



Natural Resources Assistance Council

District 3 – Franklin County – 614-228-2663

Kyle Wilson,
Chair

Round 17 – Policies/Criteria & Project Updates Meeting

Laura Ball
Vice-Chair

Monday, May 9, 2022

1:30 P.M.

Matthew Brown
Karl Craven
Stephen Farst
Nathan Johnson
Jim Palus
Shannon Sorrell
Tyler Stevenson
Steve Studenmund
Vacant

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

+1 614-362-3056 United States, Columbus (Toll)
(888) 596-2885 United States (Toll-free)
Conference ID: 161 655 663#

Staff:

Edwina Teye
614-223-4233

c/o MORPC
111 Liberty Street
Suite 100
Columbus, OH 43215

AGENDA

1. Meeting Called to Order
2. Approval of April 25, 2022 Minutes
3. OPWC Update
4. Approval of Budget & Work Plan 2022-2023
5. Project Updates
 - a. Utzinger Bog Conservation
 - b. Dry Run Stream Restoration
 - c. Stockbridge Urban Forest
 - d. Eastmoor Green Line
 - e. Taylor Farm Acquisition on Rocky Fork Creek
 - f. Marsh Run Stream Restoration in Gantz Park
 - g. Stockbridge Urban Forest
 - h. Big Walnut
 - i. Blacklick Creek Stream Restoration and Riparian Corridor Enhancement
 - j. Refugee Road – Mason Run Protection
 - k. Cherrybottom Park Expansion – Venice Club
6. Discussion of Policies & Criteria for Round 17
7. Approval of Policies & Criteria for Round 17 – *tentative*
8. Schedule for Round 17
9. Other Business
10. Adjournment

If you require special assistance, please notify
Edwina Teye at 614-233-4233 or eteye@morpc.org

#16-03 City of Columbus West Franklinton Greenspace Project

Chair Wilson noted that the Final Score for the project is 113.08, which is below the standard acceptable score of 125. However, the Council has often approved funding for projects that fall below the 125 score. Member Brown added that this is an area of the Community that is lacking in green space, and that he would support the project.

Member Brown moved to approve #16-03 City of Columbus West Franklinton Greenspace Project for the full grant amount, Member Johnson seconded the motion, motion carried.

#16-05 City of Upper Arlington Stream Erosion Control Education & Demonstration at Turkey Run's Reed Road Park

Member Brown noted that the application did not contain enough information to score points for several of the criteria. Chair Wilson suggested that the Council decline application #16-05 City of Upper Arlington Stream Erosion Control Education & Demonstration at Turkey Run's Reed Road Park for being too far below the minimum score.

This action did not require a motion.

Preparation for Round 17

Discussion of Policies & Criteria

This will be discussed at the May 9 meeting.

Review Draft Schedule

Revisions:

- May 9 and June 13, 2022, will be combined into Working Session/Policies/Criteria Final Action & Project Updates
- October 5, 2022, will be a hold for site visits to completed projects.
- March 24, 2023, Site visit will move to Thursday, March 23.
- April 6, 2023, Application Scoring Session will be moved to April 5.
- April 21, 2023, will be the Application Scores Due date.

Adjourned at 2:06 pm.

Work Plan & Budget
for
Clean Ohio Conservation Program

July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023

Exhibit 1

BUDGET

CLEAN OHIO CONSERVATION FUND PROGRAM

(Administered by the Ohio Public Works Commission)

Project Expenses

July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023

Personnel (Wage and Fringe) \$17,700

- Application review and data entry
- Management oversight & coordination
- Program coordination
- Secretarial support
- GIS technical assistance
- Link awards database to GIS & map new projects
- Press releases
- Technical support
- Conduct application workshop
- Update District 3 web site information and applicant manual

Indirect Costs \$10,974

Other Direct Costs \$ 326

- Postage, courier service, travel, meetings, paper, photocopying, printing, miscellaneous

TOTAL \$29,000

EXHIBIT 2

DISTRICT 3 PUBLIC WORKS INTEGRATING COMMITTEE (D3 PWIC)

PLAN OF WORK

Clean Ohio Conservation Program

1. **Complete administration of Round 17 and submission to OPWC**
2. **Administration of Round 17**
 - Review criteria and work with subcommittee to propose revisions, changes or new criteria or policies for final approval by the NRAC.
 - Request reappointment or new appointments to the NRAC.
 - Update program documentation and file with OPWC.
 - Provide applications to prospective applicants.
 - Provide access to District 3 forms and application materials via the Internet. Post changes and list meeting dates, etc.
 - Receive, process and review scoring of Round 17 applications.
3. **Provide information and assistance to applicants**
 - Upon request of local officials and their representative and/or OPWC officials, track implementation of projects and assist expedition of district projects. Interpret and communicate OPWC policies and procedures to all potential applicants and their representatives.
 - Respond to questions and provide technical assistance in preparing project applications as requested. Specifically, work with the appropriate parties to assist applicants in the preparation of competitive project applications for Round 17 funds.
 - Meet with individuals, community officials, project engineers and countywide organizations such as the Franklin County Township Association to explain program.
 - Conduct an application workshop for all eligible applicants to explain program policies and procedures and distribute application packets for Round 17.
 - Disseminate program policies and procedural changes to District 3 NRAC applicants.
4. **Provide administrative and technical support to the District NRAC**
 - Recommend policies and work with the committee to ensure program compliance, efficiency and fairness.
 - Record and distribute minutes of the District 3 NRAC meetings to members and others upon request.
 - Maintain complete, orderly files on all applications, communications and other pertinent documents received.
 - Provide summaries, lists and other information to committee members upon request.

