



PROGRAM YEAR 2021-2022

Clean Ohio Greenspace
Conservation Fund Program

**Attachment B:
Request for Additional Information**

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

Eastgate Regional Council of Governments
City Center One
100 E. Federal Street, Suite 1000
Youngstown, OH 44503

Clean Ohio Conservation Fund:
District Six Attachment B

DATE: _____

PROJECT TITLE:

APPLICANT:

OPWC APPLICANT CODE¹ #: _____ - _____

PROJECT CONTACT: _____

PHONE: (____) _____ FAX: (____) _____

ADDRESS: _____

COUNTY: _____

PROJECT COST: \$ _____

TOTAL CLEAN OHIO FUNDS REQUESTING: \$ _____

APPLICANT MATCH (ORC 164.22 (A)(2)(3)): _____%

PROJECT TYPE (ORC 164.23 (A)(B): Check the largest component of application

- A.____ OPEN SPACE
- B.____ RIPARIAN CORRIDOR
- C.____ RESTORATION

NUMBER OF ACRES PRESERVED/RESTORED IN THE PROJECT: _____

LINEAR FEET/STREAM MILES RESTORED: _____

¹ Applicants must contact OPWC for Applicant Code if they do not have one.
Program Year 2021-2022

PRIMARY PROJECT EMPHASIS:

Applicant MUST CLEARLY demonstrate the PRIMARY PURPOSE of the project involves ONE of the following from A. or B.

A. OPEN SPACE (ORC 164.22 (A))

- Acquire Land for Parks
- Acquire Land for Public Forests
- Acquire Land for Wetland Preservation or Restoration
- Acquire Land for Natural Areas Protecting Endangered Species
- Acquire Land for Other Natural Areas
- Acquire Land for Connecting Corridors for Natural Areas
- Open Space Acquisition
- Permanent Conservation Easement

B. RIPARIAN CORRIDORS OR WATERSHEDS (ORC 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. DOES THE PROJECT:

Please note: If you answer "yes" to any of the questions below the project is ineligible

YES NO

- Initiate or perpetuate manmade 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 rip-rap or wall construction, bank clearing, bank armoring or bank hardening of any kind. (ORC 164.22 (A)(6))
- 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?
- Accelerate the runoff of untreated water?
- Encourage invasive nonnative plant and animal species?

D. FOR ALL ACQUISITION OR EASEMENT PROJECTS:

Property Owner(s): _____

Does the owner(s) live in town? ___ YES ___ NO

If NO, please state where they currently live: _____

Has anyone contacted the property owner(s) about the proposed project? ___ YES ___ NO

If yes, who contacted the property owner(s)? _____

Date of contact: _____

Please list type of contact (i.e. telephone conversation, mailed letter): _____

Is the property owner(s) willing to cooperate with the applicant? ___ YES ___ NO

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Project Information

The following four sections are evaluated by District Six NRAC members and used to establish OPWC funding recommendations. Each NRAC member assigns point values, when applicable, to each response provided in Project Evaluation Parts I, II, and III. Applicants are **strongly encouraged** to use the *District Six Application Manual* while completing Project Evaluation Parts I, II, and III to understand the point value associated with each response.

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PROJECT JUSTIFICATION

In the space below, please provide a narrative of the project, highlighting its natural features and its importance with respect to the District Six NRAC region.

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PROJECT EVALUATION- PART I

Please provide a detailed explanation to support the identified primary, secondary, and tertiary emphasis area. (OPWC's *Application for Financial Assistance- Attachment A: Project Emphasis* (page 7) (ORC 162.22))

1. _____

EXPLAIN:

2. _____

EXPLAIN:

3. _____

EXPLAIN:

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PROJECT EVALUATION- PART II

The District Six NRAC recognizes a project may emphasize more than the primary, secondary, and tertiary areas identified *in Project Evaluation- Part I*. Therefore, the District Six NRAC shall consider the following additional information in approving or disapproving a grant. Please indicate **YES** or **NO** for each project emphasis listed (ORC 164.22) and provide an explanation and supporting documentation for each area. Explanation of points

1._____ Does the project support comprehensive open space planning including incorporating aesthetically pleasing and ecologically informed design?

