H2Ohio

Updates from ODA, ODNR, & OEPA October 18, 2023

The H2Ohio Wetland Grant Program:

Ineligible Projects

- Partial projects that cannot be fully funded through the H2Ohio Wetland Grant Program and cannot demonstrate the immediate availability of supplemental funding
- Projects limited to the preservation of existing highquality resources
- Research, studies, or technology development projects
- Projects intended to meet a regulatory requirement i.e., wetland mitigation or stormwater requirements
- Projects restricted by federal easements or petition ditches without the written authorization from those entities

- Projects that primarily treat invasive species
- Projects that require only maintenance costs for wetlands
- Dredging focused projects







Tom Brickle... & Alexa Voge...

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The H2Ohio Wetland Grant Program



FAQ

Can the project include other restoration types (forest, prairie, etc.)?

Yes, project proposals submitted to the H2Ohio program can include additional restoration types if they are connected to a WQ restoration project such as a wetland, floodplain, or stream restoration.

Is there a project size minimum?

No, there is no project acreage minimum for the H2Ohio Wetland Grant Program. Our projects typically range from a couple acres to hundreds of acres of wetland and associated habitat restoration.

How long can a project take?

All H2Ohio projects must be completed within 2 years of signing a grant award agreement.













The H2Ohio Wetland Grant Program



Evaluation

- ✓ Project involves the <u>improvement of water quality</u>
- ✓ Projects that filter large drainage areas
- ✓ Project interacts with a surface-water flow
- ✓ Project demonstrates the ability to remove SIGNIFICANT amount of nutrients
- ✓ For projects involving acquisition, the acreage acquired is appropriate to the amount of restoration proposed.
- ✓ Projects that show prior coordination with permitting agencies (EPA, USACE, SHPO)
- ✓ Projects that can be completed within an accelerated timeframe and in a cost-effective manner

What's Coming Up With H2Ohio

2024/2025 Competitive Grant Program CLEB/ ORB FY 25

Application will be released in July 2024
Applications will be due August 2024
Ohio River Basin & Central Lake Erie Basin

NW OHIO Non-Competitive Funding FY 25

Funds will be available July 1st 2024 Contact us about your potential project Start your application early



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People



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THANK YOU

Let's stay in touch.

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H2Ohio - Goals



Grow Program Footprint - 2 Million Acre Goal Maumee

- Accept applications from for H2Ohio BMPs for '24-'25 across the Maumee Project Area
- Sept 5, 2023, through.....
- 1.5-Million-acre enrollment goal from 14 county area

WLEB - ~ 600,000 VNMP Implementation

Statewide

- Focus on development and implementation of VNMPs for '24 & '25
- Begin enrollment early calendar year 2024
- 500,000-acre enrollment goal

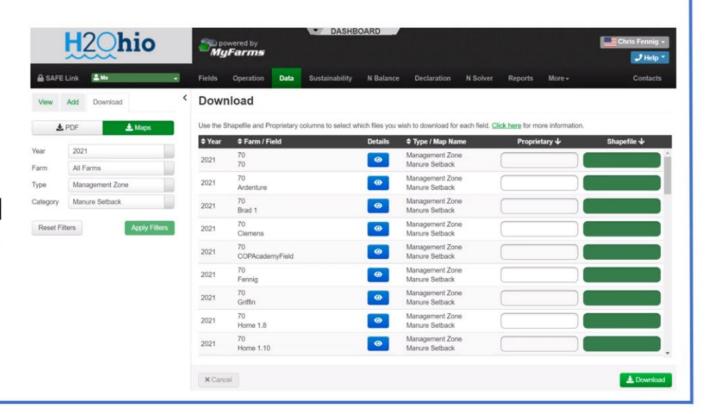




MyFarms

Ohio Department of Agriculture

- MyFarms is developing software to support H2Ohio Program enrollment, practice certification, and contract management
- MyFarms will incorporate program requirements into the enrollment process, and connect to existing data sources that producers are already using





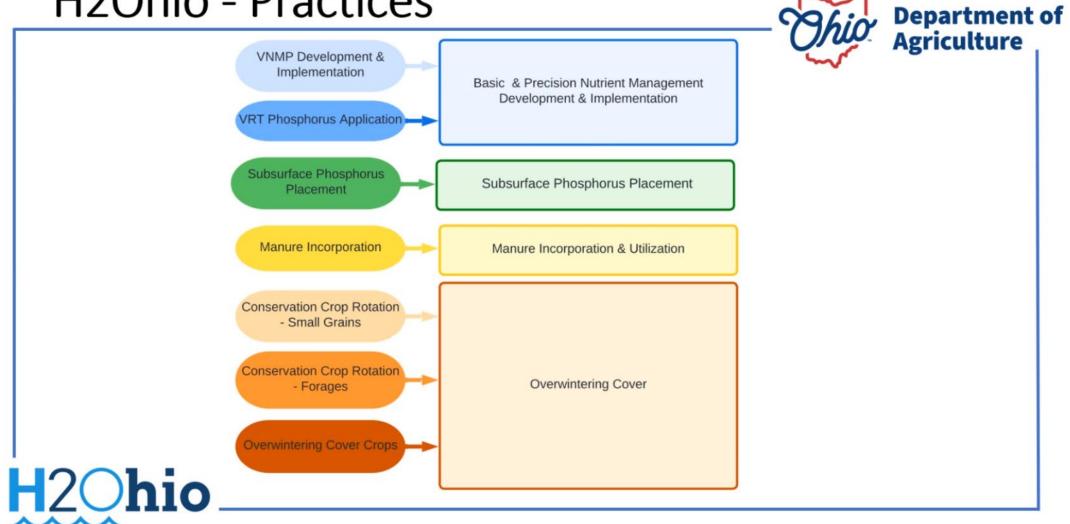
H2Ohio – Phase 2



- Planning the VNMP in MyFarms will be working towards the Phase 2 Contract – November 2023.
- Remaining BMPs eligible for Crop Years 2024 and 2025
- Phase 2 Contracts will not be ready for signatures until January 2024