- Respond to reasonable media and applicant inquiries regarding project and funding levels.

5. Attend seminars and conferences as required to maintain staff proficiency

- Represent the district at all state OPWC meetings.

6. Collect data and produce GIS Maps as requested

Utilizing the MORPC's Geographic Information Systems (GIS) capabilities, produce maps showing approved projects funded through Round 17. Staff will produce community project maps upon request.

Active Clean Ohio Conservation Fund Project Updates

Appalachia Ohio Alliance

CCIAA/09-01 – Utzinger Bog Conservation (complete by 1/1/2023)

This project is virtually complete. We are still working on addressing the Karnes septic system issue and plan another attempt to acquire a small section of the house lot prior to closing.

CCNAB Utzinger Bog Preserve

AOA has completed the Hancock acquisition. The Connelly swap and Partlow-Austin easement acquisitions have both been delayed by owner and mortgage issues but are still on track. We have completed most of the prairie planting, invasive control, reforestation/tree planting, building demolition, gas tank removal and parking improvement activities. OSU is carrying out a bog assessment study. We are working on the hydrology improvements and will be following up with the bog enhancements.

Columbus Recs & Parks

CCIAG/ 15 - Dry Run Stream Restoration- (complete by 12/31/2021) (update as at Jan 2022)

Project is complete. Submitting reimbursement documents to OPWC.

CKKAF/11 – 03B Eastmoor Green Line (complete by 01/1/2023)

Purchase is nearly completed.

CCNAF/14 – 10 Stockbridge Urban Forest (complete by 01/01/2023)

Tree plantings will continue through Spring and Fall Will of 2022 tree plantings and site restoration to complete the project.

CCOAA/ 15 – 02 Cherrybottom Park Expansion – Venice Club (complete by 9/10/2022)

Negotiations are ongoing with the property owner.

CCOAF/15 – 03 Refugee Road- Mason Run Protection – complete by 07/01/2022

Project is nearly complete. Acquisition is completed. Submitted reimbursement documents to OPWC in March 2022.

Groove City

CCMAF/ Rd. 13 - Marsh Run Stream Restoration in Gantz Park complete by 01/01/2023

Marsh Run is expected to wrap up construction this month. Plantings are expected to be installed by May 31 contingent on the weather. If not, plantings may extend to the fall.

CCMAA / 13 - Taylor Farm Acquisition on Rocky Fork Creek

The invoices for the Taylor Farm Acquisition are being finalized and expected to close out soon.

CCOAD/15 – Big Walnut Acquisition Project complete by 12/31/2024

Negotiations are still ongoing with the owner of the property for the Big Walnut Acquisition project.

CCOAE / 15 - Blacklick Creek Stream Restoration and Riparian Corridor Enhancement

The project will be discussed during the June 27 council meeting with anticipated survey, engineering, etc. to begin in September.

District 3 – Franklin County

NATURAL RESOURCES ASSISTANCE COUNCIL

PROGRAM POLICIES

5-9-2022

The District 3 Natural Resources Assistance Council (NRAC) has adopted the following program policies. All applicants must follow current OPWC Advisories. If any policies listed below conflict with OPWC Advisories, the latter must be upheld.

These policies should be carefully reviewed before the application materials are completed.

1. In-Kind Contributions

In-kind contributions required by local ordinances, resolutions, statutes or rules are not eligible and will not be considered as part of local match. *(Adopted 1-8-2002; Revised 11-8-2012)*

2. Donation of Easements

The donation of an easement other than those required in Policy #1 will be considered as a private contribution. The value of the easement will be determined by the appraisal which accompanies the application. *(Adopted 1-8-2002, Revised 5-6-2009)*

3. 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)

4. Time Extensions

A. Clean Ohio Conservation Fund Applications:

No time extensions will be granted for Clean Ohio Conservation Fund applications. The complete application (including all attachments) must be received by the District 3 Liaison at 111 Liberty Street, Suite 100, Columbus, Ohio 43215 no later than 5:00 p.m. on the date of the application deadline. Any application received after this time will be rejected and not considered for funding during the current round. *(Adopted 1-8-2002)*

B. Time Extension Requests for Active Projects:

The NRAC will consider requests for time extensions for July 1 or January 1 dates in order to make administrative tracking easier and forward them to OPWC for approval. *(Adopted 1-20-2011; Revised 8-10-2020)*

5. 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 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)*

- 6. *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 only be funded in full or in part upon a majority vote of committee members and be contingent upon funding availability. (Adopted 10-28-2005)
- 7. *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, <https://www.pwc.ohio.gov/Portals/0/Documents/Appraisal%20Standards%200120.pdf?ver=2020-01-27-090500-190>. (Adopted 06-05-2013; Revised 07-18-2013; Revised 8-10-2020)
- 8. *Clean Ohio Signage Requirement***
All funded District 3 projects are encouraged but not required to erect signage following District 3 signage guidelines. Temporary construction signs are highly encouraged but must follow the Ohio Public Works Commission signage guidelines. The cost of a sign is reimbursable and projects with multiple signs should check with the Ohio Public Works Commission for funding eligibility. A certification of signage location(s) and a photo should be submitted to the District 3 liaison within one year of the project closeout date. (Adopted 06-05-2013; Revised 07-18-2013; Revised 4-15-2016; Revised 6-21-2016; 09-12-2016).
- 9. *Purchase Price Exceeds Appraised Value***
Justification must be provided to the NRAC for any acquisition contemplated above the appraised value but cannot exceed 5%. Any difference greater than 5% must be paid for with other funding outside the project. (Adopted 6-4-2014; Revised 8-10-2020)
- 10. *Projects with Life Estate***
The Ohio Revised Code allows the Clean Ohio Greenspace Conservation Program to acquire properties with life estates. In a life estate, two or more people each have an ownership interest in a property, but for different periods of time. The person holding the life estate (the "Life Tenant") possesses the property during his or her lifetime. The other owner (the "Remainderman") has a current ownership interest but cannot take possession until the death of the life estate holder. (Adopted 4-21-2015; Revised 8-10-2020)

