



APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

District 8 NRAC Clean Ohio Conservation Fund Program Year 13

The District 8 Natural Resources Assistance Council (NRAC) is accepting applications for eligible projects that provide for open space acquisition (including the acquisition of easements), that protect and enhance riparian corridors or watersheds, including the protection and enhancement of streams, rivers, lakes, and other waters of the State, and/or protection or enhancement of forests or plant and animal habitat.

The Grant Application Package consists of the following:

- 1. State Clean Ohio Application - Attachment A (State)**
- 2. District 8 Application, Attachment B – PY13 Project Evaluation Scoring Worksheet**
- 3. District 8 NRAC Minimum Score Policy**
- 4. Glossary of Terms**

With your application, please include a cover sheet that provides a basic project description summary.

The Grant Application submittal package must include a total of either:

- 1. One original, eight (8) paper copies and one (1) application CD**
- 2. One original, three (3) paper copies and five (5) application CD's**
- 3. All pages to be numbered with a recommended Index**

Mandatory Project Review meeting scheduled by August 14, 2018, 1:00pm.

The submission deadline is: Friday, October 19th, 2018, 12:00pm

Completed applications should be submitted to:

Bob Genet
Summit County Community & Economic Development Department
175 South Main Street, Room 207
Akron, Ohio 44308

If you have any questions, contact Bob Genet at (330) 643-7769 or bgenet@summitoh.net.

Attachment B
District Eight Natural Resources Assistance Council
PY 13 Project Evaluation Scoring Worksheet

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. 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
- _____ 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.

NOTE: For projects that seek to restore streams, wetlands, and other water bodies, the applicant must demonstrate ability to secure a Nationwide Permit (or other appropriate stream restorations permit) from the United States Army Corps of Engineers. Other applicable permits such as 401 Water Quality Certification from the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency must also be obtained. Applicants must receive permits and all necessary authorizations within one year of receiving Clean Ohio Funding and before commencement of project construction.

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 on the subject property? Explain

2. _____ Will the project increase habitat protection for a variety of native species? For land acquisition projects, please specify the benefits to plants and wildlife (*Examples of benefits would include nesting habitat and food resources protected for wildlife? Both plant and wildlife habitat preserved against certain development practices? Restoration of plant and wildlife habitat?*) For stream restoration, will the project restore a non-compliant stream or significantly improve physical habitat and biological communities? Explain

3. _____ Will the project reduce or eliminate non-native, invasive species of plants or animals? A Management Program must be included to receive points. State the tab number where the Management Program is found in the first sentence of the explanation. Explain

4. _____ Will the project preserve an existing high quality, viable habitat for plant or animal species? A report must be included to receive points. State the tab number where the report is found in the first sentence of the explanation. Contact District 8 NRAC for agencies that can perform this service free of charge.

Explain

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

NOTE: Applicants should be as specific as possible when responding to this question. Restoration projects (aquatic or terrestrial) should clearly specify the desired biological recovery (example: restoration of prairie plant community or warmwater habitat (WWH) 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?

NOTE: Water quality is defined as the physical (habitat), chemical, and biological makeup of a stream or waterbody. Applicants seeking to restore streams should clearly demonstrate existing impacts and specify recovery according to these three criteria. Ohio EPA procedures for evaluating water quality should be utilized for this purpose.

Explain

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

Explain

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

18. _____ Will the project enhance educational opportunities and provide physical links to schools and after school centers? (Physical links to include sidewalks or trails that link schools to the project area within a quarter mile radius.)

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 provide proper management of areas where safe fishing or hunting or trapping may take place in a manner that will preserve balanced natural ecosystems?

Explain

23. _____ Will the project enhance economic development that relies on recreation and ecotourism in areas of relatively high unemployment? (*Provide documentation on unemployment data – see below for Glossary Definition*)

Explain

*Areas of relatively high unemployment: A municipal corporation that has a population of at least fifty thousand or a county, that the average rate of unemployment, during the most recent five-year period for which data are available, is equal to at least one hundred and twenty-five percent of the average rate of unemployment for the United States for the same period [ORC Sec.122.16]

Project Evaluation Scoring Worksheet – Part Two

70 Points Maximum

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

1. What percentage of the total project cost will be Clean Ohio matching funds?(Proof that grant funding has been awarded to applicant must be included in order to count grant funding toward the local match.) **Maximum of 12 Points**

_____	75%	(required)
_____	<75% to 60%	(4 points)
_____	<60% to 50%	(8 points)
_____	<50%	(12 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 this or other Public Works Commission Districts? **Maximum of 3 Points**

_____	It is a joint project involving more than one NRAC District or multiple communities within this NRAC District.	(2 points)
_____	It carries out an adopted community, watershed or other plan overlapping another NRAC district	(1 point)

Explain

**See Attachments/Completeness Checklist – the applicant must submit a cooperation agreement, which identifies the fiscal and/or administrative responsibilities of each participant in order to be considered a joint project.

