

**METROPARKS**  
TOLEDO AREA

The Nature Conservancy   
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**Bowling Green**  
STATE UNIVERSITY

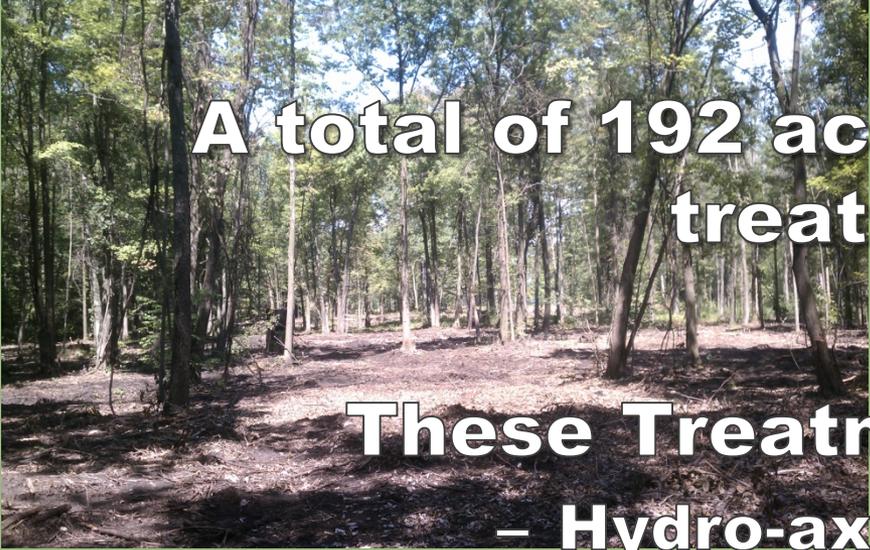
**Grant Period 6/30/2010 – 12/31/2013**

**Funding: \$1,452,419.44**

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## **Wet Prairie Restoration in the Maumee AOC**

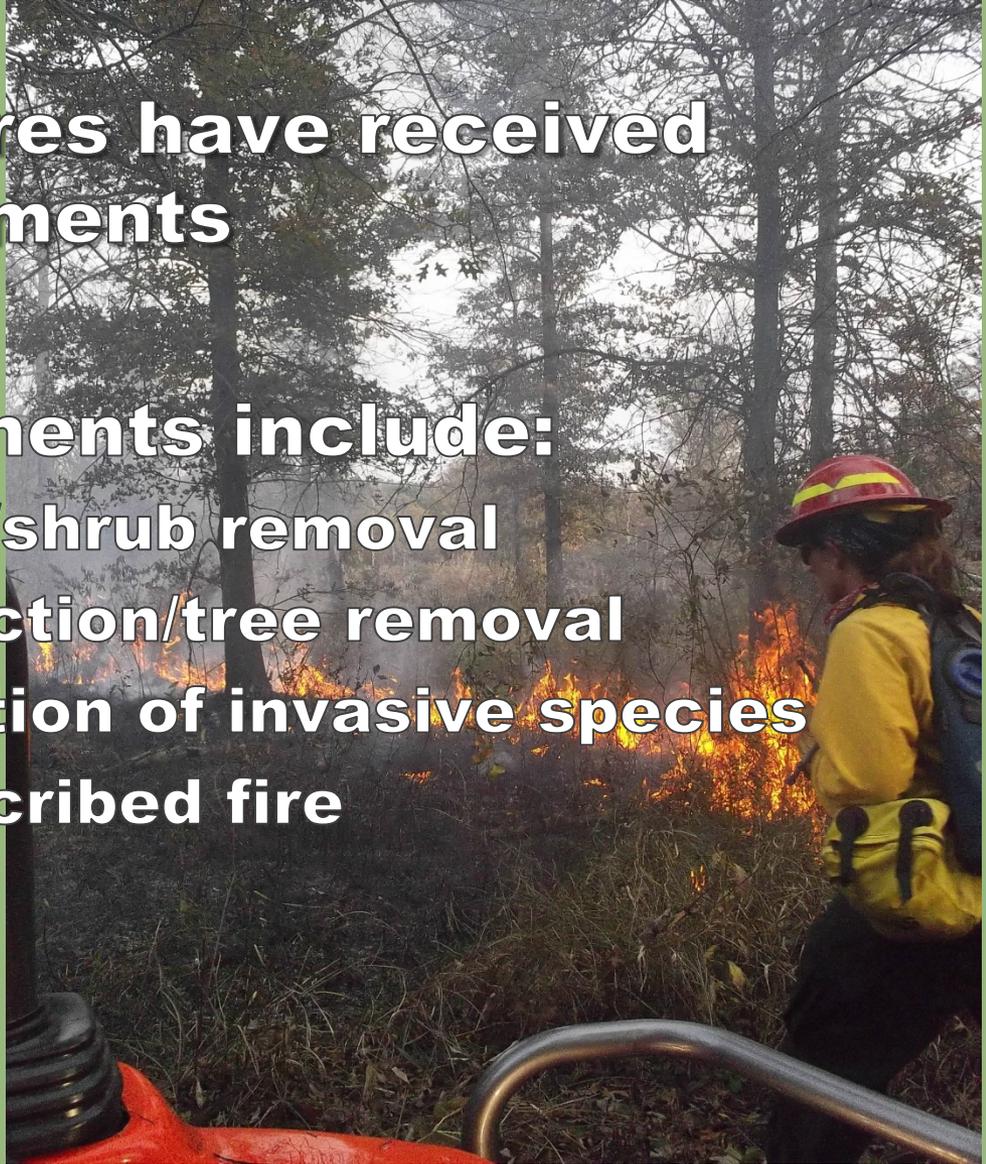
Ryan Gauger - 11/29/2011



**A total of 192 acres have received treatments**

**These Treatments include:**

- Hydro-ax/shrub removal**
- Canopy reduction/tree removal**
- Herbicide application of invasive species**
- Prescribed fire**



- **End of project, at least 601 distinct acres will be restored to a more functional ecosystem.**
- **Water quality should improve for local residents who use shallow wells.**
- **Findings will be shared with partners and provide feedback for conservation efforts.**

**All results from this project will directly improve the ecosystems functionality.**

**355 acres of shrub removal**

**144 acres of tree canopy reduction**

**695 acres of herbicide application of invasive species**

**33 acres of prairie seed planting**

**150 acres of prescribed fire use**

**Herpetofauna, Floral, and Hydrologic monitoring will be used to guide stewardship activities in the future.**

## Public Benefits From Project

- Wet prairies are well known to be filtration systems for water moving through the system.
  - » Providing cleaner water to local residents
  - » Reducing sediment loading in tributary streams of the Maumee River
- This project will also provide opportunities for education and outreach to the local community, hopefully fostering a sense of urgency in the conservation of the area.
- Protection and restoration of Oak Openings wet prairies provides an opportunity to address loss of habitat within the Maumee AOC at a landscape scale

## This funding will provide:

- » Seasonal employment for several individuals
- » Many local companies will serve as suppliers.
- » Several companies will be used in the contracting of specific services for this project.
- » Significant gains will be made in water quality



# New Research Needs and Management Questions

Due to this being the first year of data being collected no new needs have been identified.

However, continued monitoring will ultimately create more questions as to the effects of our management and how to have a more positive impact on conservation.

Communicating outcomes and techniques will become increasingly important as new information becomes available to us