

Maumee Watershed Summary Nutrient Mass Balance Study

Ohio EPA has completed its second statewide study identifying sources and the annual amount of phosphorus and other nutrients flowing from the state's watersheds into Lake Erie and the Ohio River. *

The results of this study are key in assisting the State in identifying the most environmentally beneficial and cost-effective legislative, policy and financial mechanisms to reduce phosphorous and nutrients impacting state waters by 40 percent by 2025 to comply with the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement.

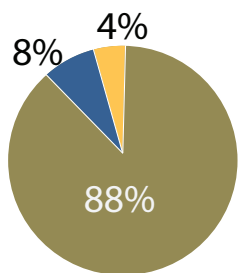
Ohio has spent more than \$6 billion statewide, including more than \$3 billion spent in the Lake Erie watershed to improve water quality since 2011 and protect Lake Erie.

*Ohio EPA is required by state law to update this study every two years.

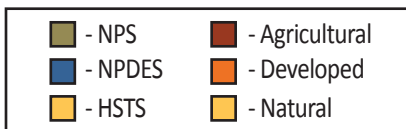
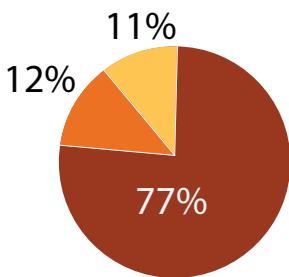
Overall, the results of this study show no clear trend of an overall decrease in loading in most watersheds, especially in nonpoint source dominated watersheds like the Maumee where the loading in 2017 was the highest of the years reported.

The study examined phosphorus and other nutrients from agriculture and other nonpoint sources (NPS), municipal and industrial wastewater systems (NPDES), as well as home sewage systems (HSTS), which together make up the vast majority of nutrient sources.

Maumee Total Phosphorus Sources



Maumee Land Use



The study serves as a baseline and will aid in tracking progress to targets established by the 2012 Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement and the Gulf of Mexico Hypoxia Task Force 2001 Action Plan. The State will keep using adaptive management to implement Ohio's Domestic Action Plan. In addition, Ohio EPA has proposed a bill that would regulate phosphorus from wastewater treatment plants and agriculture.