

Clean Ohio Green Space Program – Round 15 Application Instructions

Natural Resources Assistance Council (NRAC) District 7 Division of Ohio Public Works Commission

General Information

Eligible projects under the Clean Ohio Conservation Program – Round 15:

- Open space acquisition and related development of those open spaces
- Protection and enhancement of riparian corridors or watersheds
- Previously funded projects that did not include improvements are eligible for a one time infrastructure funding

Eligible applicants:

- Local political subdivisions
- Nonprofit organizations

Estimated Funding Amount for NRAC District 7 - Clean Ohio Conservation Program Round 15: \$1,853,082

Submittal of Application

All applicants for NRAC District 7 funds must submit the following to be considered for Round 15 Funding.

- Eleven (11) Abbreviated Proposals which shall consist of ONLY the following (10 pt minimum font size):
 1. 1 - **one page** executive summary of the project (1 page only)
 2. 1 - completed OPWC Clean Ohio Application
 3. 1 - completed methodology with justification and/or location to justify points applicant feels they should be awarded (*if project consists of multiple parcels that are disjuncted, conservation attributes of each parcel must be provided and explained to receive applicable points*)
 4. 1 – USB jump drive containing all supporting documents/attachments in PDF format
- Two (2) Full Proposals which shall consist of ONLY the following (10 pt minimum font size):
 1. 1 - **one page** executive summary of the project (1 page only)
 2. 1 - completed application
 3. 1 - completed methodology with justification and/or location to justify points applicant feels they should be awarded (*if project consists of multiple parcels that are disjuncted, conservation attributes of each parcel must be provided and explained to receive applicable points*)
 4. 1 – paper copy of all supporting documents/attachments as included on the USB Jump Drive in the Abbreviated Proposal
 5. 1 - copy of Appraisal and the Certified Review appraisal than confirms the original appraisal if the project is using a bargain/donated sale.

Only items submitted will be considered for review. NRAC District 7 Council will not accept any further documentation or clarification after the deadline for proposals.

All submittals shall be sent to:

Natural Resources Assistance Council (NRAC) District 7
c/o Geauga Soil and Water Conservation District
PO Box 410
14269 Claridon Troy Road
Burton, OH 44021

Applications being accepted from:

Monday, September 28, 2020 thru Friday, January 15, 2020, 3:30 p.m.

*Upon completion of the scoring process by NRAC District 7,
the eligible project list will be forwarded to the Ohio Public Works Commission*

*Natural Resources Assistance Council (NRAC) District 7
Division of Ohio Public Works Commission*

List of Clarifications

Methodology Definition Clarifications:

Easement

"Conservation easement" means an incorporeal right or interest in land that is held for the public purpose of retaining land, water, or wetland areas predominantly in their natural, scenic, open, or wooded condition, including, without limitation, the use of land in agriculture when consistent with and in furtherance of the purpose of retaining those areas in such a condition, or retaining their use predominantly as suitable habitat for fish, plants, or wildlife; that imposes any limitations on the use or development of the areas that are appropriate at the time of creation of the conservation easement to achieve one or more of those purposes; and that includes appropriate provisions for the holder to enter the property subject to the easement at reasonable times to ensure compliance with its provisions. [ORC 5301.67 (A)] Easements are permanent in nature and are to be recorded in the office of the county recorder.

Globally endangered biological community/Globally endangered species

The Natural Heritage Global Ranking system is as follows:

- G1: Critically imperiled globally (5 or fewer viable populations known)
- G2: Imperiled globally (6-20 viable populations known)
- G3: Either very rare or local throughout its range or found locally in a restricted range (21-100 viable populations known)

Habitat and global status for rare, threatened and endangered species

Information on habitats and global status for various species can be found on the Nature Serve Explorer link below:

<https://explorer.natureserve.org/>

State natural heritage inventory endangered/rare/threatened species

Refer to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources website listed below

https://ohiodnr.gov/wps/wcm/connect/gov/d6a251cf-a52c-4df0-bf3a-60151a109a6b/Pub+5356+Ohio+Listed+Species.pdf?MOD=AJPERES&CONVERT_TO=url&CACHEID=ROOTWORKSPACE.Z18_M1HGGIK0N0JO00QO9DDDDM3000-d6a251cf-a52c-4df0-bf3a-60151a109a6b-nc0kvOz

<https://ohiodnr.gov/wps/portal/gov/odnr/discover-and-learn/plants-trees/rare-plants>

The Natural Heritage State Ranking system is as follows:

