

OHIO NATURAL RESOURCES ASSISTANCE COUNCIL - DISTRICT 17
FY 26 - Scoring Methodology



Project Name:

Applicant:

Reviewer:

Date:

PLEASE NOTE:

INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ELIGIBLE FOR FUNDING BY THE NRAC.
“Incomplete applications” are missing required application materials.

The applicant must submit their application by the deadline as published herein. The NRAC will complete a cursory review of the submitted applications and the NRAC or designee shall communicate with the applicants any identified missing documentation.

The applicant will be given a one-week (5 business days) remediation period for the submittal of any missing documentation that is required for the review of their application. Applications deemed ineligible will not be scored by the NRAC (see the NRAC Policy Manual, Part I above).

A purchase price greater than 5% of appraised value are not eligible to apply.

Under no circumstance shall an application be submitted to an NRAC for which there is an existing active Project Agreement for the same scope or portion of the same scope.

No additional supporting documentation for or amendments to a proposed project will be accepted after the designated cut-off date for application submissions unless specifically requested of the applicant by the District 17 NRAC.

Projects not scheduled for acquisition within 12-months from the date of the Project Agreement will be rejected by OPWC.

Proposed projects that do not obtain a mean minimal score from Council members of at least forty percent (40%) of the total possible maximum points that could be awarded by District 17 NRAC members will only be funded in full or in part upon a majority vote of Council members and be contingent upon funding availability.

Purchase and/or demolition of existing structures is not an approved NRAC 17 expense.

ADDED: The applicant must submit their application b published herein. The NRAC will complete a cursory re submitted applications and the NRAC or designee sha with the applicants any identified missing documenta

The applicant will be given a one-week (5 business da period for the submittal of any missing documentatio for the review of their application. Applications deem not be scored by the NRAC (see the NRAC Policy Man

ELIGIBLE PROJECT PER PRESCREENING (Check Applicable)

√	Applicant must clearly demonstrate that the primary purpose of a proposed project must be to preserve high quality green space, protect stream corridors or enhance the water quality of a stream. Proposed projects shall emphasize these as the primary goals rather than as simply secondary benefits of the project.
√	Public access improvements to be funded by a proposed project must be located on the parcel being acquired and/or previously aquired and meet OPWC requirements over a two-year period.
√	Project is scheduled for acquisition within 12-months from the date of the project agreement.
√	Applicant MUST have an ODOT-certified appraiser , who is credentialed in value analysis , review the property and provide a letter of review/letter of opinion/summary report no older than one (1) year from the date of the application deadline PLUS the County Auditor’s appraised value of the property. Both MUST be submitted with the application. If the purchase price of the property is more than the appraised value, Applicant should submit other documentation with the application that would justify the purchase price of the property. A full appraisal is required upon funding approval.
√	Maximum 75% grant funds requested to complete the project.
√	Applicant is an eligible entity and the required resolutions are included as described in ORC 164.23.
√	Matching funds for the project shall not include any permanent structures, anything pre-existing or anything that the Clean Ohio grant wouldn’t purchase.
√	All information pertinent to the current Scoring Methodology must be included if the application is for Restoration or Enhancement of property previously acquired through CleanOhio Funds.
Yes	Is this an eligible project? (Yes/No)

NRAC SCORING METHODOLOGY (165 Points Maximum)

NRACs shall consider all of the following in approving or disapproving a grant: Does the project emphasize (documented in application) the following pursuant to Section 164.22 ORC? Applicant is required to specifically describe and document how the proposed project will address each of the following criteria as applicable. **Unsubstantiated claims without credible documentation will not be scored.** Acceptable supporting documentation shall include written statements from professionals and agencies, site photographs, aerial photos, soil surveys, detailed maps, letters, studies from knowledgeable sources, etc. (ORC 164.24(A)(1)/(7))

Please refer to the Glossary of Terms: <https://www.pwc.ohio.gov/Project-Administration/Clean-Ohio>

0	Does the applicant have any projects that have been approved by this NRAC that are past due? (The liaison will deduct 5 points based on the status of outstanding projects, as per OPWC documentation.)
---	--

Maximum of five (5) points each. Please refer to the Glossary of Terms.