STAFF SCORE SHEET – ROUND 17

SECTION 1 – PROJECT EMPHASIS (ORC 164.24(A)(1), (A)(7))

The District 3 NRAC has prioritized the project emphasis into three categories: Low; Medium and High. A project type that is of High interest will have a weight of 10; Medium interest a weight of 6; and Low interest a weight of 2. All answers can receive a raw score of between 0 and 5 points. Applicant must provide documentation from appropriate authority to receive full credit.

- ___X 2 ___ (1) The support of comprehensive open space planning and incorporation of aesthetically pleasing and ecologically informed design (Low interest - weight=2)
- ___X 2 ___ (2) The enhancement of economic development that relies on recreation and eco-tourism in areas with relatively high unemployment and lower incomes (Low interest - weight=2)
- ___X 10 ___ (3) The protection or increase of protection for rare, threatened, and endangered species or the preservation of high-quality, viable habitat for plant and animal species (High interest - weight=10)
- ___X 10 ___ (4) The preservation of existing high-quality wetlands or other scarce natural resources within the geographical jurisdiction of the council (High interest – weight = 10)
- ___X 10 ___ (5) The enhancement of educational opportunities and provision of physical links to schools and after-school centers (High interest – weight = 10)
- ___X 6 ___ (6) The preservation or restoration of water quality, natural stream channels, functioning floodplains, wetlands, streamside forests, or other natural features that contribute to the quality of life in this state and to the state's natural heritage (Medium interest – weight = 6)
- ___X 6 ___ (7) The reduction or elimination of non-native, invasive species of plants or animals (Medium interest – weight = 6)
- ___X 2 ___ (8) The proper management of areas where fishing may take place in a manner that will preserve a balanced natural ecosystem (Low interest – weight = 2)
- ___X 10 ___ (9) Inclusion as part of a stream corridor-wide or watershed-wide plan (High interest–weight=10)
- ___X 2 ___ (10) The provision of multiple recreational, economic, and aesthetic preservation benefits (Low interest – weight = 2)
- ___X 6 ___ (11) Protection and enhancement of riparian corridors or watersheds by fee simple acquisition of lands OR acquisition of conservation easements. (Medium interest – weight = 6)
- ___X 6 ___ (12) The restoration or preservation of headwater streams or vernal pools (Medium interest – weight = 6)
- ___X 6 ___ (13) The restoration and preservation of aquatic biological communities (Medium interest – weight = 6)

_____ **WEIGHTED TOTAL**
(390 maximum points)

_____ **SCORE – Section 1 (78 max. pts)**
(Weighted Total divided by 5)

SECTION 2 – LOCAL COORDINATION & SUPPORT (ORC 164.24(A)(3), (4), (5), (6), (8))

- ___ 14. **Matching Funds: include in-kind donation of land, etc)** \$ _____ or _____ %
(One point for each whole percent above 25% up to 30 points maximum)
- ___ 15. **Coordination:**
Document how project carries out goals of multiple agencies, organizations.
(1 point each – maximum points = 6)
___ local political subdivisions ___ state agencies ___ federal agencies
___ community organizations ___ conservation organizations ___ other (_____) (private, local business groups)
- ___ 16. **Level of conservation coordination this project provides to another related project or how it ties areas together with other open space, riparian corridor, trails, farmland protection or urban revitalization projects. (maximum points = 3) ✓ all that apply**
___ fits into another related project or links an area together (2 points)
___ carries out an adopted community, watershed or other plan overlapping another district (1 point)
- ___ 17. **Community benefits: - ✓ all that apply (maximum points = 9)**
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.
___ economic (1 point) ___ social/recreational (up to 3 points) ___ environmental (up to 5 points)
- ___ 18. **Extent of public access once project is completed: (maximum points = 5) ✓ one**
___ open week days and weekends (5 points)
___ open limited, but regular hours (3 points)
___ open by appointment or with written permission (1 point)
- ___ 19. **How organization/agency will operate and maintain this project once it is completed. (maximum points = 10)**
___ operation plan and/or maintenance plan in place including an invasive species management plan (up to 10 points)
___ operation plan and/or maintenance plan (up to 5 points)
___ no operation plan and/or maintenance plan (0 points)
- ___ 20. **Unit cost of project. Cost per acre OR cost per linear foot of restoration of Clean Ohio Conservation Funds. \$ _____ (maximum points = 6) ✓ one**
(Cost per acre/cost per linear feet is defined as the total amount of COCF funding requested divided by the number of acres/linear feet restored. The NRAC will determine low, medium and high costs each round based on all projects submitted)
___ low cost per acre or linear feet of Clean Ohio Funds (6 points)
___ medium cost per acre or linear feet of Clean Ohio Funds (3 points)
___ high cost per acre or linear feet of Clean Ohio Funds (0 points)

SCORE – Section 2 (69 max. pts)

SECTION 3 – ADDITIONAL CRITERIA (ORC 164.24(A)(11))

The NRAC may adopt additional criteria that reflect local priorities as long as the criteria complement and do not negate Parts I-II, which carry out ORC Sec. 164.20-164.27.

