

# Ohio's Proposals for Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Funding

**Restoration:** an act of bringing back to a former condition of being unimpaired.



Lake Erie is affected by the decisions and actions of people throughout its watershed. Ohio's portion of the Lake Erie watershed, illustrated above, drains 11,649 square miles and is home to 4.65 million people.

## Restoration Focus Areas

Basin wide, five focus areas have been identified as the highest priorities for which urgent action is required. These Great Lakes Restoration Initiative funding areas are listed below with each categories' number of proposed projects and their combined estimated cost in Ohio. The multi-year projects listed on the back are DRAFT and subject to change.

- **Toxic Substances & Areas of Concern** ~\$53.292 million for 16 projects
- **Invasive Species** ~ \$5.755 million for 9 projects
- **Nearshore Health and Nonpoint Source Pollution** ~ \$44.095 million for 15 projects
- **Habitat and Wildlife Protection and Restoration** ~ \$19.121 million for 8 projects
- **Accountability, Monitoring, Evaluation, Communication and Partnerships** ~ \$2.78 million for 6 projects.

## Get Involved

While some of Ohio's proposed projects for GLRI funding will be completed by state agencies, others will result in funding opportunities for local groups through competitive grants in 2010. To provide input on Ohio's proposals or inform us of projects you intend to submit to the GLRI, visit:

[lakeerie.ohio.gov/GLRI.aspx](http://lakeerie.ohio.gov/GLRI.aspx)

The waters of Lake Erie have drawn people to Ohio as a recreational retreat, source of drinking water, mode of transit and shipping, and basis of livelihood. Today, those 127.7 trillion gallons bring Ohio nearly \$11 billion annually in visitor spending alone.

## Attraction has its Price

For more than a century, Lake Erie suffered from industrial pollution, untreated sewage discharges, and habitat degradation. Although significant strides have been made in addressing these issues, beneficial uses in four of Ohio's major Lake Erie tributaries are still impaired. Algal blooms are returning in levels not seen in 30 years, and new invasive species continue to affect the ecological balance of the lake.

## Envisioned Improvements

The state of Ohio and local entities have developed strategic plans for the recovery of Lake Erie and its tributaries. Blue prints for a green watershed lie in local waterfront plans, watershed action plans, balanced growth plans, habitat and species recovery plans, the Lake Erie LaMP, Remedial Action Plans, and the Lake Erie Protection & Restoration Plan. These plans collectively describe the path for the recovery of Lake Erie.

## Beacon of Recovery

Lake Erie has suffered great impairments and yet has also been a model of ecosystem recovery. Through the \$475 million in new Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) funding, Ohio can continue to participate in the Great Lakes environmental restoration. Ohio's GLRI proposals will remove barriers to fish spawning areas, restore beneficial uses in Ohio's 4 Areas of Concern, reduce harmful algal blooms, make beaches safer, protect critical habitats, reduce contamination from traditional non-point sources, address emerging contaminants of concern, and track measureable goals through some of the country's best monitoring programs.

## Great Expectations

With the help of GLRI funding, the balance between use and preservation of Lake Erie's coastal resources will be achieved giving our children a restored resource. The Brookings Institution has estimated that implementing the Great Lakes restoration strategy in full will generate \$50 billion in long-term benefits, creating jobs, revitalizing our regional economy and improving our quality of life.