Explain:

2._____ Will the project enhance economic development reliant on recreational and ecotourism in areas of relatively high unemployment and lower incomes?

Explain:

3._____ Will the project protect habitat for rare, threatened and endangered species or preserve high quality, viable habitat for plant and animal species?

Explain:

4._____ Will the project preserve existing high-quality wetlands or other scarce natural resources?

Explain

5._____ Does the project enhance educational opportunities and provides physical links to schools and afterschool centers?

Explain:

6a._____ Does the project preserve or restore water quality, natural stream channels, functioning floodplains, wetlands, and/or stream side forests?

Explain:

6b._____ Does the project preserve or restore other natural features that contribute to the quality of life and to state's natural heritage?

Explain:

7._____ Will the project reduce or eliminate nonnative, invasive species of plants or animals?

Explain:

8._____ Will the project allow for proper management of areas where safe hunting and trapping may take place in a manner that will preserve a balanced natural ecosystem?

Explain:

9._____ Will the project increase habitat protection?

Explain:

10._____ Is the project included as part of a stream corridor-wide or watershed-wide plan?

Explain:

11._____ Does the project provide multiple recreational, economic, and aesthetic preservation benefits?

Explain:

12._____ Does the project preserve or restore flood plain and stream side forest functions?

Explain:

13._____ Does the project preserve headwater streams?

Explain:

14 _____ Does the project restore or preserve aquatic biological communities?

Explain:

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PROJECT EVALUATION- PART III

The District Six NRAC shall consider the following information in approving or disapproving a grant:

1. Please identify the amount of Clean Ohio Funds necessary to complete the project. (*OPWC Application Section 1.2*)
2. Please identify the applicant's readiness to proceed by checking all factors appropriate to the project (*OPWC Application Section 2.0*). If a project is both land acquisition AND restoration, check all that apply. **Documentation is required for each item checked.**
 - a) For Land Acquisition Projects- Please provide either a:
 - Signed Purchase Agreement;
 - Letter of Intent to Sell.
 - b) For Restoration Projects- Please provide one or more of the following items:
 - Preliminary plans from a licensed landscape architect, engineer, or other qualified professional
 - Documentation of secured permits OR documentation indicating starting the permitting process.
 - Project schedule
3. Please detail the level of collaborative participation that exists among the applicant and local political subdivisions, federal, state and/or local agencies, community organizations, conservation/watershed organizations and/or local business groups. Participation means **active** involvement for the project in the form of in-kind service and/or funding. Identify each partner, their contributions (in-kind service or cash donation) and attach each partner's letter of commitment. (*ORC 164.23 (A)(7)(8)*) and (*ORC 164.24 (A)(4)*)
4. Please detail the level of coordination that exists among the applicant and local political subdivisions, federal, state and/or local agencies, community organizations, and/or conservation/watershed organizations. Identify partners, mutual goals, and explain relationships. (*ORC 164.23 (A)(7)(8)*) and (*ORC 164.24 (A)(4)*)
5. Please detail the Operation & Maintenance and/or Stewardship Plan specific to the project once the project is completed. Include documentation outlining infrastructure, equipment, and personnel resources available. Please provide documentation of operation and management plan.
6. Please indicate the level of community planning with other adopted community plans, watershed plans, Non-Point Source Implementation Strategy plans, or other adopted plan that follows the spirit of the Clean Ohio Conservation fund? If yes, please provide supporting documentation of plan/plans and cite where within the plan the project/project components are discussed. (*ORC 164.23 (A)(10)*)

7. Please detail the economic, social, recreational, and environmental benefits the proposed project will bring to the community. *(ORC 164.24 (A)(6))*
8. Will the project include public access? If yes, please describe how it will be made publicly accessible. *(ORC 164.23 (A)(11)) and (ORC 164.24 (A)(8))*
9. If your organization is submitting more than one project, please identify the project's priority (#1, #2, #3) and include the priority number on the application's cover page.

