

Clean Ohio Fund

Ohio Public Works Commission - District 6
Ohio Natural Resource Assistance Council (NRAC)

c/o Eastgate Regional Council of Governments
Austin Square
5121 Mahoning Avenue
Austintown, Ohio 44515

SCORING METHODOLOGY

Applicant Name: _____

Applicant Contact: _____

Project Title: _____

NRAC Project # _____ Date Application Received _____

Project Reviewer _____

Total Points (214 maximum points)	
Project Ranking	
Total Project Cost	\$
Clean Ohio Funds Requested	\$
Clean Ohio Funds Available For This Ranking	\$

YES

NO

Is the amount of Clean Ohio Funds requested from District 6 NRAC available?

If not, Is the applicant willing and able to lower their request for Clean Ohio Funds and/or change the scope of the project and still complete the project? (*Attachment B # 13*)

District 6 NRAC Project Action: (Check only one)

Project Approved as submitted

Project held for future consideration pending clarification of:

1. _____
2. _____

Project Disapproved

YES NO

_____ _____ Applicant is eligible entity

_____ _____ Complete application received by deadline

Applicant must clearly demonstrate that the primary purpose of the project involves 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 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

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.

C. Would the project:

YES NO

- _____ _____ initiate or perpetuate man made or engineered hydromodification projects not primarily designed to protect or enhance water quality and /or natural features? Such projects include, but are not limited to, dams, ditch development, channelization, dredging, sedimentation, and stream bank erosion control by use of riprap or wall construction, bank clearing, bank armoring or bank hardening of any kind.
- _____ _____ 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?
- _____ _____ accelerate the runoff of untreated water?
- _____ _____ encourage invasive nonnative plant and animal species?
- _____ _____ fund construction activities that exceed the cost of the appraised value of the land?

If Yes to any of the above in C, the project is ineligible.
If projects meets Preliminary Scoring Requirements move on to Page 3

ATTACHMENTS/COMPLETENESS REVIEW:

BE CERTAIN EACH OF THE ITEMS LISTED BELOW IS ATTACHED. THE DISTRICT 6 NRAC REQUIRES THAT ALL SIGNED DOCUMENTS SUBMITTED INCLUDE THE ORIGINAL SIGNATURE. YOUR APPLICATION MAY BE DELAYED OR REJECTED IF THE INFORMATION IS OMITTED OR INCOMPLETE.

- A certified copy of the authorization by the governing body of the applicant authorizing a designated official to sign and submit this application and execute contracts with the commission. This individual should sign under 6.0, Applicant Certification, below.
- A certification signed by the applicant's chief financial officer stating all local share funds required for the project will be available on or before the dates listed in the Project Schedule section.
- A formal detailed estimate of the project's costs provided by an architect, landscape architect, or other professional. For land acquisition, an appraisal by a State-certified general real estate appraiser, as defined under ORC 4763 for the type of land being appraised will need to be submitted to the District 6 NRAC prior to closing.
- A cooperation agreement, (if the project involves more than entity) which identifies the fiscal and administrative responsibilities of each participant.
- Resolution of Support (please refer to section 164.23(B)(1) of the Ohio Revised Code for guidance.)
- Identification of any participation by state agencies that may have expertise regarding the particular project and that may provide assistance with respect to the project.
- Information concerning the coordination of the project among local political subdivisions, state agencies, federal agencies, community organizations, conservation organizations, and local business groups.
- Supporting Documentation: Materials such as additional project description, photographs, and/or other information to assist your District 6 NRAC in ranking your project. Be sure to include supplements which may be required by your District 6 NRAC.
- Include a letter of commitment from the land owner(s) with an estimated cost, if possible, or a letter of intent to sell.
- Include a conceptual site development plan. If appropriate, address storm water retention elements in the plan.
- All applications should include the Project location identified on a U.S.G.S. 7.5' Topographic Quadrangle map.
- Include a copy of the deed restrictions (Provided in Attachment B) as they will be submitted to the State if your project is approved. The wording submitted with the application must meet the wording submitted to the State *exactly*.

CONTINUED....

ATTACHMENTS/COMPLETENESS REVIEW continued:

Justification of land value: Include a copy of a County Tax Appraisal, a Market Analysis by a Realtor, or a copy of a recent (with in last 5 years) appraisal on the land to be purchased through the Clean Ohio Fund. This request stands if the application is for the purchase of an Easement.

For *LAND ACQUISITION*: If applicant provides a County Tax Appraisal to meet the criteria for justification of land value and the purchase price of the land is over 150% of the County Tax Appraisal amount, the NRAC will require an appraisal by a State certified appraiser be completed before a decision on the application will be made at the local level.