- _____ 21. **Riparian Buffer: Project provides an adequate width of riparian buffer. (maximum points =12)**
___ Over 300 feet from top of bank per side (up to 12 points)
___ 150-300 feet from top of bank per side (up to 8 points)
___ 50-149 feet from top of bank per side (up to 4 points)

Enhancement Project:

___ Number of linear feet of stream or acres of habitat to be restored.

- _____ 22. **Regional Significance: What is the impact on the geographic area or watershed?**
Is it regionally significant because of its impact on passive recreation or its impact on a natural area in terms of geography and watershed or both? Please explain. **(maximum points =12)**

Passive Recreation

--- project will have a major impact on passive recreation (up to 4 points)

___ project will have a medium impact on passive recreation (up to 2 points)

___ project will have a low impact on the passive recreation (0 points)

Natural Area or Watershed

___ project will have a major impact on the natural area or watershed (up to 8 points)

___ project will have a medium impact on the natural area or watershed (up to 5 points)

___ project will have a low impact on the natural area or watershed (up to 2 points)

- _____ 23. **Natural Resource Viability: How important is the project to the viability of the natural resources affected by the project? (maximum points = 15)**

Supportive documentation must be provided by ODNR or other qualified entity

___ protects a globally endangered species or biological community (0-3 points)

___ protects 1 or more state Natural Heritage Inventory (NHI) endangered species (0-3 points)

___ protects 1 or more state NHI ranked rare, threatened or otherwise listed species (0-3 points)

___ protects a high-quality example of a regionally endangered biological community (0-3 points)

___ protects a threatened biological community or important example of Ohio's natural heritage (0-3 points)

If Enhancement project:

Pre-Construction QHEI _____ ORAM _____

Post-Construction QHEI : _____ ORAM: _____

Name: _____

Title: _____

Qualifications/Training or Certifications _____

Supporting documents and concept plan included _____

_____ 24. **Urban Environment:** Is this project located within an urban area inside or contiguous to the 270 outer belt? (up to 5 points)

Describe the unique benefits as related to preserving natural resources in an urban environment.

_____ 25. **Other Relevant Factors:** Other factors include the total amount of funding necessary to complete the project (ORC 164.24(A)(2)) (maximum points = 20) (Note reasoning)

_____ 26. **Economic condition of community where project is located:**
(Based on 2010 per capita income for political jurisdiction/community where project is located – see chart attached) (maximum points = 10)

SCORE – Section 3 (74 max. pts)

SECTION 4 – COMMUNICATIONS WITH LAND OWNER (ORC 164.24(A)(10))

_____ 27. **Applicant has:**
(Select one) *(maximum points =20)*

___ had some communications by phone, person or email with land owner(s) (5 points)

___ a letter of intent to purchase from the land owner(s) (10 points)

___ a signed purchase agreement with the land owner(s) **or** ownership of the land (20 points)

SCORE – Section 4 (20 max. pts)

TOTAL SCORE: _____
(Maximum points = 241)

NRAC - Reviewed & Scored by: _____

RANK: _____

Criterion 26 – Economic Condition of Community Where Project Is Located

Community	2020 Per Capita Income	Score
<u>Urbancrest</u>	<u>\$12,079</u>	<u>10</u>
Whitehall	\$21,938	8
Lockbourne	\$22,557	8
Franklin Township	\$22,587	8
Valleyview	\$26,589	8
Brice	\$26,916	8
Hamilton Township	\$27,127	8
Clinton	\$27,257	8
Obetz	\$28,262	8
Truro	\$28,820	8
Harrisburg	\$29,013	8
<u>Columbus</u>	<u>\$30,056</u>	<u>8</u>
Groveport	\$31,464	6
Reynoldsburg	\$31,626	6
Prairie Township	\$31,683	6
Blendon Township	\$32,231	6
Madison Township	\$32,283	6
Pleasant Township	\$35,758	6
Jackson Township	\$37,150	6
Grove City	\$37,557	6
Minerva Park	\$38,227	6
Mifflin Township	\$41,233	6
Westerville	\$41,397	6
Gahanna	\$42,660	6
<u>Canal Winchester</u>	<u>\$42,841</u>	<u>6</u>
Hilliard	\$46,037	4
Norwich Township	\$46,088	4
Jefferson Township	\$48,864	4
Sharon Township	\$53,656	4
Worthington	\$54,057	4
Brown Township	\$56,538	4
Washington Township	\$57,297	4
Dublin	\$60,152	4
Bexley	\$60,387	4
Perry Township	\$61,951	4
Upper Arlington	\$68,163	4
Riverlea	\$69,098	4

<u>Grandview Heights</u>	<u>\$72,534</u>	<u>4</u>
Plain Township	\$76,519	2
New Albany	\$78,957	2
<u>Marble Cliff</u>	<u>\$81,922</u>	<u>2</u>

Source: 2020 American Community Survey

DISTRICT 3 - FRANKLIN COUNTY

ROUND 17

CLEAN OHIO CONSERVATION FUND

PRELIMINARY SCREENER

Deadlines

Preliminary Screener – December 9, 2022

Application – March 10, 2023



DISTRICT 3 - PRELIMINARY SCREENER
(Franklin County, Ohio)

CLEAN OHIO CONSERVATION FUND – ROUND 17

Applicant Name: _____
(County, municipal corporation, township, conservancy district, nonprofit organization, etc.)

