

**DISTRICT 12**  
**NATURAL RESOURCES ASSISTANCE COUNCIL**

**SCORING METHODOLOGY**

Applicant Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

**PART I: PRELIMINARY SCREENING - Required**

**YES NO**

\_\_\_ \_\_\_ Applicant is 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 (Sec. 164.22 A)**

\_\_\_ acquires land for parks

\_\_\_ acquires land for public forests

\_\_\_ acquires land for wetland preservation or enhancement

\_\_\_ acquires land for natural areas protecting potentially threatened, threatened or endangered species

\_\_\_ acquires land for other natural areas

\_\_\_ acquires land for connecting corridors for natural areas

\_\_\_ permanent conservation easement

\_\_\_ constructs or enhances facilities necessary to make open space area being acquired by this grant accessible & usable by the general public

**B. Riparian Corridors or Watersheds (Sec. 164.22 B)**

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

\_\_\_ Reforests land in riparian corridors or watersheds

\_\_\_ Plants vegetation for filtration purposes

Acquires land for purposes of providing access to riparian corridors or watersheds

Acquires land for other purposes necessary for the protection and enhancement of riparian corridors or watersheds.

Acquires permanent easements for the purpose of protecting and enhancing riparian corridors or watersheds.

**C. Would the project:**

**YES NO**

accelerate untreated water runoff

encourage invasive nonnative species

initiate or perpetuate hydromodification projects such as dams, dredging, sedimentation, bank clearing, 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 open space?

fund facilities for active recreation, such as tennis courts, ball fields or recreation centers

If **Yes** to any of the above in **C**, the project is **ineligible** (Section 164.22, ORC).

*If projects meets Preliminary Scoring Requirements move on to Page 3*

**NRAC SCORING METHODOLOGY - Part II - Required 47 pts.**

**NRACs shall consider all the following in approving or disapproving a grant: Does the project emphasize the following pursuant to Section 164.22, ORC? (each applicant must explain each scoring category and how they qualify to receive those points) 47 point maximum.**

1. \_\_\_ protects existing habitat for potentially threatened, threatened, or endangered species – must be listed (3 pts.)
2. \_\_\_ includes a plan to reduce or eliminate nonnative, invasive species of plants or animals (2 pts.)
3. \_\_\_ preserves existing high quality, viable habitat for native plant or animal species – refer to glossary and Habitat Suitability Index (3 pts.)
4. \_\_\_ restores or preserves aquatic biological communities (2 pts.)
5. \_\_\_ preserves headwater streams (2 pts.)
6. \_\_\_ preserves or restores functioning floodplains (2 pts.)
7. \_\_\_ preserves or restores water quality (3 pts.)
8. \_\_\_ preserves or restores natural stream channels (3 pts.)
9. \_\_\_ preserves or restores streamside forests (2 pts.)
10. \_\_\_ preserves existing high quality wetlands (3 pt.)
11. \_\_\_ enhances wetlands (1 pt.)
12. \_\_\_ preserves or restores other natural features that contribute to quality of life and state's natural heritage (1 pt.)
13. \_\_\_ fee simple acquisition or acquisition of easements of lands to provide public access to open space or riparian corridors (2 pts.)
14. \_\_\_ acquisition of easements or fee simple acquisition protecting and enhancing open space, riparian corridors, or watersheds (2 pts.)
15. \_\_\_ re-vegetates with native plants for filtration to improve water quality (1 pt.)
16. \_\_\_ incorporates aesthetically pleasing and ecologically informed design including sensitivity to the terrain, natural resources and heritage of the property (2 pts.)
17. \_\_\_ enhances environmental educational opportunities through formal programs (3 pts.)
18. \_\_\_ provides reasonable physical links to schools and/or after school centers (1 pt.)
19. \_\_\_ includes reasonable pedestrian/bicycle linkages to other existing or funded open space preserves and population centers (2 pts.)
20. \_\_\_ provides multiple recreational, economic and aesthetic preservation benefits (1 pt.)
21. \_\_\_ allows proper management of areas where safe fishing, hunting and trapping may take place in a manner that will preserve balanced natural ecosystems (2 pts.)
22. \_\_\_ enhances economic development that relies on recreation and ecotourism (1 pt.)
23. \_\_\_ provides connecting corridor for protected natural areas (3 pts.)