For *EASEMENT PURCHASE*:
**If property currently has a Current Agriculture Use Value (CAUV) determined by the County Auditor, the applicant may present the following formula to the NRAC to determine the per-acre value of the Easement: Market Value (minus) CAUV (divided by) the number of acres (MV-CAUV/ACRES).
**If there is no CAUV on the property or the applicant chooses not to determine land value based on the above formula then the NRAC shall consider up to 60% of Fair Market Price for the value of the easement.

If applicable, *either* of the above methods may be used to determine easement value. If the applicant is requesting MORE than is determined fair by either of the above methods, the NRAC will require an analytical narrative appraisal be done on the property. The applicant has the option to provide an analytical narrative appraisal in place of either of the two above mentioned requests.

Have you reviewed your District 6 NRAC's scoring methodology to see that you have addressed all components? (Do not attach a copy of the methodology to your application)

★★ PROPOSED PROJECTS THAT DO NOT OBTAIN A MEAN MINIMUM SCORE FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS OF AT LEAST 40% OF THE TOTAL POSSIBLE MAXIMUM POINTS THAT COULD BE AWARDED BY DISTRICT 6 NRAC COMMITTEE MEMBERS WILL ONLY BE FUNDED IN FULL OR PART UPON A FAVORABLE VOTE OF 8 COMMITTEE MEMBERS, AND BE CONTINGENT UPON FUNDING AVAILABILITY.

NRAC SCORING METHODOLOGY -- Part II

NRACs shall consider all the following in approving or disapproving a grant: Does the project emphasize (document in application) the following pursuant to Section 164.22, ORC? Please refer to Glossary of Terms. Please allocate points to those areas the applicant has identified as project emphasis according to the level of justification given.

PROJECT EMPHASIS

		Point allocation (0-5)
	1. Protects habitat for rare, threatened and endangered species	
	2. Increases habitat protection	
	3. Reduces or eliminates nonnative, invasive species of plants or animals	
	4. Preserves high quality, viable habitat for plant and animal species	
	5. Restores and preserves aquatic biological communities	
	6. Preserves headwater streams	
	7. Preserves or restores flood plain and stream side forest functions	
	8. Preserves or restores water quality	
	9. Preserves or restores natural stream channels	
	10. Preserves or restores functioning flood plains	
	11. Preserves or restores wetlands	
	12. Preserves or restores stream side forests	
	13. Acquisition of easements for protecting and enhancing riparian corridors or watersheds	
	14. Reforestation of land	
	15. Planting vegetation for filtration	
	16. Acquisition of connecting corridors	
	17. Supports comprehensive open space planning	
	18. Allows proper management of areas where safe hunting and trapping may take place in a manner that will preserve balanced natural ecosystems.	

(90 Possible Points) **Sub Total** _____

COMMENTS:

NRAC SCORING METHODOLOGY -- Part II continued

PROJECT EMPHASIS (continued)

		Point allocation (0-2)
	19 Preserves or restores other natural features that contribute to quality of life and state's natural heritage	
	20. Includes pedestrian linkages to other open space preserves and population centers.	
	21. Fee simple acquisition of lands to provide access to riparian corridors or watersheds	
	22. Incorporates aesthetically pleasing and ecologically informed design	
	23. Enhances educational opportunities and provides physical links to schools and after school centers	
	24. Provides multiple recreational, economic and aesthetic preservation benefits	
	25. Enhances economic development that relies on recreational and ecotourism in areas of relatively high unemployment and lower incomes	

(14 Possible Points) Sub Total _____

Part II SCORE: _____

COMMENTS:

NRAC SCORING METHODOLOGY --Part III--
The NRAC shall consider the following in approving or disapproving a grant:

FISCAL AND PROJECT MANAGEMENT

1. **Percentage of Clean Ohio matching funds necessary to complete project:** (*Application "Summary Sheet"*)
 75% (required) 74-70% (1 point) 69-65% (2 points) 64-60% (3 points) <60% (4 points)

2. **Level (list: \$ and %) of funding provided** by other sources, both funding and in kind: (*Application Section 1.2*)
 Private \$ _____ % _____ Public non-State \$ _____ % _____ Federal \$ _____ % _____
 attracting significant [more than 5% Private, Public non-State, or Federal] non Clean Ohio Fund funding (2 points)

3. **Readiness to proceed factors:** (*Application Section 3.0*)
 Contract with the owner and evidence from seller that closing will take place within
 6 months or less (2 points) within 1 year (1 point)

4. **Level of coordination:** (1 point each) Coordination means project carries out goals of multiple agencies, organizations (*Attachment B #2*) (*Check All That Apply*)
 local political subdivisions state agencies federal agencies
 community organizations conservation organizations

