

**District Eight Natural Resources Assistance Council
PY2 Project Evaluation Scoring Worksheet (Pages 1-8)**

Applicant Name: _____
Applicant Contact: _____

PRELIMINARY SCREENING – REQUIRED

Please indicate in either Section A or B, the content of the proposed project.

A. OPEN SPACE (Sec. 174.22 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
- _____ Open space acquisition
- _____ Permanent conservation easement
- _____ Constructs or enhances facilities necessary to make open space area accessible and useable 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.

C. WOULD THE PROJECT: (Note: If YES to any of these questions, the project is INELIGIBLE – Section 164.22, ORC)

YES NO

- _____ _____ Initiate or perpetuate hydro modification 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 open space?
- _____ _____ Fund facilities for active recreation such as tennis courts, ball fields or recreation centers?

Project Evaluation Scoring Worksheet – Part One

The District 8 NRAC will consider all of the following information to complete the District 8 Scoring Methodology. Please answer the following questions and provide a detailed explanation with supporting documents (if necessary) and refer to the Glossary of Terms.

All questions are worth two (2) points each (46 points maximum)

1. _____ Will the project protect habitat for rare, threatened and endangered species?
Explain _____

2. _____ Will the project increase habitat protection for a variety of native species?
Explain _____

3. _____ Will the project reduce or eliminate non-native, invasive species of plants or animals?
A Management Program must be outlined to receive points for this question.
Explain _____

4. _____ Will the project preserve an existing high quality, viable habitat for plant or animal species?
Explain _____

5. _____ Will the project restore and preserve aquatic or terrestrial biological communities?
Explain _____

6. _____ Will the project preserve headwater streams? (Defined in Glossary)
Explain _____

7. _____ Will the project preserve or restore functioning floodplains?
Explain _____

8. _____ Will the project preserve or restore water quality?
Explain _____

9. _____ Will the project preserve or restore natural stream channels?
Explain _____

Project Evaluation Scoring Worksheet – Part One (Continued)

10. _____ Will the project preserve or restore streamside forests? (Reforestation plan must be included).

Explain _____

11. _____ Will the project preserve existing high quality wetlands or restore wetland?

Explain _____

12. _____ Will the project preserve or restore other natural features that contribute to quality of life and state's natural heritage?

Explain _____

13. _____ Will the project provide fee simple acquisition of lands to provide access to riparian corridors?

Explain _____

14. _____ Will the project provide acquisition of easements protecting and enhancing riparian corridors or watersheds? A Plan identifying easement location on a map must be submitted.

Explain _____

15. _____ Will the project reforest land to improve water quality? A Reforestation or Woodland Management Outline that includes a planting plan must be included with the explanation.

Explain _____

16. _____ Will the project plant vegetation for filtration to improve water quality?

Explain _____

17. _____ Will the project incorporate aesthetically pleasing and ecologically informed design including sensitivity to the terrain, natural resources and cultural heritage of the property? Development plans must be submitted.

Explain _____

Project Evaluation Scoring Worksheet - Part One (Continued)

18. _____ Will the project enhance educational opportunities and provide physical links to schools and after school centers?

Explain _____

19. _____ Will the project include pedestrian/bicycle linkages to other open space preserves and population centers?

Explain _____

20. _____ Will the project support comprehensive open space planning?

Explain _____

21. _____ Will the project provide multiple recreational, economic and aesthetic preservation benefits?

Explain _____

22. _____ Will the project promote proper management of the ecosystem while allowing for safe fishing, hunting and trapping?

Explain _____

23. _____ Will the project enhance economic development that relies on recreation and ecotourism in areas of relatively high unemployment?

Explain _____

Project Evaluation Scoring Worksheet – Part Two
35 Points Maximum

NRAC shall consider the following in approving or disproving a grant:

1. What percentage of the total project cost will be Clean Ohio matching funds?
Maximum of 10 Points

_____	75%	(required)
_____	74%-70%	(3 points)
_____	69%-65%	(6 points)
_____	64%-60%	(9 points)
_____	<60%	(10 points)

Please indicate source of funds _____

2. What is the level of coordination? Coordination means project carries out goals of multiple agencies or organizations. Letters of support from agencies or organizations stating that the project carries out the goals of the organization or agency must be included.

Maximum of 5 Points - One (1) Point for each

_____	Local political subdivisions	(1 point)
_____	State agencies	(1 point)
_____	Federal agencies	(1 point)
_____	Community organizations	(1 point)
_____	Conservation organizations	(1 point)

List agencies _____

3. What is the 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? Letters of support or copies of community plans must be included.

