District 10 Requirements
http://www.pwc.state.oh.us/GSCDistrict10.html

Program Round 13b

All applications for green space conservation funds in District 10 must contain both the application forms provided by the Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC) and answers to the enclosed Attachment B. To be considered, all applications must be typed and received by the deadline set forth below. Responses in this Attachment B should be brief and concise and must not exceed 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.

Following the Attachment B questions you will find the Attachment / Completeness Review checklist, please consult it for further information on submitting a complete application.

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 Thursday, May 9, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. 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.

Applicants must submit an original plus 11 copies to:

Warren County Soil and Water Conservation District
320 East Silver St.
Lebanon, OH 45036

All information must be received before 4:00 p.m. on: April 26, 2019.
ATTACHMENT B

Project Name:
________________________________________________________________________

Applicant Organization:

________________________________________________________________________

PROJECT EMPHASIS (per ORC §164.22)

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.

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

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 like in this state and to the state’s natural heritage.
5) (** The provision of multiple recreational, economic, and aesthetic preservation benefits.

6) (** The preservation or restoration of floodplain and streamside forest functions.

7) (** The preservation of headwater streams.

8) (*) Inclusion as part of a stream corridor-wide or watershed-wide plan.

9) (*) The support of comprehensive open space planning and incorporation of aesthetically pleasing and ecologically informed design.

10) The enhancement of economic development that relies on recreation and ecotourism in areas with relatively high unemployment and/or lower incomes.

11) The enhancement of educational opportunities and provision of physical links to schools and after-school centers.

12) The reduction or elimination of nonnative, invasive species of plants or animals.

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.
14) ____ The increase of habitat protection.

15) ____ The restoration and preservation of aquatic biological communities.

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:

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<th>Amount</th>
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2) Describe the level of collaborative participation: participation means active involvement through in-kind services or funding (up to 3 points):

| ______ | 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:

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

5) Describe the extent of public access once project is completed:
   ________ 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:
   ________ 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).

   **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?

   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, more than 5 state natural heritage inventory (NHI) endangered species, 1-5 state NHI ranked rare species, a high quality example of a regionally endangered biological community, or a threatened biological community or important example of Ohio’s natural heritage, 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).

5) Will your project provide or enhance greenspace or openspace opportunities in lower income or in highly urbanized areas? If so, please explain (4 points).

6) Will your project preserve or enhance undeveloped lands along viewsheds of major highway and transportation corridors? If so, please explain (4 points).

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).

OTHER FACTORS

Each NRAC member awards up 33 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 165 plus 33 discretionary points for a total of 198.
1) Briefly indicate any additional project benefits or considerations you would like the NRAC to consider in evaluating your application (up to 33 points).
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.

- 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.

- A formal detailed estimate of the project’s costs provided by an architect, landscape architect, engineer, or other professional for any eligible improvement costs.

- A cooperation agreement, (if the project involves more than entity) which identifies the fiscal and administrative responsibilities of each participant.

- 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.

- Information concerning the coordination of the project among local political subdivisions, state agencies, federal agencies, community organizations, and local business groups.

- 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.

- 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. For conservation easements you need to include the conservation easement document.

- Justification of land value: For land acquisition, an appraisal by an ODOT pre-qualified real estate appraiser will need to be submitted to the OPWC prior to closing. See the following page for more information: http://www.pwc.state.oh.us/GSCApplication.html. District 10 NRAC will accept an opinion of cost or value from an ODOT pre-qualified appraiser at the time of application. If applicant provides a County Tax Appraisal to meet the criteria for justification of land value, the purchase price of the land cannot exceed 150% of the County Tax Appraisal amount.

If the NRAC decides to fund the project and an appraisal was not submitted with the application, OPWC will require an appraisal to be completed. If the appraised amount exceeds the acquisition amount listed in the application, the applicant will only receive the grant amount requested in the application. If the appraised amount is lower than the acquisition amount projected in the application, the applicant will receive the grant percentage based on the appraised value.

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.

☐ 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)

+ 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.

Updated 3/18/19