Project Name: _____

Type of Project: **Land Acquisition**
(√ one) Property Owner Owner(s) _____

Address: _____ Parcel #: _____

Has anyone contacted the property owner about acquisition?
 YES
If yes, who contacted the property owner? _____

Date of contact: _____

Is the property owner willing to cooperate with the applicant? Yes No

NO

Riparian Corridor/Watershed Protection & Enhancement

Applicant Contact: _____

Address: _____
Street

City _____ State _____ Zip code _____

Phone Number: _____ **Fax #:** _____

E-mail Address: _____

Certifying Representative:

(Original Signature) Please use blue ink (Date Signed)

(Certifying Community/Agency Representative - Type or Print Name and Title)

Submit to: **Edwina Teye**
District 3 Liaison
Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission
111 Liberty Street, Suite 100
Columbus, OH 43215
Phone: **614-233-4233**
Fax: **614-621-2401**
E-mail: eteye@morpc.org

PART 1: PROJECT DESCRIPTION (attach response on separate sheet of paper)

Clearly define the scope of the project and identify the boundaries of the property or watershed area involved in this project

A. Purpose

(Provide a general description)

B. Location

C. Project Components

D. Status of Easements or Acquisition

E. Include Photos & Map of Project Area

(map and photos must clearly identify project limits and adjacent existing amenities)

PART 2: ESTIMATED TOTAL PROJECT COST: (25% match required)

Local Match \$ _____

Other Match (specify all sources) \$ _____

Clean Ohio Grant Requested \$ _____

Estimated Total Project Costs \$ _____

Who provided this cost estimate? _____
(Name, Title, Agency)

(Phone Number)

PART 3: PROJECT EMPHASIS: (✓ all that apply from A or B and provide a written explanation of how this relates to your project. Note at least one of these criteria is required to be eligible)

A. Open Space Acquisition (Sec. 164.22 A)

___ acquires land for passive 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 greenway corridors

___ acquires permanent publicly accessible conservation easement

___ acquires land to enhance educational opportunities and provide physical links to schools and after school centers

___ constructs or enhances facilities necessary to make the acquired open space area accessible & useable by the general public

B. Riparian Corridors or Watershed Protection & Enhancement (Sec. 164.22B)

- establishes and maintains permanent riparian buffers with native vegetation
- restores permanent natural stream channel using natural channel design principles
- restores and maintains natural function of the floodplain such as through the removal of streamside levees
- removes artificial in stream structures such as low-head dams and old bridge piers
- employs and maintains “Best Management Practices” to improve water quality

Note: Restoration projects will be required to provide a concept plan and demonstration of resource improvement at the time of the application.

C. Other Characteristics: (✓ if applicable)

- accelerates untreated water runoff?
- encourages invasive non-native species?
- funds current legal obligations (such as fines, penalties, litigation expenses, mitigation or reclamation) under state or federal laws or local ordinances or achieves a stormwater permit or other requirement associated with a private development or redevelopment project?
- funds facilities other than those required to provide public access to or use of open space?
- funds facilities for active recreation, such as tennis courts, ball fields or recreation centers?
- funds storm water facilities as primary purpose?
- funds facilities or improvements (other than invasive species removal) on an easement?

**If Yes to any of the above in C, the project is ineligible.
Please see [Eligible Costs](#) on the OPWC webpage.**

NOTE: All applicants shall meet with the NRAC for a brief (10 minutes or less) overview of their project. Staff will be contacting the applicant after the preliminary screening due date to set up the appointment. Round 17 presentation dates are tentatively set for January 9, 2023, from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at MORPC premises

FOR STAFF USE:

PRESENTATION:

Date

Time

DISTRICT 3 - FRANKLIN COUNTY

ROUND 17

CLEAN OHIO CONSERVATION FUND

APPLICATION

Parts 1-6 required

Deadline for submission is March 10, 2023

District 3 - Clean Ohio Conservation Fund
Round 17

PART 1:

APPLICATION SUBMISSION CHECKLIST

DISTRICT 3 - FRANKLIN COUNTY
Round 17

Clean Ohio Conservation Fund

APPLICATION SUBMISSION CHECKLIST
(Required - Must Accompany Application)

Project: _____

Applicant: _____

The following items shall accompany your application in order for the District 3 staff to consider your application complete and eligible for funding this round.

1. OPWC Application for Financial Assistance
2. District 3 - **Round 17** - Applicant Evaluation Criteria
3. Formal, Detailed Cost Estimate by Certified Individual
4. Appraisal Report – Appraisals must follow OPWC Standards & Procedures for Appraisal Reporting for Round 17
5. Approved Authorizing Legislation by governing body of the applicant
6. Certification of Local Match – signed by applicant’s chief financial officer
7. Cooperation Agreement (if multi-jurisdictional)
8. Resolution of Support – refer to ORC 164.23 (B)(1)
9. Map Defining Geographic Scope of Project
10. Photographs of the Project Site
11. Supportive Documentation- letters, newspaper articles, etc.
12. Non-Profits – attach a copy of your IRS 501(c)(3) certification

I understand the staff administrative fee for the Clean Ohio Conservation Fund program is funded from a contribution of up to 1% of the original award. I also understand that all communities/non-profits etc. receiving Round 17 awards will receive an invoice during the second quarter of 2024 for Round 17 administrative services. Lastly, I understand that the contribution must come from local general funds and not from the award funds.

