other natural features that contribute to the quality of life in this state and to the state’s natural heritage;
- 5)___ (**)The provision of multiple recreational, economic, and aesthetic preservation benefits;
- 6)___ (**)The preservation or restoration of floodplain and streamside forest functions;
- 7)___ (**)The preservation of headwater streams;
- 8)___ (*)Inclusion as part of a stream corridor-wide or watershed-wide plan;
- 9)___ (*)The support of comprehensive open space planning and incorporation of aesthetically pleasing and ecologically informed design;
- 10)___ The enhancement of economic development that relies on recreation and ecotourism in areas with relatively high unemployment and/or lower incomes;
- 11)___ The enhancement of educational opportunities and provision of physical links to schools and after-school centers;

- 12)_____ The reduction or elimination of nonnative, invasive species of plants or animals;
- 13)_____ The proper management of areas where safe fishing, hunting, and trapping may take place in a manner that will preserve a balanced natural ecosystem;
- 14)_____ The increase of habitat protection;
- 15)_____ The restoration and preservation of aquatic biological communities.

PART II SCORE: _____

PART III: COMPLIANCE WITH STATE CRITERIA
(per Ohio Revised Code Section 164.24)

- 1) Percentage of Clean Ohio funds necessary to complete the project
(Local match can include bargain sales, where seller provides a price reduction below fair market value as a matching contribution)

The amount and percentage of the funds requested under the proposal:

Amount _____
Percent _____

_____	75% (required)	0 Points
_____	74-70%	2 Points
_____	69-65%	4 Points
_____	64-60%	6 Points
_____	<60%	8 Points

- 2) Level of collaborative participation: Participation means active involvement through in-kind services or funding (give one (1) point if any of the following are met up to a maximum of three (3) points):

- _____ Local political subdivision
- _____ State agencies
- _____ Federal agencies
- _____ Community organizations
- _____ Conservation organizations
- _____ Local business groups

- 3) Level of conservation coordination with other Openspace, Riparian Corridor, Farmland Protection or Urban Revitalization Projects under the Clean Ohio Fund in this or other Public Works Commission Districts:

- _____ Is a joint project in more than one district (2 points)
- _____ Is a joint project in this district (1 point)
- _____ Carries out an adopted community, watershed, or other plan overlapping another district (1 point)

- 4) Community Benefits: Relative economic, social/recreational and environmental benefits the proposed project will bring to the geographical area represented by the NRAC as compared to other projects:

- _____ Economic (1 point)
- _____ Social/recreational (1 point)
- _____ Environmental (1 point)

- 5) Extent of public access once project is completed:
- _____ Open days and weekends (6 points)
 - _____ Open limited, but regular hours (3 points)
 - _____ Open by appointment or with written permission (1 point)
- 6) Operation and Maintenance once project is completed:
- _____ Operation plan and infrastructure, if appropriate, in place (6 points)
 - _____ Operation plan, no infrastructure (3 points)
 - _____ Limited operation plan, volunteers available, no infrastructure (1point)
- 7) Project Management Experience/Ability to Complete Project
- _____ Applicant/partners demonstrate high ability/experience to complete project (6 points)
 - _____ Applicant/partners demonstrate moderate ability/experience to complete project (3 points)
 - _____ Applicant/partners demonstrate limited ability/experience to complete project (1 point)

PART III SCORE: _____

PART IV: COMPLIANCE WITH DISTRICT 10 PRIORITIES

- 1) Community planning: Project is in concert with publicly adopted regional, neighborhood or community advisory plan, watershed plan, or greenspace plan (may include adoption by governing bodies, planning commissions, park districts or similar boards or commissions appointed by the governing body of a political jurisdiction):

YES NO
 _____ (if yes, 4 points)

- 2) Project benefits multiple political jurisdictions:

YES NO
 _____ (if yes, 4 points)

