

District 3 – Franklin County

NATURAL RESOURCES ASSISTANCE COUNCIL

PROGRAM POLICIES

3-20-2025

In addition to current OPWC Rules and Advisories, the District 3 Natural Resources Assistance Council (NRAC) has adopted the following program policies. If any policies listed below conflicts with OPWC Rules or Advisories, the latter must be upheld. These rules, advisories and policies should be carefully reviewed before the application materials are completed.

1. *Score Tie Breakers – (Adopted 1-8-2002)*

When scores are tied the following criteria will be used to break the tie:

- a. 1st tie breaker - project with highest % of match dollars
- b. 2nd tie breaker - project receiving the most points under “community benefits” (Part 2, question 17)

2. *Time Extensions*

A. Clean Ohio Conservation Fund Applications:

No time extensions will be granted for Clean Ohio Conservation Fund applications. The complete application shall be submitted through the WorksWise portal no later than 5:00 p.m. on the date of the application deadline. The NRAC reserves the right to reject an application that is judged to be incomplete. *(Adopted 1-8-2022; Revised 3-21-2024)*

B. Time Extension Requests for Active Projects:

The NRAC will consider requests for time extensions only to July 1 or January 1. NRAC recommendation will be forwarded to OPWC for approval. *(Adopted 1-20-2011; Revised 8-10-2020; Revised 3-20-2025)*

3. *Minimum Points for Funding*

Proposed projects that do not obtain a mean minimal score from committee members of at least fifty percent (50%) of the total possible maximum points that could be awarded by District 3 NRAC committee members will not be funded. *(Adopted 10-28-2005)*

4. *Last Project on Funding Line*

If the last qualified project on the funding list cannot receive its full funding request, then it will be offered partial funding for thirty days after the date of NRAC approval. After that date any available funds will be offered for thirty days to the next qualified project on the approved funding list until all funds are allocated. *(Adopted 10-10-2002; Revised 2-3-2003; Revised 12-18-2003; Revised 5-6-2009; Revised 3-20-2025)*

- 5. *Appraisal Must Accompany Applications with Acquisition***
An Appraisal Report or a Restricted Appraisal Report by an appraiser who is a certified general real estate appraiser holding a current certificate as issued by the Ohio Department of Commerce and is also an Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) Prequalified Appraiser credential in Appraisal shall accompany the application in order for the District 3 staff to consider the application complete and eligible for funding. Find full OPWC Appraisal Standards here, [Appraisal Standards Jan 2023.pdf \(ohio.gov\)](#). ((Adopted 06-05-2013; Revised 07-18-2013; Revised 8-10-2020; Revised 01-11-2023)
- 6. *Purchase Price Exceeds Appraised Value***
Justification for acquisitions that fall within 5% above the appraised value may be considered by the NRAC for recommendation to OPWC.. Any difference greater than 5% must be paid for with other funding outside the project. (Adopted 6-4-2014; Revised 8-10-2020; Revised 03-30-2025)
- 7. *Projects with Life Estate***
. The Ohio Revised Code allows the Clean Ohio Greenspace Conservation Program to acquire properties with life estates. Life estates are permitted in which the original landowner (seller) has occupancy rights limited to their lifetime (referred to as the “life tenant”).

(Adopted 4-21-2015; Revised 8-10- 2020; Revised 3-20-25)