All funded District 3 projects are encouraged but not required to erect signage following District 3 signage guidelines. If signage is erected, a certification of signage location and a photo should be submitted to the District 3 liaison within one year of the project closeout date.

I certify that the items listed above are contained in the attached application.

(Original Signature) (Date Signed)

(Certifying Community/Agency Representative - Type or Print Name and Title)

**District 3 - Clean Ohio Conservation Fund
Round 17**

PART 2:

APPLICANT EVALUATION

CRITERIA

See Appendix 7 - Glossary of Terms for a definition of terms used.

See the following websites for supportive documentation for Part 6.

Beneficial use designations (for streams)

<http://www.epa.state.oh.us/portals/35/rules/01-09.pdf>

Ohio Primary Headwater Habitat Streams (for headwater streams)

<http://www.epa.ohio.gov/dsw/wqs/headwaters/index.aspx>

Ohio Rapid Assessment Method (ORAM) for Wetlands Documents

<http://epa.ohio.gov/dsw/401/ecology.aspx>

Ohio Natural Heritage Database (rare plants and animals)

<http://wildlife.ohiodnr.gov/species-and-habitats/ohio-natural-heritage-database>

Ohio Credible Data Program

<http://www.epa.ohio.gov/dsw/credibledata/index.aspx>

Additional information is available at the Clean Ohio Fund website:

<http://clean.ohio.gov/GreenSpaceConservation/Default.htm>

Franklin County
DISTRICT 3 – APPLICANT EVALUATION CRITERIA

**CLEAN OHIO CONSERVATION FUND
ROUND 17**

Applicant Name: _____

Applicant Contact: _____

SECTION 1 – PROJECT EMPHASIS

√ Check all criteria that apply. Provide a brief description and documentation on how your project emphasizes these criteria on a separate sheet of paper. If no written description or documentation is provided in Part 6- Supportive Documentation no points may be given.

- ___ (1) The support of comprehensive open space planning and incorporation of aesthetically pleasing and ecologically informed design
- ___ (2) The enhancement of economic development that relies on recreation and eco-tourism in areas with relatively high unemployment and lower incomes
- ___ (3) The protection or increase of protection for rare, threatened, and endangered species or the preservation of high-quality, viable habitat for plant and animal species
- ___ (4) The preservation of existing high-quality wetlands or other scarce natural resources within the geographical jurisdiction of the council
- ___ (5) The enhancement of educational opportunities and provision of physical links to schools and after-school centers
- ___ (6) The preservation or restoration of water quality, natural stream channels, functioning floodplains, wetlands, streamside forests, or other natural features that contribute to the quality of life in this state and to the state's natural heritage
- ___ (7) The reduction or elimination of non-native, invasive species of plants or animals
- ___ (8) The proper management of areas where fishing may take place in a manner that will preserve a balanced natural ecosystem
- ___ (9) Inclusion as part of a stream corridor-wide or watershed-wide plan
- ___ (10) The provision of multiple recreational, economic, and aesthetic preservation benefits
- ___ (11) Protection and enhancement of riparian corridors or watersheds by fee simple acquisition of lands OR acquisition of conservation easements
- ___ (12) The restoration or preservation of headwater streams or vernal pools
- ___ (13) The restoration and preservation of aquatic biological communities

SECTION 2 – LOCAL COORDINATION & SUPPORT

Provide a written response to each criteria below and provide documentation where needed to indicate how your projects meets this criteria. Use a separate sheet of paper if needed.

14. Has land been donated for this project? If yes, please describe in-kind contributions or donations. Attach a copy of the appraisal.

15. What agencies and organizations have been involved in the planning and preparation of this project application? Provide list of agencies and organizations and contacts.

What level of coordination has each agency or organization provided?

(Applicant must document how project carries out goals of multiple agencies and organizations.)

16. Describe the level of conservation coordination this project provides to another related project or how it ties areas together with other open space, riparian corridor, trails, farmland protection or urban revitalization projects. Please explain how this project fits into another related project or links an area together.

17. Describe the benefits that the proposed project will bring to Franklin County. (Please explain.)

Economic:

Social/Recreational:

Environmental:

18. What is the extent of public access once the project is completed? Please list days and hours of operation or how appointments can be made.

19. What agency will be responsible for the long term maintenance of this project?
Describe how your organization/agency will operate and maintain this project once it is completed.
Provide a long term operation and maintenance plan.
Does the plan include an invasive species management plan?

20. What is the unit cost of this project?

What is the total project cost per acre or post restoration cost per linear foot of stream restored by the project? (Example: Applicant is purchasing 10 acres of land for a total project cost of \$100,000; the cost per acre is \$10,000.)

What is the project cost per acre or post restoration cost per linear foot of stream restored using Clean Ohio Conservation Funds? (Example: Applicant is purchasing 10 acres of land and requesting \$50,000 in COCF funds; the cost per acre is \$5,000.)

SECTION 3 – ADDITIONAL CRITERIA

Please provide a written response to each criteria below and provide documentation where needed to indicate that your projects meets this criteria. Use a separate sheet of paper if needed.

Riparian Buffers:

21. Does this project provide an adequate width of riparian buffer? How many feet from top of bank per side are provided? If this is an enhancement project, how many linear feet of stream or acres of habitat will be restored?