### Toxins and Areas of Concern – 16 projects

1. **AOC Watersheds: Ohio AOC Core Program:** OEPA; USEPA, PCS, CRCPO, Lorain Co HD, ODNr, other RAP partners; \$728,600.
2. **AOC Watersheds: Bundled AOC Monitoring Projects:** OEPA, ODA, TMACOG, Metroparks, TNC, city of Toledo, PCS, city of Lorain, WRLC, city of Cleveland; \$271,400.
3. **Maumee R: Bundled AOC Implementation Projects:** OEPA, WBW, TMACOG, Metroparks, TNC, city of Toledo, PCS; \$13M.
4. **Maumee R: Restoration & Expansion of Urban & Community Forests (Brownfields):** ODNr, US Forest Service, local govts., SWCDs; \$1M.
5. **Black R: Bundled AOC Implementation Projects:** OEPA, city of Lorain, WRLC; \$3.475M.
6. **Cuyahoga R: Removal of Gorge Dam:** OEPA, Metro Parks Summit Co, First Energy/Ohio Edison, USEPA, CRCPO; \$5M.
7. **Cuyahoga R: Habitat Restoration Associated with Removal of Gorge Dam:** OEPA, Metro Parks Summit Co., First Energy/Ohio Edison, USEPA, CRCPO; \$250,000.
8. **Cuyahoga R: Sediment Removal at Gorge Dam:** OEPA, USEPA; \$16.25M.
9. **Cuyahoga R: Removal of Rt 82 Dam:** OEPA, ODNr, CVNP, USACE, CRCPO, Friends of the Crooked Creek; \$3M.
10. **Cuyahoga R: Bundled AOC Implementation Projects:** OEPA, city of Cleveland; \$6.4M.
11. **Ashtabula R: Ashtabula AOC 5½ Slip Peninsula Habitat Restoration:** OEPA, USEPA, USFWS, NOAA, Ashtabula RAP, Norfolk & Southern RR, Cleveland Museum of Natural History; \$2.7M.
12. **Ashtabula R: Bundled AOC Implementation Projects:** OEPA, ODA; \$60,000.
13. **Basin wide: Pesticide Clean Sweep:** ODA; \$500,000.
14. **Basin wide: Residential Collection of Pharmaceutical and Mercury Containing Devices:** ODNr, OEPA, local HDs, SWDs, SWCDs, Munis, law enforcement; \$300,000.
- 15-16. **Basin wide: Public Outreach and Emerging Containment Analysis in Ohio's Sportfish Consumption Advisory Program part 1 and part 2:** ODH, OEPA; \$357,000.

### Invasive Species – 9 projects

17. **Basin wide: Gypsy Moth Monitoring and Suppression in the Lake Erie Watershed,** ODA, USDA Forest Service, USDA APHIS; \$200,000.
18. **Basin wide: Investigate Compliance Complaints and Educate Bait Dealers in Ohio on VHS:** ODA; \$14,500.
19. **Basin wide: Offer VHS Testing to Known Fish Producers in Ohio:** ODA; \$546,246.
20. **Basin wide: Increase Surveillance for VHS in Public Waters Throughout Ohio:** ODA; \$50,592.
21. **Basin wide: Completion of a VHS risk Reduction & Bio-security Seminar for Aquaculture Producers & Practitioners:** ODA; \$7,750.
22. **Basin wide: DNAP Coastal Invasive Species Project:** ODNr, OSU, Miami Univ., Erie MetroParks, Toledo MetroParks, ODNr OCM, OLEC, Cleveland Museum of Natural History; \$135,500.
23. **Basin wide: Habitat & Wildlife Protection & Restoration:** ODNr, DU, USFWS, LE Waterfowlers, SW LE Chapter of Waterfowl USA, TNC; \$3.5M.
24. **Maumee R: Restoration of Oak Opening Forest Communities in Maumee State Forest and Other Protected Areas:** ODNr, USFS, local govts., SWCDs, Green Ribbon Initiative, TNC, Toledo Metroparks, Ohio Woodland Jobs Corps; \$1M
25. **Maumee R: Restoration & Expansion of Urban & Community Forest (EAB):** ODNr, USFS, local govts., SWCDs, Green Ribbon Initiative, TNC, Toledo Metroparks, Ohio Woodland Jobs Corps; \$300,000.