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 10 Points**

a. _____ Is it an economic benefit?

Does the project have a significant effect on employment in District 8?

Formula: $\text{Committed Jobs} + 25\% \text{ of Potential Jobs} = \text{Adjusted Jobs}$

- 10 points - 5,000 or more adjusted jobs
- 7 points - 2,500 to less than 5,000 adjusted jobs
- 3 points - 500 to less than 2,500 adjusted jobs
- 0 points - less than 500 adjusted jobs

Committed jobs must be documented by a written commitment from the employer and include both retained jobs (those that would be otherwise lost from the region) plus new jobs. Potential jobs must be documented by a professional consultant impact study.

Explain the benefits

b. _____ Is it a social/recreational benefit? **Maximum of 5 points**

Explain the benefits:

c. _____ Is it an environmental benefit? **Maximum of 5 points**

Explain the benefits:

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 a conservation, operation, or management plan that describes how this property will be maintained and does it have the organizational infrastructure to support it? Copies of plan and supporting documentation must be included. (5 points)
- _____ Does the project have a conservation, operation, or management plan, volunteers available, but no organizational infrastructure? Copies of plans must be included. (3 points)

Explain

7. What is the Applicant's Project Management Experience of similar or related projects?
Maximum of 5 Points

_____ Has the applicant or partners successfully completed 3-5 similar projects in the last 10 years? Please list and explain. (5 Points)

_____ Has the applicant or partners successfully Completed 1-2 similar projects in the last 5 years? Please list and explain (3 Points)

_____ Has the applicant partnered on this project to provide design, project management or project oversight? Please explain and provide documentation. (1 Point)

Explain

8. Is this a previously funded Clean Ohio Greenspace project that is being submitted for related development versus acquisition as defined in ORC 164.22A?

_____ No (15points)
_____ Yes (0 points)

Project Evaluation Scoring Worksheet – Part Three

50 Points Maximum

The NRAC may adopt additional criteria that reflects local priorities as long as the criteria complement and does not negate Parts I and II that carry out ORC Sec. 174.20-164.27 For the following questions, please check all that apply.

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) |
| _____ | For stream restoration projects, does the community in which the project is located have a stream protection or riparian ordinance? | (2 points) |

Explain

2. Regional Significance: What is the regional significance of the proposed project? **Maximum of 10 Points**

- | | | |
|-------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| _____ | Will the project physically connect or span a multi-county area? | (10 Points) |
| _____ | Will the project physically connect or span multiple local political subdivisions with our county? | (5 points) |

Explain and provide documentation

3. Natural Resource Viability: How important is the project to the viability of the natural resources affected by the project? (*Note: Provide documentation from a recognized authority on the subject*). **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) |

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 (Note: applicants may not count their own local match contribution toward the Percentage Private).

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------|
| What Percentage Private _____ | if > 5 % 4 pts _____ |
| What Percentage Federal _____ | if > 5 % 4 pts _____ |
| What Percentage Other State _____ | 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:
NOTE: *As stated previously, projects that propose to alter or modify a regulated natural resource require approval from various state and federal regulatory agencies. Such projects must demonstrate that the applicant has coordinated with the appropriate agency (agencies) and that these agencies agree with the specifics of the proposal (at least tentatively). Documentation from these regulatory agencies should include a statement that the project, as it is presently proposed, will not likely result in any adverse environmental impacts and will likely be permissible under their jurisdiction. **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. _____ Will this project employ storm water retrofits or practices that will minimize detrimental impacts to stream channels and storm water quality? (Examples – new retention and detention where non-existent before: USEPA recommended post-construction practices) **Maximum of 2 Points**

Explain and provide documentation:

8. _____ Will this project serve as an innovative or unique watershed demonstration project for other urban areas? **Maximum of 2 Points**

Explain and provide documentation:

9. _____ Will there be more than a 10% reduction in impervious area within the project boundaries? **Maximum of 2 Points**

Explain and provide documentation:

10. What are the Other project factors? **Maximum of 4 Points**

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

Explain

For additional assistance, please contact:

Bob Genet
District 8 Liaison
(330) 643-7769
(330) 643-2886 fax
bgenet@summitoh.net

Linda Bailiff
Ohio Public Works Commission
(614) 644-1823
linda.bailiff@pwc.state.oh.us

Additional information is available at the County of Summit Department of Community & Economic Development website <https://co.summitoh.net/index.php/nrac> or the Clean Ohio Fund website <http://www.clean.ohio.gov>



Ohio Public Works Commission
Clean Ohio Fund - Green Space Conservation Program
Application for Financial Assistance

IMPORTANT: Please consult "Instructions for Financial Assistance", for guidance in completion of this form.

Applicant

Applicant: _____

District Number: _____ Subdivision Code: _____ Date: _____

Contact: _____ Phone: _____
(The individual who will be available during business hours and who can best answer or coordinate the response to questions)

Email: _____ FAX: _____

Project

Project Name: _____

County: _____ Zip Code: _____

Applicant Type

(Select one)

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| County (1) | Conservation District (6) |
| City (2) | Soil & Water (7) |
| Township (3) | Joint Recreational District (8) |
| Village (4) | Park District / Authority (9) |
| Nonprofit Organization (10) | |
| Other (11) _____ | |

Funding Request Summary

(Automatically populates from page 2)

Total Project Cost: _____ .00
 Funding Requested: _____ .00

Project Emphasis

(Automatically populates from Attachment A)

Primary: _____
 Secondary: _____

NRAC Recommendation (To be completed by the NRAC)

NRAC Priority: _____

Amount: _____ .00

For OPWC Use Only

Status

Funding Summary

Project Number: C _____

Grant Amount: _____ .00

Release Date: _____

Local Participation: _____ %

OPWC Approval: _____

OPWC Participation: _____ %

1.0 Project Financial Information (All Costs Rounded to Nearest Dollar)

1.1 Project Estimated Costs

Acquisition

Fee Simple	a.) _____	.00
Easement	b.) _____	.00
Total Acquisition Costs	c.) _____	.00

Planning and Implementation

Appraisal	d.) _____	.00
Survey	e.) _____	.00
Title Work	f.) _____	.00
Closing Costs	g.) _____	.00
Environmental Assessments	h.) _____	.00
Other _____	i.) _____	.00
_____	_____	.00
_____	_____	.00
_____	_____	.00
Total Planning and Implementation	k.) _____	.00
Site Improvements	l.) _____	.00
Permits, Advertising, Legal _____ %	m.) _____	.00
Contingencies	n.) _____	.00 _____%
Total Estimated Costs	o.) _____	.00 <u>100</u> %

1.2 Project Financial Resources

Local Resources

Local In-Kind or Force Account	a.) _____	.00
Applicant Contributions	b.) _____	.00
Other Public Revenues		
Land Water Conservation Fund	d.) _____	.00
Nature Works	e.) _____	.00
Ohio Environmental Protection Agency	f.) _____	.00
Ohio Department of Natural Resources	g.) _____	.00
Other _____	h.) _____	.00
Private Contributions: (e.g. Land Donation)	i.) _____	.00
Subtotal Local Resources	j.) _____	.00 _____%

Clean Ohio Funds

Funds this NRAC	k.) _____	.00
Funds another NRAC	l.) _____	.00
Subtotal Clean Ohio Funds	m.) _____	.00 _____%
Total Financial Resources	n.) _____	.00 <u>100</u> %

1.3 Availability of Local Funds

Attach a statement signed by the *Chief Financial Officer* listed in section 5.2 certifying *all local resources* required for the project will be available on or before the earliest date listed in the Project Schedule section. The OPWC Agreement will not be released until the local resources are certified. Failure to meet local share may result in termination of the project. Applicant needs to provide written confirmation for funds coming from other funding sources.

1.4 Partnerships

List any partnership with other sources (i.e. is this part of a larger project or plan):

2.0 Project Schedule

2.1 Planning and Implementation	Begin Date: _____	End Date: _____
2.2 Land Acquisition / Easements	Begin Date: _____	End Date: _____
2.3 Site Improvements	Begin Date: _____	End Date: _____

Failure to meet project schedule may result in termination of agreement for approved projects. Modification of dates must be requested in writing by project official of record and approved by the Commission once the Project Agreement has been executed.