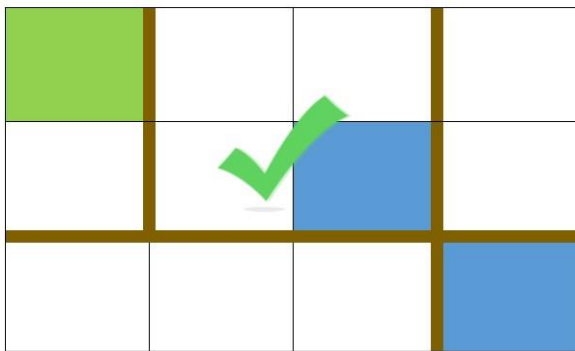
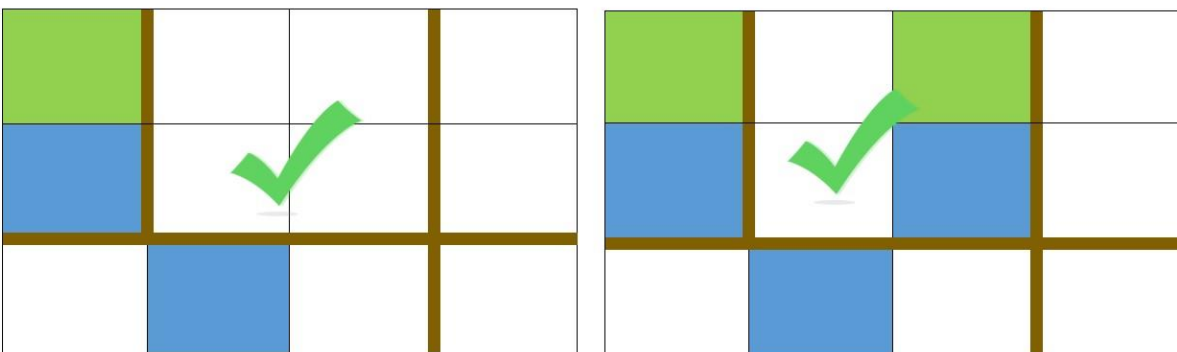
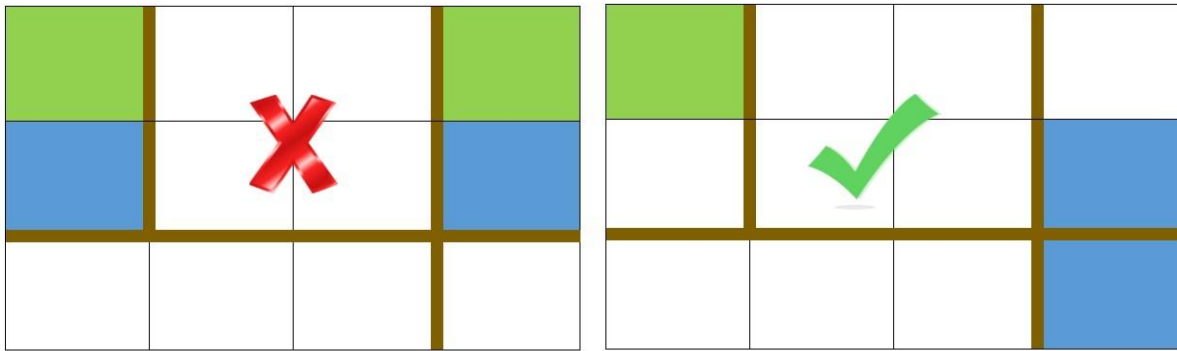
- S1: Critically imperiled in state (5 or fewer viable populations known)
- S2: Imperiled in state because of rarity or vulnerability (6-20 viable populations known)
- S3: Rare or uncommon in state (21-100 viable populations known)
- S4: Apparently secure in state
- S5: Demonstrably secure in state
- SH: Of historical occurrence throughout range
- SU: Possibly in peril range-wide but status uncertain

Also refer to USFW list at <https://www.fws.gov/midwest/endangered/lists/ohio-spp.html>





Project Eligibility

Below is an illustrative example of what type of project would be eligible with multiple parcels

Examples of Eligible Project Scenarios with Multiple Parcels



LEGEND

	Proposed Project Parcel to be protected
	Existing protected parcel
	Existing unprotected parcel
	Road

Methodology Section Point Clarifications

To receive points for the various sections listed below within the Methodology, applicants must provide the items as specified below each Section:

Section A5: Preserves existing high quality wetlands or restores wetlands

Section B13: Preserves or restores breeding habit for rare, threatened and endangered species on the project site or on a contiguous site with verifiably high likelihood that these species would then inhabit the project site.

Section A5/B13 Clarification: For applications seeking points for restoration, applicants must provide a detail narrative of components of restoration along with an itemized budget. For applications seeking points for preservation, applicants must provide a detailed narrative explaining the breeding habitat or an ORAM or VIBI score that supports the wetland being classified as a Class 3 wetland.

Section A3: Reduces or eliminates nonnative, invasive species of plants or animals

Section B21: Reduces or eliminates non-native, invasive species of plants or animals

Section A3/B21 Clarification: For an applicant to receive points for these sections, the reduction/elimination of nonnative/invasive species must be part of the project and a detailed itemized budget must be provided not just a lump sum.

Section A10: Enhances economic development that relies on nature-based recreation and ecotourism in areas of relatively high unemployment.

Section B24: Enhances economic development that relies on nature-based recreation and ecotourism in areas of relatively high unemployment.

Section A10/B24 Clarification: Applicant must provide unemployment data as defined in the OPWC NRAC definitions for high unemployment to receive points for this section.

Section A8: Enhances environmental and conservation educational opportunities or provides physical links to schools and after-school centers

Section A8 Clarification: Applicant must provide a letter from education center of the programs and/or how they will use the property for educational opportunities to receive points for this section.

Section A6: Includes pedestrian/bicycle linkages to other openspace preserves and population centers.

Section A6 Clarification: Applicant must provide a plan that identifies the locations of linkages to receive points for this section as well as identify whether it is a pedestrian trail or bicycle trail.