

District 10 Requirements

<https://www.pwc.ohio.gov/District/District-10>

FY 22 - Program Round 16

All applications for green space conservation funds in District 10 must contain both the application forms provided by the Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC) via the OPWC WorksWise application portal (with appropriate documentation) and responses to the enclosed ATTACHMENT B. It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that all the documents are accurate, complete and in accordance with the requirements, terms, and conditions set down by the OPWC and the NRAC.

Responses to Attachment B should be brief and concise and must not exceed a total of 6 pages (if a question is not applicable, there is no need to state that and use space in the 6-page limit). Minimum font size is 12. Please do not self-score your project.

Following the Attachment B questions you will find the ATTACHMENT / COMPLETENESS REVIEW CHECKLIST, please consult it for further information on submitting a complete application. To be considered, all application materials must be typed and received by the deadlines set forth below.

Complete submission of electronic application and an electronic copy of Attachment B is due by 4:00pm on **September 02, 2021** and must be submitted electronically via email or some file sharing protocol (such as dropbox or google drive) via an email link to the District Administrative Liaison Lori Libby at LibbyLB@MiamiOH.edu.

Applicants are encouraged to attend a MEETING where all the projects will be discussed by the NRAC. Each applicant will be allowed to make a brief presentation about their project and should be prepared to briefly address any questions about their project proposal from members of the Natural Resource Assistance Council (NRAC). This meeting is scheduled for **September 16, 2021** at 9:00am. It will be held at the Lebanon City Building, 50 South Broadway Ave., Lebanon, OH 45036. You are not required to attend the meeting in order to be eligible for funding.

The Natural Resource Assistance Council will meet again on Thursday, **September 23, 2021** at 9:00am to evaluate all projects applying for funding for program year 16. The location of the meeting is the Lebanon City Building, 50 South Broadway Ave., Lebanon, OH 45036.

Please contact District #10 Administrative Liaison with any questions concerning Application Submittal: Lori B. Libby , LibbyLB@MiamiOH.edu

(513) 529-9386 tel

(513) 255-0352 cell

ATTACHMENT B

Project Name:

Applicant Organization:

PROJECT EMPHASIS (per ORC §164.22/164.24 (A)(1), (A)(7))

Please provide information on the following 15 project purposes your project addresses. For each applicable item provide a brief paragraph highlighting how your project outcome will accomplish each item:

An * indicates a project type that is of special interest to the District 10 NRAC. Up to ten (10) points are given for project types with two (**), up to six (6) points are given for project types with one (*), and up to two (2) points are given for the other project types (94 points maximum).

- 1) _____ (**) The protection of habitat for rare, threatened, and endangered species or the preservation of high quality, viable habitat for plant and animal species. (ORC 164.22 A- 3 and B-1)

- 2) _____ (**) The preservation of existing high quality wetlands or other scarce natural resources within the geographical jurisdiction of the council. (ORC 164.22 A-4)

- 3) _____ (**) The inclusion of wildlife linkages to, or adjacent to, existing open space preserves.

- 4) _____ (**) The preservation or restoration of water quality, natural stream channels, functioning floodplains, wetlands, streamside forests, and other natural features that contribute to the quality of life in this state and to the state's natural heritage. (ORC 164.22 A-6)

- 5) _____ (**) The provision of multiple recreational, economic, and aesthetic preservation benefits. (ORC 164.22 B-3)

- 6) _____ (**) The preservation or restoration of floodplain and streamside forest functions. (ORC 164.22 B-4)

- 7) _____ (**) The preservation of headwater streams. (ORC 164.22 B-5)
- 8) _____ (*) Inclusion as part of a stream corridor-wide or watershed-wide plan. (ORC 164.22 B-2)
- 9) _____ (*) The support of comprehensive open space planning and incorporation of aesthetically pleasing and ecologically informed design. (ORC 164.22 A-1)
- 10) _____ The enhancement of economic development that relies on recreation and ecotourism in areas with relatively high unemployment and/or lower incomes. (ORC 164.22 A-2)
- 11) _____ The enhancement of educational opportunities and provision of physical links to schools and after-school centers. (ORC 164.22 A-5)
- 12) _____ The reduction or elimination of nonnative, invasive species of plants or animals. (ORC 164.22 A-7)
- 13) _____ The proper management of areas where safe fishing, hunting, and trapping may take place in a manner that will preserve a balanced natural ecosystem. (ORC 164.22 A-8)
- 14) _____ The increase of habitat protection. (ORC 164.22 A-3 and B-1)
- 15) _____ The restoration and preservation of aquatic biological communities. (ORC 164.22 B-6)

COMPLIANCE WITH STATE CRITERIA (per ORC §164.24)

Please indicate which of the following items your project addresses. Provide a brief paragraph highlighting how your project accomplishes each item:

- 1) Percentage of Clean Ohio funds necessary to complete the project (local match can include bargain sales, where seller provides a price reduction below fair market value as a matching contribution).