### Nearshore Health and NPS – 15 projects

26. **Basin wide: Agricultural Easement Purchase Program:** ODA, USDA NRCS, ODNr; \$2.17M.
27. **Basin wide: Planning & Implementation - Ohio's Balanced Growth Program:** OLEC; \$1.225M.
28. **Basin wide: Beach Sanitary Surveys, HSTS Replacements:** ODH, OEPA, County HDs, Sanitary Sewer Districts, local govts.; \$7M.
29. **Basin wide: Rehab & Replacement of Water & Wastewater Systems at 6 Ohio State Parks:** ODNr, OEPA; \$6.9M.
30. **Basin wide: Implementation of Lake Erie Tributary Watershed Action Plans:** OEPA; federal, state and local entities; \$3M.
31. **Basin wide: Beach Monitoring Communication:** ODH, county/local HDs; \$75,000.
32. **Basin wide: Improving Beach Monitoring for Bacteria:** ODH, USGS; \$250,000.
33. **Western LE Basin: Phosphorus Reduction in the Lake Erie Western Basin:** OEPA, each of 5 projects has multiple partners; \$5M.
34. **Western LE Basin: Western Lake Erie Basin Planning & Support:** ODNr, County SWCDs, ODA, OEPA, OSU Extension; \$300,000.
35. **Western Ohio Shore: Beach Forecasting Models (NOWCast):** ODH, USGS, NOAA, Ottawa Co. HD; \$125,000.
36. **Maumee R: Toledo Harbor Sediment Management and Reuse:** OLEC, OEPA, ODNr, USACE, Port Authority; \$15.16M.
37. **Maumee R: Restoration of Riparian Forest in Rural Settings:** ODNr, NRCS, SWCDs, Ohio Farm Bureau, ODA; \$500,000.
38. **Cuyahoga County Watersheds: Cuyahoga County Surface Water Improvement Fund Grants Program:** OEPA, local govts., watershed groups, state/federal agencies; \$1M.
39. **NE Ohio LE Watersheds: Protecting Forests & Water with Easements & BMPs:** ODNr; \$1.14M.
40. **Ashtabula, Cuyahoga, Chagrin & Grand Rs: Forest Certification in the Lake Erie Basin:** ODNr; \$250,000.

### Habitat & Wildlife Protection & Restoration – 8 projects

41. **Basin wide: Ohio CELCP Applications:** ODNr, Olander Park System, Erie MetroParks, WRLC, Lake Metroparks; \$3.721M.
42. **Basin wide: Bird Friendly Wind Power:** ODNr; \$200,000.
43. **Maumee R: Restoration & Expansion of Urban & Community Forests (Community Forests):** ODNr, US Forest Service, Local Govts, SWCDs; \$500,000.
44. **Maumee R: Grand Lake St. Mary's Shoreline Protection:** ODNr, OEPA, USACE; \$1M.
45. **Portage R: East Harbor State Park Beach Day Use Area:** ODNr, OEPA, USACE, BeachAid; \$2M.
46. **Portage R: East Harbor State Park Erosion Pilot Project:** ODNr, OEPA, USACE, BeachAid; \$1.2M.
47. **Sandusky R: Removal of Ballville Dam:** ODNr; \$6M.
48. **Huron R: Sheldon Marsh Restoration/Wetland Project:** ODNr, Erie MetroParks, ODNr OCM, OLEC, USFWS, USACE; \$4.5M

### Evaluation, Monitoring & Partnerships – 6 projects

49. **In Lake: Ohio Nearshore Monitoring Program:** OEPA, ODNr, Heidelberg Univ, OSU Sea Grant, UT; \$600,000.
50. **Basin wide: Green Area Conversion Metric:** OLEC; \$75,000.
51. **Basin wide: Substrate Mapping of Lakebed Geology:** ODNr; \$125,000.
52. **Basin wide: Web-based GIS Tools for Watershed Planning:** ODNr, watershed groups; \$125,000.
53. **Basin wide: Ohio LE Protection Fund Re-granting Program:** OLEC, OLEC agencies, OSU Sea Grant; \$1.1M.
54. **Basin Wide: Coordination & Implementation of the Lake Erie LaMP:** OEPA, ODNr, Environment Canada, USEPA, other LE states, LaMP Partners; \$80,000.