5. **Operation and Maintenance once** project is completed. (*Application Section 2.2*) (*Check ONE*)
 operation & maintenance plan and resources, if appropriate, in place (5 points)
 operation plan, no resources (3 points)
 limited operation plan, volunteers available, no resources (1 point)

6. **Project Management Experience.** (*Attachment B #6*) (*Check ONE*)
 successfully completed 3-5 projects in the last 10 years (3 points)
 successfully completed 1-2 projects in the last 5 years (2 points)
 has partnered on at least one project in the last 5 years (1 point)

7. **Clean Ohio funding necessary** to complete the project: (1 point each) (*Check All That Apply*)
 cost effective for a project of its acreage or its length in stream miles
 cost effective for a project of its rarity
 cost effectively links permanently preserved areas
 cost effectively preserves large blocks of high quality natural areas
 cost effectively protects or enhances riparian corridor

NRAC SCORING METHODOLOGY --Part III-- continued

LOCAL PRINCIPLES AND COORDINATION

- 8. Level of conservation coordination** with other Open Space, Riparian Corridor, Trails, Farmland Protection or Urban Revitalization Projects under the Clean Ohio Fund within the District or in other Public Works Commission districts. (*Attachment B # 12, #7, & Application Section 1.2 E*) (*Check All That Apply*)
- is a joint project-- either within District 6 NRAC or with another overlapping NRAC district (2 points)
 - carries out an adopted community plan (2 points)
 - carries out an adopted watershed plan (2 points)
 - carries out other adopted plan that follows in the spirit of the Clean Ohio Conservation Fund (2 points)

- 9. Community Planning:** Project is in concert with publicly adopted regional, community plan or watershed plan. (*Attachment B #7*) (*Check ONE*)
- project identified as important in the plan (3 points)
 - area identified as important in the plan (2 points)
 - project would be consistent with plan (1 point)

- 10. 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. (*Attachment B #3*)
- economic (0-3 points)
 - social/recreational (0-3 points)
 - environmental (0-3 points)

- 11. Extent of public access** once project is completed: (*Application Section 2.1 E*) (*Check ONE*)
- unlimited access
 - open limited, but regular hours
 - open by appointment or with written permission
 - visual access

APPLICANT HAS SUPPORTED THEIR CHOICE OF PUBLIC ACCESS AND HAS CLEARLY DEMONSTRATED HOW THIS ACCESS IS MOST APPROPRIATE FOR THIS PROJECT.
 (0-3 points)

- 12. Regional Significance:** What is the regional significance of the proposed project? (*Attachment B #8*) (*Check ONE*)
- project will benefit a multi county area (2 points)
 - project benefits multiple local political subdivisions within one county (1 point)

NRAC SCORING METHODOLOGY --Part III-- continued

GENERAL CONCERNS

13. Natural Resource Viability: How important is the project to the viability of the natural resources affected by the project? (*Attachment B #4*) (*Check All That Apply*)

___ protects a globally endangered species or biological community (5 points).

___ protects State Natural Heritage Inventory (NHI) rare, threatened, or endangered species (0-5 points).

___ protects a high quality example of a regionally threatened or endangered biological community or important example of Ohio’s natural heritage (0-5 points).

14. Other Project Factors:

___ project addresses a situation where action must be taken now or opportunity will be lost forever (0-5 points)(*Attachment B #9*)

___ project is adjacent to existing preserved open space or riparian areas (0-5 points) (*Attachment B #10*)

___ project incorporates an educational component with minimal impact to project site (0-5 points) (*Attachment B #11*)

___ project is a component of a larger conservation initiative of multi NRAC jurisdictions (0-5 points)(*Attachment B #12*)

___ Land acquisition will include all mineral and timber rights (5 points)

___ Land involved in the project: Less than 50 acres – (1 point)
50-99 acres– (2 points)
100-199 acres– (3 points)
200 or more acres– (4 points)

15. ___ Project is strictly for preservation of land in its natural state. (10 points)

16. ___ NRAC Member priority points (0-5 points)

(110 Possible Points) Part III Score: _____

Part II + Part III = TOTAL SCORE _____

PROPOSED PROJECTS THAT DO NOT OBTAIN A MEAN MINIMUM SCORE FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS OF AT LEAST **40%** OF THE TOTAL POSSIBLE MAXIMUM POINTS THAT COULD BE AWARDED BY DISTRICT 6 NRAC COMMITTEE MEMBERS WILL ONLY BE FUNDED IN FULL OR PART UPON A FAVORABLE VOTE OF 8 COMMITTEE MEMBERS, AND BE CONTINGENT UPON FUNDING AVAILABILITY.