- 3) Natural Resource Viability: How important is the project to the viability of the natural resources affected by the project (give 1 point for each that applies, 4 points maximum):
- _____ Protects a federally listed endangered species or biological community
 - _____ Protects more than 5 state natural heritage inventory (NHI) endangered species
 - _____ Protects 1-5 state NHI ranked rare species
 - _____ Protects a high quality example of a regionally endangered biological community
 - _____ Protects threatened biological community or important example of Ohio's natural heritage
- 4) Project preserves or naturally restores steep hillsides with slopes of 20% or greater:
- YES NO
- ___ ___ (if yes, 4 points)
- 5) Project provides or enhances greenspace or openspace opportunities in lower income or in highly urbanized areas:
- YES NO
- ___ ___ (if yes, 4 points)
- 6) Project preserves or enhances undeveloped lands along viewsheds of major highway and transportation corridors:
- YES NO
- ___ ___ (if yes, 4 points)
- 7) Project addresses a situation where action must be taken now or opportunity will be lost forever documenting evidence as to how opportunity will be lost must be submitted):
- YES NO
- ___ ___ (if yes, 4 points)
- 8) The readiness of the applicant to proceed with the project (based on information provided by the applicant)(0-7 points):
- _____

PART IV SCORE: _____

PART V: OTHER FACTORS

- 1) Other factors relative to project (e.g. larger tracts of land involved, uniqueness of the opportunity, action now or lost forever, degree of community support, conformity with district priorities) (discretionary points – up to 20% of maximum points):

TOTAL OVERALL SCORE (PART II THROUGH PART V): _____

OHIO PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION

ADVISORY

Clean Ohio Conservation Program - Program Year 3 Funds:

Funding of the third year of the Clean Ohio Conservation Program is dependent upon the appropriation of funds in the up-coming Capital Budget for Fiscal Years 05- 06.

The Capital Budget bill, which will include appropriation authority for all State capital expenditures, is expected to be introduced sometime in 2004, however the specific timing is unclear.

By law, when approved by the General Assembly and signed by the Governor, capital appropriations must hold over for 90 days before becoming effective.

Therefore funds for program year three Clean Ohio Conservation Program projects will be available between July 2004 and March 2005, depending upon the timing of the General Assembly's consideration and passage of the Capital Bill.

District Natural Resources Assistance Councils will be notified by the Commission when the date and availability of funds has been determined.

As in the past, Natural Resource Assistance Councils will be required to allow a minimum of sixty days from the Commission's approval of their respective project selection methodology to accept applications.

Natural Resources Assistance Councils who chose to move forward in accepting applications prior to the Commission's availability of funds notification should carefully consider acquisition projects which may be time sensitive to the availability of funds

Natural Resources Assistance Councils may up-date their project selection methodology at any time and submit it for review and approval by the Commission. Councils who elect to retain the project selection methodology utilized in year two should notify the Commission accordingly.

Released: December 24, 2003

Status: Ongoing

Distribution: Natural Resources Assistance Council Chairs & Liaisons,
Interested Parties

ATTACHMENT B

All applications for green space conservation funds in District 10 **MUST** contain both the application forms provided by the Ohio Public Works Commission and the enclosed attachment B. To be considered, all applications must be typed and received by the deadline set forth below. Responses in this attachment B should be brief and concise and must not exceed 6 pages (if a question is not applicable, there is no need to state that and use space in the 6-page limit). Minimum font size is 12.

Applicants are encouraged to attend the public meeting where the selection of projects will be made. Although applicants will not be allowed to make presentations about their projects, they should be prepared to briefly address any questions about their project proposal from members of the NRAC.

Applicants must submit an original plus 12 copies to:

Dave McElroy
District Administrator
Warren Co. S.W.C.D.
777 Columbus Ave.
Lebanon, OH 45036

**ALL INFORMATION MUST BE RECEIVED BEFORE:
4:00 p.m. EDT on JULY 15, 2004**

Project Name:

Applicant Organization:

Please indicate which of the following 16 project purposes your project addresses. For every item you check, provide a brief paragraph highlighting how your project outcome will accomplish each item:

- 1) _____ (***)The protection of habitat for rare, threatened, and endangered species or the preservation of high quality, viable habitat for plant and animal species.