**Part II SCORE: \_\_\_\_\_**

**NRAC SCORING METHODOLOGY -Part III- Required 41 pts.**

**NRAC shall consider the following in approving or disapproving a grant (*each applicant must explain each scoring category and how they qualify to receive those points*):**

1. Percentage of Clean Ohio matching funds necessary to complete project;

75% (required)       74-70% (2 pts.)       69-65% (4 pts.)       64-60% (6 pts.)       <60% (8 pts.)

2. **Level of coordination:** (1 pt. each) Coordination means project carries out a specific plan of an agency or organization that was adopted more than one (1) year prior to submittal of this application. An agency or organization could offer in-kind or monetary contribution to the project to help implement another organization's plan.

local political subdivisions       state agencies       federal agencies  
 community organizations       conservation organizations       local business groups

3. **Level of conservation coordination** with other Open space, Riparian Corridor, Trails, Farmland Protection or Urban Revitalization Projects under the Clean Ohio Fund in other Public Works Commission districts

is a joint project (2 pts.)  
 carries out an adopted open space, watershed or other plan overlapping another district (1 pt.)

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 proposed projects.

economic (3 pts.)       social/recreational (3 pts.)       environmental (3 pts.)

5. **Extent of public access** once project is completed (check one, 5 pt. max.):

open days and weekends (5 pts.)  
 open limited, but regular hours (3 pts.)  
 open by appointment or with written permission (1 pt.)

6. **Operation and Maintenance** once project is completed (check one, 5 pt. max.):

operation plan and infrastructure, if appropriate, in place (5 pts.)  
 operation plan, no infrastructure (3 pts.)  
 limited operation plan, volunteers available, no infrastructure (1 point)

7. **Project Management Experience** of similar or related projects (check one, 5 pt. max.):

successfully completed 3-5 similar projects in the last 10 years (5 pts.)  
 successfully completed 1-2 similar project in the last 5 years (3 pts.)  
 has partnered on at least one similar project in the last 5 years (1 pt.)

**Part III SCORE: \_\_\_\_\_**

**NRAC SCORING METHODOLOGY - Part IV- Other Factors 17 pts.**

*(each applicant must explain each scoring category and how they qualify to receive those points):*

1. **Community Planning:** Project is in concert with an adopted comprehensive open space or watershed plan. **Note: See Glossary for listing and location of plan(s).** (check one, 3 pt. max.)  
 project identified as important in the plan (3 pts.)  
 area identified as important in the plan (2 pts.)  
 project would be consistent with plan (1 pt.)
  
2. **Regional Significance:** What is the regional significance of the proposed project? (check one, 2 pt. max.)  
 project located in a multi county area (2 pts.)  
 project located in multiple local political subdivisions within one county (1 pt.)
  
3. **Natural Resource Viability:** How important is the project to the viability of the natural resources affected by the project? (check one, 3 pt. max.)  
 protects a globally endangered species or biological community (G1 through G3) (3 pts.)  
 protects more than 5 state Natural Heritage Inventory (NHI) S1 species or endangered species (2 pts.)  
 protects 1 -5 state NHI ranked S1 through S3 species (1 pt.)
  
4. **Level of funding provided (list: % and \$) by sources other than the applicant, both funding, and in kind:**  
Private: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ % \_\_\_\_\_      Federal: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ % \_\_\_\_\_  
State: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ % \_\_\_\_\_      Other Local: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ % \_\_\_\_\_  
  
 (1 pt. for attracting significant [more than 5% Private, Federal, State, or Other Local] non Clean Ohio Fund funding)
  
5. **Readiness to proceed factors:**  
Contract with the owner and evidence from seller that closing will take place  
 within 1 year (1 pt.)
  
6. **Open space related facilities construction readiness:**  
 construction to begin within a year (1 pt.)
  
7. **Other Project Factors:**  
 project addresses a situation where action must be taken now or opportunity will be lost forever (3 pts.)

**TOTAL Part IV: \_\_\_\_\_ + Parts II \_\_\_\_\_ and III \_\_\_\_\_ = TOTAL SCORE: \_\_\_\_\_**