3.0 Project Description

A: SPECIFIC LOCATION (Supply a written location description that includes the project boundaries; although a map is required it does not replace this requirement. Include parcel numbers, noting if partial, and the number of deeds.) 1000 character limit.

B: PROJECT COMPONENTS (Describe the various components and attach proposed deed restrictions) 2,000 character limit.

C: Terms of Easements: 500 character limit.

D: Access: (Location, if open to public, hours, public participation in planning process) 500 character limit.

E: Ownership / Management / Operation: 500 character limit.

4.0 Project Officials

Changes in Project Officials must be submitted in writing from an officer of record.

4.1 Chief Executive Officer (Person authorized in legislation to sign project agreements)

Name: _____

Title: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

FAX: _____

E-Mail: _____

4.2 Chief Financial Officer (Can not also serve as CEO)

Name: _____

Title: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

FAX: _____

E-Mail: _____

4.3 Project Manager

Name: _____

Title: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

FAX: _____

E-Mail: _____

5.0 Attachments / Completeness review

Confirm in the boxes below that each item listed is attached (Check each box)

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. This individual should sign under 6.0, Applicant Certification, below.

A certification signed by the applicant's chief financial officer stating the amount of *all local share* funds required for the project will be available on or before the dates listed in the Project Schedule section.

A cooperative agreement (if the project involves more than one 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).

OPWC Proposed Declaration of Restrictions; also include restrictions for any other funding sources.

Information concerning the coordination and / or participation by local subdivisions, state agencies, federal agencies, community organizations, conservation organizations, and local business groups.

For site improvements: Formal estimate by architect, landscape architect, or other professional, or quotes.

Supporting Documentation: Materials such as additional project description, photographs, and / or other information to assist your NRAC in ranking your project including supplements which may be required by your local NRAC. Appraisals must be in conformance with OPWC appraisal standards.

6.0 Applicant Certification

The undersigned certifies: (1) he/she is legally authorized to request and accept financial assistance from the Ohio Public Works Commission as identified in the attached legislation; (2) to the best of his/her knowledge and belief, all representations that are part of this application are true and correct; (3) all official documents and commitments of the applicant that are part of this application have been duly authorized by the governing body of the applicant; and, (4) should the requested financial assistance be provided, that in the execution of this project, the applicant will comply with all assurances required by Ohio Law, including those involving Buy Ohio and prevailing wages.

Applicant certifies that the project as defined in the application has NOT resulted in any transfer of title or rights to land or begun any type of physical improvements prior to the execution of a Project Agreement with the Ohio Public Works Commission. Action to the contrary will result in termination of the agreement and withdrawal of Ohio Public Works Commission funding.

Certifying Representative (Printed form, Type or Print Name and Title)

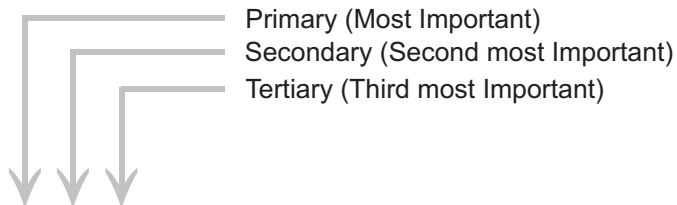
Original Signature / Date Signed

Attachment A

Project Emphasis

(ORC 164.22)

Select the projects primary emphasis in the first column. If the project has more than one emphasis, then prioritize in order of decreasing emphasis using the second and third columns. Select one item for each column. You may add a supplemental sheet if you want to provide additional information on the project's value.



Supports comprehensive open space planning; Incorporates aesthetically pleasing and ecologically informed design

Enhances economic development that relies on recreation and ecotourism in areas with relatively high unemployment and lower incomes

Protects habitat for rare, threatened, and endangered species or the preservation of high quality, viable habitat for plant and animal species

Preserves existing high quality wetlands or other scarce natural resources

Enhances educational opportunities and provides physical links to schools and after-school centers

Preserves or restores water quality, natural stream channels, functioning floodplains, wetlands, and/or streamside forests. Preserves or restores other natural features that contribute to the quality of life and to state's natural heritage

Reduces or eliminates nonnative, invasive species of plants or animals

Allows proper management of areas where safe fishing, hunting, and trapping may take place in a manner that will preserve a balanced natural ecosystem

Increases habitat protection

Included as part of a stream corridor-wide or watershed-wide plan

Provides multiple recreational, economic, and aesthetic preservation benefits

Preserves or restores floodplain and streamside forest functions

Preserves headwater streams

Restores and preserves aquatic biological communities