Partnersing for success... SWCD watershed grants
OWEA Watershed Workshop

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ODA – Division of Soil and Water Conservation
OVERVIEW

- Watershed Management Basics
- Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs)
- Program Legacy
- Current Grant Program
What is this watershed mumbo jumbo?
A watershed is the area of land where all of the water that is under it or drains off of it goes into the same place.

– U.S. EPA

A region or area bounded peripherally by a divide and draining ultimately to a particular **watercourse** or **body** of **water**

– Webster’s Dictionary
WATERSHED MANAGEMENT

- Nonpoint pollution focus
- Integrates land and water
- Planning process
- Science based
- Water resources
  + (surface & ground)
- Adaptive, comprehensive, integrated, multi-resource
- Balance ecological, economic, and cultural/social conditions
Ohio Nonpoint Sources

- Hydromodification
- Habitat alteration
- Acid mine drainage
- Sediment
- Nutrients

Ohio Nonpoint Source Management Plan Update
2014 – 2018, Ohio EPA
## SOLUTIONS MATRIX

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Protection Practices</th>
<th>Education</th>
<th>Incentives</th>
<th>Enforcement</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Restoration Projects</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protect High Quality Resources</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
PLANNING IS CYCLICAL/ADAPTIVE

Diagram:
- Develop Plan
- Implement plan
- Evaluate plan
- Makes Changes
- Implement plan
- Evaluate plan
- Make Changes
- Implement plan
- Evaluate plan
- Makes Changes
PARTNER INVOLVEMENT IS CRITICAL

- Multi-jurisdictional
- Balance diverse values & interests
- Information and expertise is spread out
- Implementation responsibility and ability fragmented
- Sharing resources is more cost-effective
TYPICAL WATERSHED PARTNERS

- Watershed people
  - Citizens, Local Elected Officials
- Resource Agencies
  - Local: SWCDs, Health, Planning, Engineers...
  - State: ODNR, Ohio EPA, Dept. of Agriculture...
  - Federal: USDA, USGS, USEPA...
- Nonprofit Organizations
  - “Friends of,” Farm Bureau, Land Trusts
- Universities
- Industry / Commercial Interests
- Who might oppose?

With assistance from:

- Nick Agins, Lake County Soil & Water Conservation District
- Brian Ashurst, City of Mentor
- Ron Balog, Grand River Village
- Jim Bissell, Cleveland Museum of Natural History
- Amy Brennan, Chagrin River Watershed Partners
- Abe Bruckman, City of Mentor
- Pam Davis, Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency
- Becky Donaldson, Cleveland Museum of Natural History
- Dan Donaldson, Lake County Soil & Water Conservation District
- Chad Edgar, Lake County Soil & Water Conservation District
- Kristen Fink, Lake County General Health District
- John Gregov, CT Consultants
- George Hadden, Lake County Engineer
- Amanda Keith, Sierra Club
- Frank Kraska, Concord Township
- Laura Kramer Kuns, Lake County General Health District
- Frank Lichtkoppler, Ohio State University Extension/Ohio Sea Grant
- Mike Manary, Painesville Township
- Bob Martin, City of Mentor
- Tim Miller, Director, Lake County Stormwater Management Department
- Kelly Nasca, Sierra Club
- David Radachy, Lake County Planning & Community Development
- Brett Rodstrom, Western Reserve Land Conservancy
- Al Saari, Lake County Sanitary Engineer
- Jim Sayles, CT Consultants
- Russ Schaeldich, City of Painesville
- Lisa Schlag, Sierra Club
- Tom Sorge, Environmental Specialist, Ohio Department of Transportation
- Dennis Yurkovich, Lake County Deputy Sanitary Engineer
- Bill Zawiski, Ohio EPA
- Bob Zeitz, Mentor Marsh Board
- Christina Znidarsic, Chagrin River Watershed Partners
WATERSHED COORDINATION