Regional Significance:

22. What is the impact on the geographic area or watershed?
Is it regionally significant because of its impact on passive recreation or its impact on a natural area in terms of geography and watershed or both? Please explain.

Natural Resources Viability:

23. How important is the project to the viability of the natural resources affected by the project? Does your project protect any of the following groups? If so please name the species and explain. (Supportive documentation by ODNR or other qualified entity is required.)

___ globally endangered species or biological community

___ State Natural Heritage Inventory (NHI) endangered, rare, threatened or otherwise listed species:

If yes, how many endangered species? _____

If yes, how many rare species? _____

If yes, how many threatened species? _____

If yes, how many otherwise listed species? _____

___ regionally endangered biological community

___ threatened biological community or an example of Ohio's natural heritage

If Enhancement project:

Provide relevant pre- and post-construction metrics, such as QHEI for stream restorations or ORAM for wetlands. Who provided these scores? Must provide name, title and relevant qualifications, training, or certification (such as QDC – Qualified Data Collector as specified in ORC 6111.50-56 and OAC 3745-4-03). Provide supporting document and concept plan.

Urban Environment

24. Is this project located within an urban area inside or contiguous to the I-270 Outerbelt?
Describe the unique benefits as related to preserving natural resources in an urban environment.

Other Relevant Factors:

25. Briefly describe any additional benefits, considerations, or metrics not addressed above that you feel should be considered in the evaluation of this project. *Examples: unique partnerships; innovative techniques; special opportunities; leveraging other funds that will be lost; proximity to schools and other educational areas and other unique factors* Please limit your response to 1 page or less.

Economic condition of community where project is located

26. In what political jurisdiction/community is the project located?

SECTION 4 – CONTACT WITH PROPERTY OWNER

Communications with Land Owner

27. What communications if any has the applicant had with the land owner?

Name of Property Owner(s) _____

Address: _____ Parcel #: _____

A. Has **anyone** contacted the property owner about acquisition?

- Yes No

If **yes**, who contacted the property owner? _____

Type of contact: In Person By Phone By Email Other

Date of contact: _____

B. Is the property owner cooperating with the applicant?

- Yes No

C. Does the applicant have a “letter of intent” from the land owner(s)?

- Yes No

If **yes**, you must include a copy of the letter of intent in Part 7 – Supportive Documentation

D. Does the applicant have a signed purchase agreement with the land owner(s) or ownership of the land?

- Yes No

If **yes**, you must include a copy of the agreement in Part 7 – Supportive Documentation

District 3 - Clean Ohio Conservation Fund
Round 17

PART 3:

COST ESTIMATES*

Construction or Restoration:

- **Formal Detailed Estimate of Project's Cost**
Provided by architect, landscape architect, or other professional

Land Acquisition:

- **Appraisal**
An appraisal from an ODOT state certified real estate appraiser shall accompany your application. Appraisals must follow [OPWC Standards & Procedures for Appraisal Reporting Effective Round 15](#).

Life Estate:

- Must provide a separate appraised value for just the "Life Estate" portion along with the appraisal for the entire acquisition at time of submission.

* Note include cost to erect signage for: 1) Temporary Construction; 2) Conservation Easements; and 3) Permanent Acquisitions. See signage guidelines.

PROJECT NAME: _____

Type of project for which funds are being requested:

Check the project type:

Acquisition of land

Check the type of land securement:

Fee Simple

Easement Purchase

Transfer of Conservation Value

Acquisition of land and facilities enhancement to make land accessible and useable.

Riparian corridor

Appraisal or Conservation Value*

Certified appraisal from an Ohio Department of Transportation Prequalified Appraiser who has credentials in value analysis:

\$ _____

Purchase Price

\$ _____

*Note if the purchase price is greater than the appraised value, written justification must be submitted and the applicant must meet with the NRAC prior to final approval. (See NRAC program policy #9)

ATTACH

COST ESTIMATE

(Show details)

ATTACH

APPRAISAL

District 3 - Clean Ohio Conservation Fund
Round 17

PART 4:

REQUIRED CERTIFICATIONS/AGREEMENTS

- ***Authorizing Legislation***

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.

- ***Cooperation Agreement***

Required if the project involves more than one entity – This document should identify the fiscal and administration responsibilities of each participant.

- ***Resolution of Support***

(Reference ORC 164.23(B)) and ORC 164.23 (C)

- ***Chief Financial Officer Certification***

A certification signed by the applicant's chief financial officer stating all local and other share funds required for this project will be available

SAMPLE
AUTHORIZING LEGISLATION

RESOLUTION # _____

**A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE _____
TO APPLY FOR AND ACCEPT ASSISTANCE FROM
THE CLEAN OHIO CONSERVATION PROGRAM FUND
ADMINISTERED THROUGH THE OHIO PUBLIC WORKS
COMMISSION**

WHEREAS, The Ohio Public Works Commission has grants available from the Clean Ohio Conservation Program Funds, and

WHEREAS, It is in the best interest of the _____ (city/village/township)
to take advantage of the opportunities provided by this program by applying for funding.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Municipality of _____
_____, County of Franklin, State of Ohio:

Section 1: [Insert Name and / or Title] is hereby authorized to apply to the OPWC for Clean Ohio Conservation Program funds. {NOTE: This must be the individual who signs the application.}

Section 2: [Insert Name and/or Title] is authorized to enter into any agreements as may be necessary and appropriate for obtaining this financial assistance. {NOTE: This must be the individual who is named as the CEO in the application.}

Applicant _____

Date _____

COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT

{NOTE: Execute a cooperation agreement if your project is a joint project in which there are two or more active groups. A letter from a subdivision is not a substitute.}

[Insert name of Group A] and [Insert name of Group B] enter into a cooperation agreement to submit an application to the Ohio Public Works Commission for the [insert project name].