The amount and percentage of the funds requested under the proposal (ORC 164.24 (2) and (3):

Amount _____
 Percent _____

_____	75% (maximum)	0 points
_____	74-70%	2 points
_____	69-65%	4 points
_____	64-60%	6 points
_____	<60%	8 points

2) Describe the level of collaborative participation: participation means active involvement through in-kind services or funding (up to 3 points) (ORC 164.24 (4)):

- _____ Local political subdivision
- _____ State agencies
- _____ Federal agencies
- _____ Community organizations
- _____ Conservation organizations
- _____ Local business groups

3) Describe the level of conservation coordination with other Open Space, Riparian Corridor, Farmland Protection, or Urban Revitalization projects under the Clean Ohio Fund, in this or other Public Works Commission Districts (ORC 164.24 (5)):

- _____ Is a joint project in more than one NRAC district (2 points)
- _____ Is a joint project in this NRAC district (1 point)
- _____ Carries out an adopted community, watershed, or other plan overlapping another NRAC district (1 point)

4) Describe the economic, social, and environmental benefits that the proposed project will bring to the geographical area represented by District 10 NRAC (up to 3 points) (ORC 164.24 (6)).

5) Describe the extent of public access once project is completed (ORC 164.24 (8)):

- _____ Open days and weekends (8 points)
- _____ Open limited, but regular hours (4 points)
- _____ Open by appointment or with written permission (1 point)

6) Describe the Operation and Maintenance once project is completed (ORC 164.23 – B-2):

- _____ Operation plan and infrastructure, if appropriate, in place (6 points)
- _____ Operation plan, no infrastructure (3 points)
- _____ Limited operation plan, volunteers available, no infrastructure (1 point)

7) Describe the capacity and experience of both the applicant organization and the partnership to carry-out this project (up to 6 points) (ORC 164.23-A-1)

COMPLIANCE WITH DISTRICT 10 PRIORITIES

- 1) Is this project in concert with publicly adopted regional, neighborhood or community advisory plan, watershed plan, or greenspace plan? (ORC 164-24-A-4)

YES NO
— —

If yes, please reference the plan and describe how your project relates to the plan (4 points).

- 2) If your project will benefit multiple political subdivisions, describe the extent that your project will provide benefits (4 points).
- 3) If your project protects: a federally listed endangered species or biological community (1 point), more than 5 state natural heritage inventory (NHI) endangered species (1 point), 1-5 state NHI ranked rare species (1 point), a high-quality example of a regionally endangered biological community (1 point), or a threatened biological community or important example of Ohio's natural heritage (1 point), please describe in specific terms what will be protected and how (up to 4 points).
- 4) Will your project preserve or naturally restore steep hillsides with slopes of 20% or greater? If so, please explain (4 points) (ORC 164.22 B-4).
- 5) Will your project provide or enhance greenspace or open space opportunities in lower income or in highly urbanized areas? If so, please explain (4 points) (ORC 164.22 – A-2).
- 6) Will your project preserve or enhance undeveloped lands along viewsheds of major highway and transportation corridors? If so, please explain (4 points) (ORC 164.22 – A -1).
- 7) Does the project address a situation where action must be taken now or the opportunity will be lost forever? If so, documenting evidence as to how opportunity will be lost must be submitted (4 points).

8) Describe your readiness to proceed with this proposed project - e.g. contract with the owner and evidence from the seller that closing will take place, or that open space related facilities construction is ready to take place now, within 6 months or less, within one year, or longer (up to 7 points) (ORC 164.24-A-10).

_____ Purchase contract fully executed (7 points)
_____ Letter of intent signed w/ purchase price (4 points)

(9) Land acquisition projects are a priority for the District. Based on this:

_____ Does your project including acquiring land and/or easements (If yes 10 points)
_____ If improvements only 0 points

OTHER FACTORS

Each NRAC member awards up 35 discretionary points (up to 20% of maximum points) to account for other factors relative to the project (e.g. larger tracts of land, uniqueness of the opportunity, action now or lost forever, degree of community support, conformity with district priorities). Maximum score is 175 plus 35 discretionary points for a total of 210.

1) Briefly indicate any additional project benefits or considerations you would like the NRAC to consider in evaluating your application (up to 35 points) (ORC 164.24 – A-11).

ATTACHMENTS / COMPLETENESS REVIEW:

Be certain that you have addressed each of the items listed below. The District 10 NRAC requires that all signed documents submitted include the original signature. Late or incomplete applications will be rejected.