Maximum of 2 Points

_____	It is a joint project	(2 points)
_____	It carries out an adopted community, watershed or other plan overlapping another NRAC district	(1 point)

Explain _____

4. What are the 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.

Maximum of 3 Points - One (1) Point for each

_____	Is it an economic benefit?	(1 point)
_____	Is it a social/recreational benefit?	(1 point)
_____	Is it an environmental benefit?	(1 point)

Explain the benefits _____

Scoring Worksheet - Part Two (Continued)

5. What is the extent of public access once project is completed?

Maximum of 5 Points

- _____ Is it open days and weekends? (5 Points)
- _____ Is it open limited, but at regular hours: (3 Points)
- _____ Is it open by appointment or with written permission? (1 Point)

Explain _____

6. What are the Operation and Maintenance once project is completed?

Maximum of 5 Points

- _____ Does the project have an operation plan and infrastructure, if appropriate in place? (5 Points)
Copies of plans or supporting documentation must be included.
- _____ Does the project have an operation plan, but no infrastructure? (3 Points)
Copies of operation plan must be included.
- _____ Does the project have a limited operation plan, volunteers available, but no infrastructure? (1 Point)
Copies of limited operation plan must be Included.

Explain _____

7. What is the Project Management Experience of a similar or related projects?

Maximum of 5 Points

- _____ Has the applicant or partners successfully Completed 3-5 similar projects in the last 10 years? (5 Points)
Please list and explain
- _____ Has the applicant or partners successfully Completed 1-2 similar projects in the last 5 years? (3 Points)
Please list and explain
- _____ Has the applicant partnered on this project To provide design, project management or Project oversight? (1 Point)
Please provide explanation and documentation.

Explain _____

**Project Evaluation Scoring Worksheet – Part Three
40 Points Maximum**

The NRAC may adopt additional criteria that reflects local priorities as long as the criteria compliment and does not negate Parts I and II that carry out ORC Sec. 174.20-164.27

1. Community Planning: Is the project identified with an adopted Community master plan or Watershed plan?

Maximum of 6 Points

- | | | |
|-------|--|------------|
| _____ | Is the project identified on a regional plan? | (6 points) |
| _____ | Is the project identified as important in the master plan? | (4 points) |
| _____ | Would the project be consistent with the watershed Plan? | (2 points) |

Explain

2. Regional Significance: What is the regional significance of the proposed project?

Maximum of 6 Points

- | | | |
|-------|---|------------|
| _____ | Will the project benefit a multi-county area? | (6 Points) |
| _____ | Will the project benefit primarily one county with the NRAC? | (4 Points) |
| _____ | Will the project benefit multiple local political subdivisions within one county? | (2 Points) |

Explain and attach appropriate legislation

3. Natural Resource Viability: How important is the project to the viability of the natural resources Affected by the project?

Maximum of 10 Points

- | | | |
|-------|---|-------------|
| _____ | Will the project protect more than 5 State Natural Heritage Inventory (NHI) endangered species? | (10 Points) |
| _____ | Will the project protect 1-5 State NHI ranked rare Species? | (8 Points) |
| _____ | Will the project protect a high quality example of a regionally endangered biological community? | (6 Points) |
| _____ | Will the project protect a threatened biological Community or important example of Ohio's Natural heritage? | (4 Points) |

Explain and Provide documentation from an authority on the subject

Project Evaluation Scoring Worksheet – Part Three (Continued)

4. Level of other funding: (List: Percentage of funding provided by other sources, both funding and In-kind: (4 points for attracting significant {more than 5% Private or Federal} non Clean Ohio Fund funding)

Maximum 8 Points

What Percentage Private \$ _____ if > 5 % 4 pts _____
What Percentage Federal \$ _____ if > 5 % 4 pts _____

Explain and provide documentation _____

5. Readiness to proceed factors - Acquisition of Open Space

Maximum of 3 Points

Is there a contract with the owner and evidence from seller that closing will take place?
_____ 6 months or less (3 Points)
_____ within one (1) year (1 Point)

Explain and provide documentation: _____

6. Open Space/Enhancement Related facilities construction readiness to proceed:

Maximum of 3 Points

_____ Will construction begin in 6 months or less? (3 Points)
_____ Will construction begin within one year? (1 Points)

Explain and provide documentation: _____

7. What are the Other project factors?

Maximum of 4 Points

_____ Does the project address a situation where action (4 Points)
Must be taken now or the opportunity will be lost
forever

Explain _____