If Clean Ohio Funds requested of the Ohio PWC District 6 NRAC are not available, is the applicant willing and able to lower their request and/or the scope of the project and still complete the project?

10. Using the [Median Household Income \(MHI\) Community Percentage table](#), indicate the MHI of the community/communities in which the project is located in.
11. Please use the [Youngstown OH-PA 2010 Urban Boundary map](#) to determine if 50% or more of the project is located within an urbanized boundary. If it is, please provide a map of the urbanized area with the location of the project marked.
12. How important is the project to the vitality of the natural resources affected by the project? Please choose any of the following species' categories your project protects and provide supporting documentation for your choices:
 - Federally listed, extinct, extirpated, or newly identified species found in Ohio
 - State Endangered Species
 - State Threatened
 - State Potentially Threatened
 - State Concerned
13. Does the project proposal include all mineral, extraction, and timber rights? Applicant **MUST** explain and provide documentation of the property's mineral and extraction as they are conveyed in the purchase agreement or conservation easement.
 1. For Property Rights, please answer and provide documentation for all applicable questions:
 - Will the applicant retain property AND mineral rights AND prohibit future mineral extraction lease agreements?
 - Does the property have an existing mineral extraction lease agreement? If yes, will the applicant retain property AND mineral rights? Please explain and provide appropriate documentation.
 - Will the applicant retain ONLY the property rights (mineral rights have been severed from the property for future extraction allowance)? Please explain and provide appropriate documentation.
 2. If the project contains legal restrictions prohibiting surface disturbance within the property, applicant must provide documentation stating so.

14. a. Is **THIS** project contiguous² with an existing preserved open space or riparian area? If it is, please explain the connectivity with the existing parcel(s). A map showing the contiguous nature of **THIS** project should be included with this application.
- b. Does the project **protect** wetlands? Applicants **MUST** provide the ORAM wetland score sheets identifying the category/categories of wetlands on the property.
- c. Does the project **restore** wetlands? Applicant must list the LARGEST acreage of wetlands to be restored with Clean Ohio Funds.
- d. For Stream Restoration projects- Identify the linear feet of stream to be restored using Clean Ohio funds.
- e. For Land Acquisition projects- Identify the acreage involved in the project. (*OPWC Application Section 3.0*)
- f. Identify the amount of Clean Ohio Funding requested for the project. (*ORC 164.24 (A)(2)*) (*OPWC Application Section 1.2(m)*)

² Contiguous is defined as properties adjacent to one another and sharing a common property boundary.

Clean Ohio Fund - District Six Natural Resources Assistance Council

ATTACHMENT/COMPLETENESS REVIEW

IN ORDER FOR THE NRAC TO SCORE A PROJECT AND AWARD FUNDING, THE PROJECT APPLICATION MUST CONTAIN EACH OF THE ITEMS LISTED BELOW AS THEY RELATE TO THE PROJECT. IF THE NRAC DEEMS THE PROJECT INELIGIBLE THE PROJECT WILL NOT BE SCORED AND WILL NOT BE AWARDED FUNDING. (ORC 164.23)

1. 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.
2. 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. **If a non-local source, an entity other than the applicant, provides funding towards the project, a letter of commitment from the non-local entity source must be submitted with the application.** (ORC 164.23 (B)(2))
3. A cooperation agreement, (if the project involves more than one entity) identifying the fiscal and administrative responsibilities of each participant.
4. Resolution(s) of Support. (ORC 164.23)
 - a. As per ORC 164.23 (C), an applicant that is a park district or other similar park authority must provide documentation of consultation with consult with the legislative authority of each county, township, and municipal corporation in which the proposed project will be located.
5. Each project must provide the following aerial maps **CLEARLY** showing/identifying: (ORC 164.23 (A)(3))
 - a. Aerial map of the project clearly identifying the project boundary.
 - b. Project location with respect to its location within the county/township/municipality.
6. **For Land Acquisition Projects:** Applicants MUST provide documentation of either a Signed Purchase Agreement or Letter of Intent to Sell. (ORC 164.23 (A)(10))