- Partnership Development
  + Recruitment
  + Retention
  + Communication
  + Consensus
- Planning Coordination
- Facilitate Implementation
  + Assemble Resources
PARTNERSHIP LEADER

- Information Analysis
- Partner implementation tracking
- Report Results
  - Funders
  - Implementation Partners
  - Community
Other Watershed Program Needs

- Promote community “ownership” of the watershed
- Administrative Support
- Volunteer Nurturing
- Research
- Monitoring
- Fundraising

Piece of cake!
Who can do all this?
SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

- 75-year history
- Every county
- Elected boards
- Local knowledge & relationships
- Local and state revenue
- Built-in partnerships and resources
- Customized conservation programming... FLEXIBILITY!
Broad Authority *ORC 940*

- Conduct surveys, investigations & research
- Develop plans
- Implement, construct, repair, maintain and operate preventative and control measures
- Enter into agreements
- Accept donations
- Enter private land

- Conduct demonstrations & inform public
- Review and approve plans
- Establish joint boards
- Levy tax
SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

Broad Scope *ORC 940*

- **Natural resource** conservation
- **Soil** erosion & sediment damages
- Flooding, conservation, utilization, and disposal of **water**
- **Agricultural** pollution abatement
  - **Urban** sediment pollution
  - Works of improvement
  - Nutrient management
Weren’t there grants for this?
OHIO WATERSHED ACTION AGENDA

2000-01 State Budget

- Ohio Soil and Water Conservation Commission
  - Watershed Grants
- Ohio EPA
  - TMDL development and watershed assessment
- OSU Extension
  - Watershed Network and Academy
GRANT PROGRAM PHILOSOPHY

Investing in people to coordinate local watershed partnerships helps **align and concentrate resources** to solve water resource concerns.
Employ watershed staff

Plan coordinate & aggregate resources

Landscape changes

Water quality improvement &/or protection

Direct Investment

Deliverables

Priorities

Outcomes
### Watershed Coordinator Grant Program Revenue 2001-2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Revenue</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ohio EPA</td>
<td>$4,567,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Soil and Water Conservation</td>
<td>$4,011,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mineral Resources Management</td>
<td>$1,897,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Office of Coastal Management</td>
<td>$729,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Division of Wildlife</td>
<td>$1,221,000</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$12,425,000</strong></td>
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Investment: $12.4 million
Leveraged: $114.2 million

Funding Leveraged by Source

Funding Leveraged by Purpose
OUTCOMES

- Half of watershed coordinator positions continue after grant
- 64 state-endorsed watershed action plans
- Trained water resource professionals
- Regional organizations
  - Appalachian Ohio Watershed Council
  - Ohio Central Basin Project
  - Central Ohio Watershed Council
- Changes on the landscape improving water quality and building the knowledge of land managers and decision makers
- Measurable water quality improvements in many watersheds
Did you say new grants?
SWCD WATERSHED PROGRAM GRANTS

- Three-year grant (*more with success*)
- SWCDs eligible
- Partnerships!
- $40,000 annual max - no match
- Coordinator or team approach
- Implementation - priority measures
- 9 Key Element planning
- Funded 6 in 2018
2018 SWCD Watershed Program Grants

DSWC Grant Funded Watersheds
- Buckeye Lake
- Cahoon Creek
- GLSM and St. Mary's River
- Swan Creek
- East Fork Little Miami River
- Killbuck Creek
- Captina Creek
- Little Beaver Creek
- Yellow and Cross Creeks
2019 SWCD WATERSHED PROGRAM GRANTS

- Request for proposals out soon
- Up to five grants statewide
- Criteria
  + Partnerships!
  + Administrative capacity
  + Ripe for implementation
    - Implementation funder priority
    - Scope of implementation priorities
    - Past experience & success
    - Resource value
    - Feasibility

MRS. GLOOP: What a disgusting, dirty river!

MR. SALT: It's industrial waste, that. *You've ruined your watershed, Wonka.* It's polluted.

WONKA: It's chocolate!

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Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory, 1971