H2Ohio - Practices



H2Ohio - Practices



Practice	Payment		
VNMP Development –	\$10/Acre		
VNMP Implement	\$10/Acre (Basic) & \$15 (Precision)		
Subsurface Phosphorus Placement		\$20/Acre (Annually)	
Manure Incorporation		\$60 (Liquid) & \$35 (Dry) \$15 Bonus for low soil testing fields <25 ppm	
Conservation Crop Rotation – Small Grains	Overwintering	\$40/Acre	
Conservation Crop Rotation – Forages	Overwintering Cover		
Overwintering Cover Crops			



H2Ohio – Additional Programs



- Equipment Purchase Assistance Program
- Farm Phosphorus Plots
- Drainage Water Management
- Working Lands Buffer Program
- Conservation Ditch Program





H2Ohio Annual Report



Department of Agriculture

https://h2.ohio.gov/h2ohio-annual-reports/













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Stephanie ...





Alexa Voge...

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H2Ohio RIVERS INITIATIVE



The H2Ohio Rivers Initiative is designed to improve water quality, ensure community health, protect wildlife, and provide opportunities for recreation in and along Ohio's rivers & streams.

\$46.6 M Over 2 Years

An expansion of the H2Ohio initiative, the **H2Ohio Rivers Initiative** places an emphasis on the preservation and improvement of our rivers, that provide critical wildlife habitat, drinking water, and recreation space.



River Restoration



Road Salt Management



Dam Removal



Emerging Contaminant Assessment













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H2Ohio Rivers Initiative

Chloride Reduction Program



H2Ohio Rivers Initiative















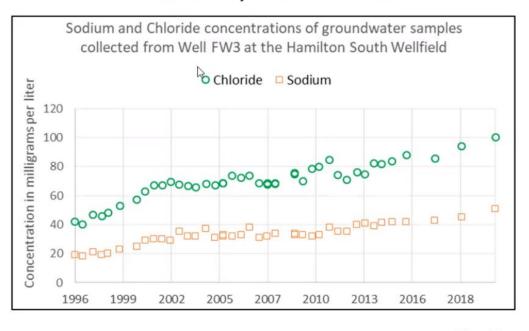






H20hio Rivers Initiative

Miami Conservancy District - Ground Water



Miami Conservancy District blog, October 13, 2021





- Partnership with Ohio Department of Transportation
- · Focus on:
 - Communication
 - Educate the public how Ohio is starting to learn the long-term impacts of overapplication from road deicers
 - Training
 - Best management practices
 - Grant Programing
 - For equipment and facility upgrades





H2Ohio Rivers Initiative

PFAS contaminants assessment

- Ohio has very limited data on PFAS contaminant's existence in, and impact to, Ohio's surface water resources
- Through the H2Ohio initiative, Ohio EPA has hired a contractor to sample water, macroinvertebrates, and fish in Ohio's major rivers throughout the state
- The data gathered will establish a baseline for future comparison, demonstrate if any action is needed through wastewater discharge permits or source remediation, and identify potential concerns for future fish consumption advisories



H2Ohio

EPA Chic Enviro Protection Agency

BY THE NUMBERS

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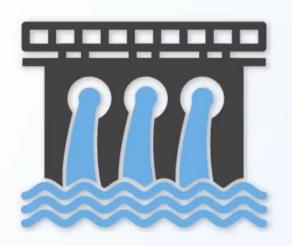
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\$4,500,000

for lead service line mapping to help identify pipes for replacement in 106 communites

\$21.09M

for 39 critical water and sewer projects





\$1,000,000

for drinking water equipment in 111 communities for better distribution



\$3,200,000

for lead service line and fixture replacement resulting in safer water in eight communities

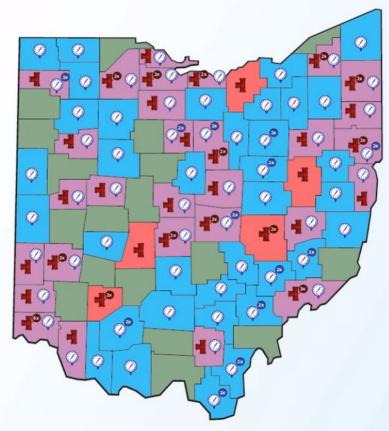


\$4,238,000

for 23 local health districts to replace household sewage treatment systems



H2Ohio Statewide Projects





As of 2023

Drinking Water Equipment Grants

More than 100 communities across the state have been awarded a total of \$1 million in grants to help pay for equipment needed to maintain their public drinking water infrastructure. The grants cover distribution system equipment such as mobile leak detectors, line locators, valve exercisers, flow meters, hydrant condition assessors, pressure monitors, and training to use the equipment.



Project Count





Lead Service Mapping Grants

Ohio EPA announced approximately \$2.4 million in H2Ohio grant assistance to help 53 public water systems take the first step toward removing and replacing lead water pipes.







Drinking Water Equipment Grants and Lead Service Mapping Grants



Both Projects



