

OhioEPA



## OEEF Mission

- To enhance Ohio citizens' awareness and understanding of environmental issues



## OEEF Funds

- Funding for OEEF grants comes from half the civil penalties assessed by Ohio EPA for violations of Ohio's air and water pollution control laws
- Approximately \$1 million awarded annually



## OEEF Definition of Environmental Education

The learning process whereby people acquire an **awareness** and **understanding** of the natural and built environment, cultivate attitudes that **value** the environment, and develop **skills** for addressing environmental issues.



## Audiences for Grant Projects

- Pre-school through university students and teachers
- **General Public**
- **Regulated Community**



## OEEF Grant Sizes

- General Grants \$5,000 - \$50,000, up to 30 months
- Mini grants \$500 - \$5,000, up to 12 months
- Application Deadlines mid-January and mid- July



## Online Applications

- Applications are submitted electronically, in OEEF's Grant Management System (GMS)
- <https://oef.bambooportal.com/gpOEEF/default.htm>



## OEEF Grant Recipients

- Ohio-based organizations
- Schools and universities
- Local Governments: cities, counties, parks, soil and water conservation districts, solid waste districts, recycling offices, health departments, regional planning agencies
- Private companies and trade associations
- Non-profit organizations

## Sample Grant for General Public Audience: \$49,989 to TMACOG

- 6 quarterly brochures to 200,000 residents of Maumee River basin: how citizens impact water quality
- Supplemented with radio, print ads, billboards, library displays
- Multiple jurisdictions
- Water conservation, lawn care, septic systems, streambank stabilization, native plants, household hazardous waste, **storm drains & ditches**
- [www.maumeerap.org/GWAH.htm](http://www.maumeerap.org/GWAH.htm)



## Sample Grant for Regulated Community Audience: \$11,850 to Clermont Office of Environmental Quality

- **Better Site Design Tools and Techniques for Managing Post-Construction Storm Water**
- One-day workshop for planners, developers, engineers, contractors, zoning and code enforcement officials.
- Tour of developments successfully using designs to minimize storm water.



## OEEF Funding Priorities

- **Compliance assistance:** **helping regulated entities, and particularly small businesses, understand and comply with Ohio's environmental laws and regulations.**



## OEEF Funding Priorities

- **Community Issues:** educating the public about technical aspects of environmental issues in their communities, such as:
  - **storm water management;**
  - drinking water protection;
  - brownfields cleanup and redevelopment;
  - Improving air quality in counties not meeting federal Clean Air standards; and
  - Education efforts related to endorsed watershed plans



## OEEF Funding Priorities

- **Environmental Public Health:** educating about human health threats from environmental pollution, and how to minimize human exposure to preserve good health. Current priority issues include reduction of ozone precursors, airborne particulates, and toxic chemicals such as mercury in the environment.



## OEEF Funding Priorities

- **Standards-Based Education :** using environmental education to improve student academic achievement, specifically through activities that are aligned with the Ohio Department of Education's Academic Content Standards, and projects to educate teachers and non-formal educators about ways to effectively present environmental subjects.



## OEEF Funding Priorities

- **Career Development:** educating students about what environmental professionals do, to encourage them to enter careers in environmental science and engineering, and related fields.



## OEEF Funding Priorities

- **Environmental Sustainability:** education about energy efficiency and conservation, alternative fuels and energy sources, green building principles, sustainable and community-supported agriculture.



What else does  fund?



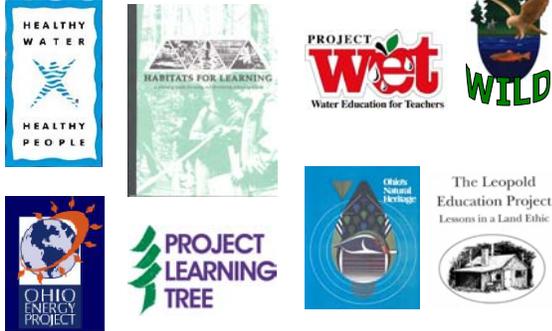
EnviroScape models...



[www.Enviroscapes.com](http://www.Enviroscapes.com)



## Award-winning curricula.



## Environmental Monitoring by Students and Citizen Groups



## Field trips to see environmental protection techniques

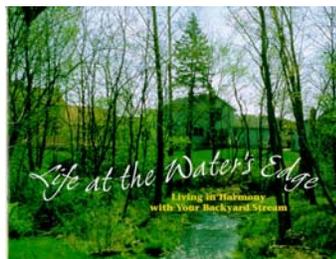


## Teaching Citizens...

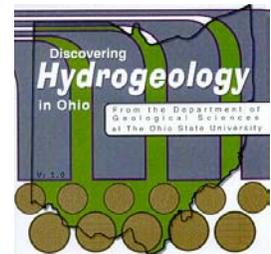
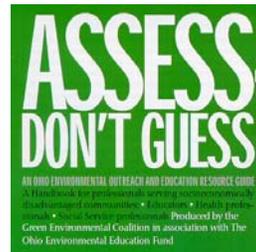


## Publications...

A FAMILY'S GUIDE  
TO EATING FISH  
FROM THE  
LAKE ERIE BASIN  
2004-2005  
Catch and Eat Cleaner Fish  
Protect Your Health



## CD-ROMs...



### Watershed Festivals, Stream CleanUps, Watershed Awareness...



### Community involvement in environmental planning...



### Exhibits...



### Maps & Signage



### Demonstration Projects...



Solar-powered water pump to keep livestock from degrading stream banks (\$16,198 OEEF grant to Harrison SWCD)

### Resource libraries, equipment...



## Skill-building seminars...



## OEEF Wants You!

- Environmental and education professionals are needed as volunteer peer reviewers
- It's a great way to become a better grant writer yourself!

For more information:

Ohio Environmental Education Fund

[www.epa.state.oh.us/oeeef](http://www.epa.state.oh.us/oeeef)