

# The Ohio Balanced Growth Program

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# Ohio Balanced Growth Program

## Linking Land Use and Water Resources

- Planning Framework
  - Planning Process
  - Projects
- Best Local Land Use Practices
  - Practices manual
  - Resources and tools

# Balanced Growth Watershed Planning

- voluntary
- locally led
- incentive-based
- support through alignment of state policies and programs

# Ohio's Approach...

## Ohio Balanced Growth Strategy 2011



*Adopted by the Ohio Lake Erie Commission 12-21-2011  
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# Resource Information

[www.balancedgrowth.ohio.gov](http://www.balancedgrowth.ohio.gov)

- State Program Inventory
- Special Incentives

# Balanced Growth Strategy

- State activity to update and improve the Balanced Growth Program
- Reflects the statewide focus
- Review every 2 years
- **Highest priority action:** updating and enhancing the special incentives available to participating communities with state endorsed Watershed Balanced Growth Plans

# Watershed Planning Statistics

Drainage	Watershed	Area (sq mi)	Total No.		
			Communities (incl. Co.)	Final Support Communities	Total Population
Lake Erie	Chippewa	17	5	3	18,993
Lake Erie	Swan	204	23	20	112,538
Lake Erie	UWB Rocky	70	10	8	98,169
Lake Erie	Chagrin	267	36	28	269,879
Lake Erie	ELCCT	30	7	7	20,641
Lake Erie	Furnace Run	20	8	6	8,483
Lake Erie	Big Creek	39	7	5	168,928
Lake Erie	Brandywine	26	9		21,688
Lake Erie Subtotal		673	105	77	719,319
Ohio River	Olentangy	372	36	27	277,439
Ohio River	Upper Chippewa	44	10	9	12,046
Ohio River	Mosquito	41	9	9	46,699
Ohio River	Middle East Fork	56	12	9	19,181
Ohio River	Upper Scioto	450	31		414,867
Ohio River	Walnut Creek	150	16		45,019
Ohio River	Big Walnut Creek	376	34		477,203
Ohio River	Whetstone Creek	63	16		12,497
Ohio River Subtotal		1,552	164	54	1,304,951
Total		2,225	269	131	2,024,270

# Special Incentives (October 2012)

**These programs contain specific special incentives for Balanced Growth participating communities.**

**Red:** extra points on applications

**Blue:** special consideration in review process

**Gray:** percentage point discounts

**Green:** priority technical assistance

**Underline:** Grant programs

- Clean Ohio Agricultural Easement Purchase Program
- Recreation Harbor Evaluation Program
- CWA Section 319 Implementation Grants
- Water Supply Revolving Loan Account
- Water Pollution Control Loan Fund
- Ohio Coastal Mgmt Assistance Grants
- Land & Water Conservation Fund
- Nature Works
- Watershed Coordinator Grant Program
- Market Development Grant
- Lake Erie Protection Fund
- Scrap Tire Grant
- Section 208 (State Water Qual. Mgmt Plan)
- Ohio Lake Erie Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) and Scioto River Watershed CREP
- Transportation Review Advisory Council (TRAC) Funds
- Dam Safety Loan Program
- Fresh Water Loan Group
- Community Assistance Loan Program
- National Flood Insurance Program Community Rating System
- Redevelopment Technical Assistance
- Agricultural Security Area
- Streams & Storm Water Program
- Statewide Geologic Mapping Program
- Dam Safety Technical Assistance
- Floodplain Mgmt. Tech Asst. Program
- Ohio Community Services Agency Technical Support



# Technical Assistance

- Provided to Planning Partnerships and local communities
- 18 projects completed/underway
- How is assistance used?
  - Comprehensive plan updates
  - Code review; advice on code implementation
  - Drafting of code language
  - Specific topics: Review of RFPs for consultants, PUDs, stream corridor protection

# Incentives: Examples

- Technical assistance
  - Priority given to communities with an endorsed BG Plan
  - Education and technical workshops
- Lake Erie Protection Fund
  - Small grants used as a stepping stone for larger grants
    - Chagrin River WPP- stormwater retrofits
    - Friends of Big Creek- stormwater retrofits

# Incentives: Examples

- Infrastructure Loan Discount: City of Delaware
  - .5% discount on loan for a new water treatment plant
  - Savings of over ***\$2.1 million***

# Resources

- Revised document: *Linking Land Use and Ohio's Waters: Best Local Land Use Practices*
- Bibliography: over 150 papers on economic benefits of practices
- Example Codes and Matrices
- Case Studies
- Statewide Conference January 11, 2013

# Resources Under Development

- DVD on best practices
  - Showcases elected officials & developers
  - Highlights practices and water resources
- Cost/benefit analysis
  - Compact development
  - Tree protection

# Ohio | Balanced Growth



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