- 2) _____ (***)The preservation of existing high quality wetlands or other scarce natural resources within the geographical jurisdiction of the council.

- 3) _____ (***)The inclusion of wildlife linkages to, or adjacent to, existing open-space preserves.

- 4) _____ (***)The preservation or restoration of water quality, natural stream channels, functioning floodplains, wetlands, streamside forests, and other natural features that contribute to the quality of life in this state and to the state's natural heritage.

- 5) _____ (***)The provision of multiple recreational, economic, and aesthetic preservation benefits.

- 6) _____ (***)The preservation or restoration of floodplain and streamside forest functions.

- 7)_____ (**)The preservation of headwater streams.

- 8)_____ (*)Inclusion as part of a stream corridor-wide or watershed-wide plan.

- 9)_____ (*)The support of comprehensive open space planning and incorporation of aesthetically pleasing and ecologically informed design,

- 10)_____ The enhancement of economic development that relies on recreation and ecotourism in areas with relatively high unemployment and/or lower incomes.

- 11)_____ The enhancement of educational opportunities and provision of physical links to schools and after-school centers.

- 12)_____ The reduction or elimination of nonnative, invasive species of plants or animals.

- 13)_____ The proper management of areas where safe fishing, hunting, and trapping may take place in a manner that will preserve a balanced natural ecosystem.

- 14)_____ The increase of habitat protection.

15)_____ The restoration and preservation of aquatic biological communities.

Please indicate which of the following items your project addresses. Provide a brief paragraph highlighting how your project accomplishes each item:

- a) Describe the level of collaborative participation: Participation means active involvement through in-kind services or funding:
- _____ Local political subdivision
 - _____ State agencies
 - _____ Federal agencies
 - _____ Community organizations
 - _____ Conservation organizations
 - _____ Local business groups
- b) Describe the level of conservation coordination with other Openspace, Riparian Corridor, Farmland Protection or Urban Revitalization Projects under the Clean Ohio Fund in this or other Public Works Commission Districts:
- _____ Is a joint project in more than one district
 - _____ Is a joint project in this district
 - _____ Carries out an adopted community, watershed, or other plan overlapping another district
- c) Describe the economic, social, and environmental benefits that the proposed project will bring to the geographical area represented by District 10 NRAC.

d) Describe the extent of public access once project is completed:

- _____ Open days and weekends
- _____ Open limited, but regular hours
- _____ Open by appointment or with written permission

e) Describe the Operation and Maintenance once project is completed:

- _____ Operation plan and infrastructure, if appropriate, in place
- _____ Operation plan, no infrastructure
- _____ Limited operation plan, volunteers available, no infrastructure

f) Describe the capacity and experience of both the applicant organization and the partnership to carry-out this project.

g) Is this project in concert with publicly adopted regional, neighborhood or community advisory plan, watershed plan, or greenspace plan?

- YES NO
___ ___ (if yes, please reference the plan and describe how your project relates to the plan)

- h) If your project will benefit multiple political subdivisions, describe the extent that your project will provide benefits.

- i) If your project protects: a federally listed endangered species or biological community, more than 5 state natural heritage inventory (NHI) endangered species, 1-5 state NHI ranked rare species, a high quality example of a regionally endangered biological community, or a threatened biological community or important example of Ohio's natural heritage, please describe in specific terms what will be protected and how.

- j) Will your project preserve or naturally restore steep hillsides with slopes of 20% or greater? If so, please explain.

- k) Will your project provide or enhance greenspace or openspace opportunities in lower income or in highly urbanized areas? If so, please explain.

- l) Will your project preserve or enhance undeveloped lands along viewsheds of major highway and transportation corridors? If so, please explain.

n) Briefly indicate any additional project benefits or considerations you would like the NRAC to consider in evaluating your application.

o) Does the project address a situation where action must be taken now or the opportunity will be lost forever (documenting evidence as to how opportunity will be lost must be submitted):

YES NO
— —

p) Describe your readiness to proceed with this proposed project (e.g. contract with the owner and evidence from the seller that closing will take place, or that openspace-related facilities construction is ready to take place now, within 6 months or less, within one year, or longer).