OHIO NATURAL RESOURCES ASSISTANCE COUNCIL - DISTRICT 17
FY 26 - Scoring Methodology



Project Name:

5	Restores or preserves functioning floodplains.
5	Restores or preserves natural stream channels.
5	Restores or preserves streamside forests.
5	Restores or preserves aquatic biological communities.
5	Preserves headwater streams and adjacent lands within the watershed.
5	Preserves other natural features that contribute to quality of life and the state's natural heritage.
Maximum of five (5) points each. Please refer to the Glossary of Terms.	
5	Preserves high quality wetlands. (MUST DOCUMENT QUALITY/ LEVEL OF WETLANDS)
5	Preserves high quality, viable habitat for plant and animal species.
5	Restores or preserves water quality.
Maximum of two (2) points each.	
2	Reduces or eliminates nonnative, invasive species of plants and animals.
2	Incorporates aesthetically pleasing and ecologically informed design including sensitivity to the terrain, natural resources, and heritage of the property. (MUST DESCRIBE SPECIFICALLY HOW THIS WILL BE DONE AND BY WHOM)
Maximum of three (3) points each.	
3	Increases habitat protection.
3	Preserve other scarce natural resources within the geographical jurisdiction of the Council. (MUST PROVIDE DOCUMENTATION OF THE SCARCE NATURAL RESOURCES)
3	Acquires fee simple acquisition of lands to provide access to riparian corridors or watersheds or for other purposes necessary for the protection and enhancement of riparian corridors or watersheds.
3	Makes acquisitions of easements protecting and enhancing riparian corridors or watersheds.
3	Plants indigenous vegetation, including reforestation of land, to improve water quality. (MUST DESCRIBE HOW WATER QUALITY WILL BE IMPROVED AND WHAT VEGETATION TO BE PLANTED)
Maximum of five (5) points each.	
5	Protects the habitat for state listed rare, threatened, or endangered species (OCCURRENCE MUST BE CONFIRMED, IN WRITING, BY ODNR NATURAL HERITAGE DATA BASE, OHIO EPA, OR OHIO DIVISION OF WILDLIFE)
5	Protects a threatened biological community or important example of Ohio's natural areas. (MUST BE DOCUMENTED)
5	Provides public access for multiple passive recreational uses, economic, social , and aesthetic preservation benefits. (ORC 164.24(A)(6)/(8))
5	Allows proper management of areas where safe fishing, hunting, and trapping may take place in a manner that will preserve balanced natural ecosystems.
Percentage of Clean Ohio grant funds requested to complete the project (check only one) (ORC 164.24(A)(2)/(3)):	
	70-74% (3 points)
	65-69% (5 points)
	60-64% (7 points)
10	less than 60% (10 points)
Level of Coordination: Coordination means project carries out the goals of multiple agencies and organizations. Documentation stating how projects carry out the goals of the support agencies and/or organizations is <u>required</u> . (Up to three (3) points each) (ORC 164.24(A)(4))	
3	State agencies
3	Federal agencies
3	Community organizations
3	Conservation organizations
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. (2 points each, not incremental) (ORC 164.24(A)(5)) (MUST BE DOCUMENTED)	
2	Is a joint project.
2	Carries out an adopted community, watershed or other plan overlapping another district.
Proximity to existing Clean Ohio protected parks, preserves, and conservation easement properties? (Check only one)	
5	First park, preserve, or conservation easement within the 12-digit HUC
3	Adds 2nd or 3rd park, preserve, or conservation easement properties within the 12-digit HUC
1	Adds 4th or more park, preserve, or conservation easement protected properties within the same 12-digit HUC
Community Planning: Project is consistent with or part of a documented, publicly adopted regional; community; watershed-wide; or stream corridor-wide plan. (3 points, not incremental) (MUST BE CONFIRMED, IN WRITING, BY A PUBLIC OFFICIAL)	
3	Project identified as important in the plan
Regional Significance: What is the regional significance of the project? (Check only one) (MUST BE DOCUMENTED)	
2	Project will benefit a multi county area (2 points)
1	Project benefits multiple jurisdictions within 1 county (1 point)
Readiness to proceed factors: (5 points each, not incremental)(ORC 164.24(A)(10)) (MUST BE DOCUMENTED)	
5	If land acquisition, a fully executed purchase agreement/contract valid for a minimum of 12-months from application date.
5	Site Improvement/ restoration project, includes contract/ documentation of schedule, permits and costs.

OHIO NATURAL RESOURCES ASSISTANCE COUNCIL - DISTRICT 17
FY 26 - Scoring Methodology



Project Name:

Other Project Factors: (5 points each, incremental) (MUST BE DOCUMENTED, See the "Additional Resources" within the District 17 NRAC Policy Manual)	
5	Provides a key linkage to an existing or proposed greenway/trail system.
5	Rate the cost effectiveness regarding the use of Clean Ohio funds for this project.
5	Provides ecotourism and aesthetic preservation benefits.
5	Serves an underserved population in terms of green space (MUST BE DOCUMENTED)
5	Serves a low-income and/or minority neighborhood. (MUST BE DOCUMENTED)
Past Funding	
5	The organization requesting funding has not been funded by District 17 NRAC within the last two (2) funding cycles.
165	TOTAL SCORE (165 Max)