[Group A] will provide funds equal to [insert percent] percent of the total project cost. Such funds will come from [insert name of account / fund].

[Group B] will provide funds equal to [insert percent] percent of the total project cost. Such funds will come from [insert name of account / fund].

[Group B] authorizes [Group A] to serve as lead applicant and to sign all necessary documents.

[Group A] agrees to pay its [insert percentage] of the cost as invoices are due / at the end of the project / as otherwise agreed upon.

[Group B] agrees to pay its [insert percentage] of the cost as invoices are due / at the end of the project / as otherwise agreed upon.

Signatures for Group A

Signatures for Group B

-

RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT ORC 164.23(B)

The grant application must adhere to the following:

(1) Except as otherwise provided in section 2 below, a copy of a resolution supporting the project from each county in which the proposed project is to be conducted and whichever of the following is applicable:

(a) If the proposed project is to be conducted wholly within the geographical boundaries of one township, a copy of a resolution supporting the project from the township;

(b) If the proposed project is to be conducted wholly within the geographical boundaries of one municipal corporation, a copy of a resolution supporting the project from the municipal corporation;

(c) If the proposed project is to be conducted in more than one, but fewer than five townships or municipal corporations, a copy of a resolution supporting the project from at least one-half of the total number of townships and municipal corporations in which the proposed project is to be conducted;

(d) If the proposed project is to be conducted in five or more townships or municipal corporations, a copy of a resolution supporting the project from at least three-fifths of the total number of townships and municipal corporations in which the proposed project is to be conducted.

However, if the applicant is a county and the proposed project is to be located wholly within the geographical boundaries of the county, the applicant shall not be required to include a copy of a resolution from any township or municipal corporation. If the applicant is a municipal corporation and the proposed project is to be located wholly within the geographical boundaries of the municipal corporation, the applicant shall not be required to include a copy of a resolution from the county in which it is located. If the applicant is a township and the proposed project is to be located wholly within the geographical boundaries of the township, the applicant shall not be required to include a copy of a resolution from the county in which it is located.

(2) Prior to submitting an application for a grant for a project under this section, an applicant that is a park district or other similar park authority shall consult with the legislative authority of each county, township, and municipal corporation in which the proposed project will be located.

CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER CERTIFICATION OF APPLICANT REVENUES

(Required format)

I understand the staff administrative fee for the Clean Ohio Conservation Fund program is funded from a contribution of up to 1% of the original award. I also understand that all communities/non-profits etc. receiving Round 17 awards will receive an invoice during the second quarter of 2024 for Round 17 administrative services. Lastly, I understand that the contribution must come from local general funds and not from the award funds.

I, [Insert title] of the [Insert name of applicant], hereby certify that [Insert name of applicant] has the amount of [Insert amount of local funds] in the [Insert name of account / fund] and that this amount will be used to pay the applicant revenues for the [Insert name of project] when it is required.

Signature of Finance Director/Clerk/Treasurer (use blue ink)

Date

Print Name and Title

District 3 - Clean Ohio Conservation Fund
Round 17

PART 5:

MAPS & PHOTOGRAPHS

ATTACH

MAPS & PHOTOS OF PROJECT AREA HERE

(Maps should have scope of project clearly marked)

District 3 - Clean Ohio Conservation Fund
Round 17

PART 6:

SUPPORTIVE DOCUMENTATION

(Letters of support, news articles, special studies, etc.)

- ***Communications with Land Owner(s)***
- ***Letter of Intent from Land Owner(s)***
- ***Signed Purchase Agreement with Land Owner(s)***

ATTACH

COMMUNICATIONS WITH LAND OWNER(S)

ATTACH

“LETTER OF INTENT” FROM LAND OWNER(S)

ATTACH

SIGNED PURCHASE AGREEMENT WITH LAND OWNER(S)



Natural Resources Assistance Council

District 3 – Franklin County
614-228-2663

Clean Ohio Conservation Fund – Round 17 Schedule

2022

May 9 Monday, 1:30 – 3:00 p.m.	Working Session/Policies/Criteria Final Action & Project Updates
October 3 Monday, 1:30 – 3:00 p.m.	Applicant Workshop
October 5	Site Visits (Previously Funded)
December 9	Preliminary Screeners Due

2023

January 9 Monday, 1:00 – 5:00 p.m.	Applicant Presentations & Project Updates Meeting
March 10 Friday, 5:00 p.m.	Final Applications Due
March 23 Thursday, 9 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.	Site Visits (Weather permitting, confirm by 3/21 at 3 p.m.)
March 27 (if necessary) Monday, 9 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.	Site Visits
April 5 Wednesday, 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	Application Scoring Session MORPC, Scioto Conference Room
April 17 Monday, 5:00 p.m.	Application Scores Due
May 1 Monday, 10:00 – 5:00 p.m.	Final Action & Working Session (Policies/Criteria, Project Updates) MORPC, Muskingum Conference Room

Submit inquires, screenings and applications to:

Edwina Teye | 614-233-4233 | eteye@morpc.org

Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission | 111 Liberty Street, Suite 100 | Columbus, OH 43215

Committee meetings will be held in accordance with public health orders. The meetings will be held in-person. Please check MORPC's [meetings and events webpage](#) for details.