For Restoration Projects: Applicants **MUST** provide:
(ORC 164.23 (A)(10))

- a. Documentation of preliminary plans by a licensed: landscape architect, engineer, or other qualified professional.
 - b. Documentation of Secured Appropriate Permits or Permitting Process.
 - c. Provide an itemized engineer's (budget) estimate for proposed restoration work.
7. Project Schedule. (ORC 164.23 (A)(12))
 8. Proposed Declaration of OPWC Restrictions; also include other restrictions.
 9. **For Acquisition and/or Conservation Easement Projects: An appraisal report OR restricted appraisal report is due at the time of application.** Applications with a purchase price that is more than 5% above the appraised value must show that local share is meeting the additional costs. Justification must be provided to the District Six NRAC for any acquisition above the appraised value.

****PLEASE REVIEW THE DISTRICT SIX NRAC'S SCORING METHODOLOGY TO ENSURE YOU ADDRESSED ALL APPLICATION COMPONENTS. PROPOSED PROJECTS THAT DO NOT OBTAIN A MEAN MINIMUM SCORE OF AT LEAST 40% (Total Points x .4) OF THE TOTAL POSSIBLE MAXIMUM POINTS AWARDED BY DISTRICT SIX 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.**

Eligible Activities/Improvements at District Six NRAC's discretion:

The District Six NRAC will allow the following activities/improvements as part of a Clean Ohio application if the activity is in-line with the conservation nature within the Clean Ohio Greenspace Conservation Program:

- Mountain Biking
- Equestrian Trails
- Disc Golf
- Dam Removal
- Demolition of structures

Clean Ohio Fund - District Six Natural Resources Assistance Council

Supplemental Documentation

The District Six NRAC requests the following supplemental information to be included in each application, as it relates to the project (*ORC 164.23*):

- 1) Topographic map with property boundary indicated. (*ORC 164.23 (A)(3)*)
- 2) Aerial view maps(s)³ of project indicating: (*ORC 164.23 (A)(3)*)
 - Major roadways
 - Major/Minor Streams
 - Floodplains
 - Wetlands
 - Other permanently protected lands. If part of a phased or an expansion of a previous Clean Ohio project (s), indicate current project with relation to previous project(s).
- 3) Conceptual Site Design indicating: (*ORC 164.23 (A)(3)*)
 - Public access point(s);
 - Proposed Parking area(s)
 - Proposed trail(s); and
 - Other eligible improvements.

If improvements, such as trails, parking, etc., are not feasible and/or not applicable to the project, the applicant must, at a minimum, provide a map showing where access to the project is provided
- 4) For restoration projects include items 1-3 from above and the following Conceptual Site Design information indicating: (*ORC 164.23 (A)(3)*)
 - Stream/wetland project boundary;
 - Tributaries;
 - Riparian area;
 - Location of and description of restoration activity(s),
 - Location of and description of revegetation activity(s);
 - Proposed public access point(s);
 - Proposed trail(s); and
 - Other eligible improvements.
- 5) Project location with respect to the OH-PA 2010 Urbanized Area, if applicable.⁴
- 6) Identification of any participation by agencies or organizations that may have expertise regarding the project and may provide assistance with respect to the project.
(*ORC 164.23 (A)(7)*)

³ Applicant may provide several, separate maps with the information listed so as not to clutter a single map.

⁴ Urbanized Boundary map if 50 % or more of the project is located within an urbanized boundary, Eastgate's [2010 Urban Boundary](#) link will help determine applicability.