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**MEDIA CONTACT:** Heather Lauer, (614) 644-2160  
**CITIZEN CONTACT:** Kristopher Weiss, (614) 644-2160

## **Ohio EPA Awards \$5,000 Environmental Education Mini Grant to Logan County School District**

Students in the Benjamin Logan School District will have an opportunity to learn about their local river's ecosystem thanks to a \$5,000 environmental education mini grant from Ohio EPA. Ten projects throughout the state were funded for \$42,813.49.

The district will develop the program, "The Mad River and the Trout Ecosystem" for students from kindergarten through high school. The grant will provide aquarium supplies and monitoring equipment to support the study of water quality and the pristine trout habitat in the nearby Mad River headwaters. Headwaters, often seen as mere seeps or wet areas on the ground, are the birthplace of rivers.

The project uses the Trout in the Classroom curriculum from Trout Unlimited. Students will raise trout in the classroom for supervised release into the Mad River. Local experts and the ODNR Division of Wildlife are collaborating.

The Ohio Environmental Education Fund gives out approximately \$1 million each year for environmental education projects targeting kindergarten through university students, the general public, and the regulated community. General grants are given for projects lasting up to 30 months and costing up to \$50,000.

Mini grants are available for projects lasting up to 12 months and costing between \$500 and \$5,000. Proposals for classroom projects, conference speakers, and other activities that are eligible under the general grant program are eligible under the mini-grant program, but the application process is streamlined. Ohio EPA's Office of Environmental Education reserves up to \$50,000 each grant round to fund projects submitted under this program. Just like the general grant program, there are two mini-grant rounds each year, with the next application deadline on Jan. 15, 2012. An electronic letter of intent to apply is due on Jan. 8, 2012.

For more information, contact Ohio EPA's Office of Environmental Education at (614) 644-2873. Staff is available to assist potential grant applicants who contact the office before the submission deadline. Information also is available [online](#).

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