- 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 (ORC 164.23 – B -1).
- 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 the applicant is utilizing other grant sources as local share for the project, the chief financial officer certification should address the applicant’s ability to move forward with the project should they not receive funds from the other grant programs (ORC 164.23-2).
- A formal detailed estimate of the project’s costs provided by an architect, landscape architect, engineer, or other professional for any eligible improvement costs (ORC 164.23-A-5).
- A cooperation agreement, (if the project involves more than entity) which identifies the fiscal and administrative responsibilities of each participant (ORC 164.23 –A -1).
- Resolution of Support (please refer to ORC §164.23(B)(1) for guidance). Call OPWC for clarification.
- Identification of any participation by state agencies that may have expertise regarding the particular project and that may provide assistance with respect to the project (ORC 164.23 –A-7).
- Information concerning the coordination of the project among local political subdivisions, state agencies, federal agencies, community organizations, and local business groups (ORC 164.23 –A- 8).
- Supporting Documentation: Materials such as additional project description, photographs, and/or other information to assist your District 10 NRAC in ranking your project. Be sure to include supplements which may be required by your District 10 NRAC.
- Include a letter of commitment from the land owner(s) with an estimated cost if possible, or a letter of intent to sell, or option to purchase.
- Include a conceptual site development plan. (ORC 164.23 – A – 2 and 3)

- Site plan must show all existing easements, restrictions, or other encumbrances
- All applications should include the Project location identified on a U.S.G.S. 7.5' Topographic Quadrangle map.
- Include a copy of the deed restrictions (can be found at <http://www.pwc.state.oh.us/GSCProjectManager.html>) as they will be submitted to the State if your project is approved. The wording submitted with the application must meet the wording submitted to the State. The use and development restriction language must be completed. For conservation easements you need to include the conservation easement document as available on the OPWC website. (ORC 164.23 – B -3).
- Justification of land value: For land acquisition, an Appraisal Report by an ODOT pre-qualified real estate appraiser will need to be submitted as part of the application to be considered. See the following page for more information: <http://www.pwc.state.oh.us/GSCApplication.html>. If a portion of a parcel is being purchased with Clean Ohio Funds (i.e. only 30 acres are to be purchased and established for greenspace out of a 100 acre parcel), the applicant is required to provide with their application a GIS or similar quality map that shows the portion of the property being purchased with Clean Ohio Funds. A survey of the parcel will need to be completed before closing with Clean Ohio Funds. Also, the appraisal value identified in the application should be based on the value of the property being purchased through this program. These requirements apply to both fee simple purchases and easement acquisitions.
- For Conservation Easements: Appraisers of a conservation easement must be provided with the language of the easement document. ODOT pre-qualified appraisers must be used. Contact OPWC for more information on conservation easement appraisals. A conservation easement is a recorded land-use agreement in which the property owner conveys to a governmental agency or 501(C)(3) non-profit agency certain rights to be enforced by the holder for public benefit. The grant recipient must provide the easement language to the appraiser to determine what development rights (if any) are remaining to the property owner. Easements differ significantly; therefore, it is important that comparable sales (comps) are reviewed carefully. The purpose of the appraiser's analysis is to determine the highest and best use of the property before the easement is placed compared to the highest and best use of the property after an easement is placed. Conclusions should provide for values before and after easement placement and an estimate of just compensation which is the difference in those values.
- For projects that are for **access or habitat improvements only** on land that was previously purchased with Clean Ohio Greenspace Funds please note the following:

An appraisal of property value is not required. But a certified estimate from an engineer and/or architect for the proposed improvements is required.

Fill out the provided the budget section of OPWC application (<https://www.pwc.ohio.gov/Portals/0/Documents/PWC0002.pdf?ver=2015-12-11-112710-457>) for the site improvements. Land acquisition budget was done with your earlier application.

When answering the Attachment B questions, please answer those as if you are acquiring the land. You may use the answers you submitted with you first application. Please note there have been some minor changes to the Attachment B questions. Projects for improvements only will be scored and ranked with land acquisition projects to determine funding.

Be sure to describe the improvements in section 3 B of the application.

Please submit photos and maps to help explain the improvements, along with ones that support the original land acquisition.

Clean Ohio Greenspace Funds can only be used for improvements on lands that were purchased with Clean Ohio Greenspace Funds.

- Buildings/Structures - District 10 NRAC will allow the acquisition of structures and/or demolitions subject to NRAC review and the availability of funding.
- Have you reviewed District 10 NRAC's scoring methodology to see that you have addressed all components? (Do not attach a copy of the methodology to your application)

In the event that project application scores are tied, the tie breaker will be based on the following priorities in this order:

1. Greenspace acquisition projects
2. The average combined score of questions Project Emphasis #1, #4 and Compliance with District Priorities questions #7 and #8

+ Proposed projects that do not obtain a mean minimum score from committee members of at least 60% of the total possible maximum points that could be awarded by District 10 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.

If any NRAC District10 criteria /requirements are in conflict with those provided from Ohio Public Works Commission Clean Ohio Green Space Program, the OPWC criteria/requirements will prevail.

Revised 02/25/2021