

**OHIO ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION FUND
GRANTS AWARDED IN STATE FISCAL YEAR 1998**



ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION GRANTS

During the Fall 1997 and Spring 1998 grant rounds, the OEEF awarded a total of \$937,681.57 for 28 general grants. Additional grants and sponsorships are listed at the end of this document.

Clermont County Educational Service Center, \$49,920. Clermont County Water Quality Project, May 1998-November 2000, Clermont County, 98G-003

The Clermont County Water Quality project will give high school students knowledge and skills required to research real-world environmental and community issues. Teachers and students will participate in designing a comprehensive water quality plan for the county including curriculum development, student-directed research, and field trips.

Cedar Cliff Local Schools, \$5,053. Cedar Cliff Schools Land Lab, May 1998-October, 2000, Greene County, 98G-008

The project will establish a multipurpose land lab on school grounds as part of an integrated curriculum project with emphasis on environmental science. The land lab will strengthen the existing science curriculum at the elementary school.

Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Natural Areas and Preserves, \$49,666. A Statewide Approach to Improving Awareness of the Threats of Non-Native Plants, May 1998-November 2000, Statewide, 98G-009

This project will initiate a statewide educational program on non-native invasive plant species which will result in an increased awareness of non-native plants, their identification, control, and management. DNAP is collaborating with several other organizations and will produce educational brochures and fact sheets highlighting the most problematic non-native species in Ohio.

Ohio University, Institute for Local Government Administration and Rural Development (ILGARD), \$41,459.26. Project Green Sweep, May 1998-June 2000, Scioto County, 98G-019

Project Green Sweep will create a public education campaign regarding the impact of and alternatives to illegal dumping of solid waste. Activities include the design, promotion and delivery of at least 40 two-hour in-service compliance training programs targeted at local governments, law enforcement, community leaders, non-profits, civic groups, and environmental clubs.

Ohio Lake Management Society, \$48,880. Citizen Lake Awareness and Monitoring, April 1998-April 2000, Portage County, 98G-022

The Ohio Lake Management Society's Citizen Lake Awareness and Monitoring (CLAM) program is expanding to connect Ohio lakes to Ohio watersheds. This will be accomplished by increasing citizen involvement and by instituting a statewide stream monitoring program that will foster citizen action and long term lake stewardship.

Pickerington Local Schools/Tussing Elementary, \$50,000. Changing Places, May 1998-May 2000, Fairfield and Franklin Counties, 98G-023

In this project, students at Tussing Elementary will be involved in understanding the historical changes in the land on which their school sits. Students and teachers will research the history of the land and create a land lab that restores historically indigenous habitats.

Wright State University, \$48,628. A Comprehensive Project for K-12 Education at Cedar Bog, July 1998-December 1999, Greene County, 98G-025

This project will produce a set of K-12 hands-on, minds-on learning activities for Cedar Bog, a unique environmental area in north-central Ohio. All activities will be developed with teachers from Coldwater Exempted Village Schools, a small rural equity school district, and Springfield City Schools, an urban district.

The Ohio State University Extension, Community Development, \$46,904. Facilitating Citizen Participation in Ohio's Land Use Dialogue, May 1998-April 1999, Statewide, 98G-029

This project will provide educational opportunities for greater citizen participation in land use decisions, especially for urban residents and farmers. The program will be conducted in a three phase approach geared at increasing awareness, understanding, and participation in land use issues by rural and urban residents throughout the state.

Ohio Hunger Task Force, \$25,788. After School Environmental Education Program for Low-Income Children, May 1998-June 1999, Franklin County, 98G-036

The project will seed an environmental education program for the Ohio Hunger Task Force's after-school program. Using curriculum developed by the Winners' League Foundation, the program will bring environmental education to low-income children who will be involved in hands-on experiences to learn about the relationship between people and the environment.

Ohio State University Extension, \$14,000. The Master Gardener Program for Teachers, May 1998-June 1999, Stark and Summit Counties, 98G-045

This Master Gardener Program for Teachers will provide more than 80 hours of horticulture and environmental education training and curriculum materials to teachers from urban areas. These teachers will bring environmental concepts to their schools through both indoor and outdoor gardening experiences.

Ohio Dental Association, \$9,708. Dental Mercury Collection Program, May 1998-November 1998, Statewide, 98G-047

The program will collect mercury that is non-processed, non-contaminated and at least 98% pure. The education/prevention component of the project will inform dentists about the collection program and provide recommendations on ways to properly dispose of dental wastes.

COSI Toledo, \$49,823. Maumee River Environmental Awareness Project, July 1998-July 1999, Lucas County and northwest Ohio, 98G-048

An educational site for understanding the complex interactions between humans and an environmental resource such as the Maumee River will be established. Daily demonstrations, take-home materials, workshops and facilitated learning will allow the hundreds of thousands of visitors to COSI each year to become environmentally-literate about the Maumee River.

Jackson City School District, \$5,500. Man-The Protector of the Environment, November 1997-May 1998, Jackson County, 97G-080

To involve students in outdoor education classrooms (land labs) as a means of instilling the knowledge and understanding of how the actions of human beings can impact, either positively or negatively, our natural environment, including a study of how the impact has affected the natural habitat of some endangered species.

Global Issues Resource Center, \$25,500. E I E I O--Environmental Issues Education in Ohio, November 1997-February 1999, Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, Medina and Summit Counties, 97G-085

To effectively empower diverse constituencies to act responsibly as they make crucial decisions that affect the environment by presenting an eight week Elders' course highlighting environmental concerns; a four week public lecture series exploring key dilemmas; as well as development of a teaching unit tacking a current controversial issue along with an in-service to train teachers in its use in the classroom; and a major simulation game engaging area high school students in an intense environmental crisis.

DEBLAR and Associates, \$50,000. The McElrath Environmental Education Partnership, November 1997-October, 1998, Portage County, 97G-088

To establish a collaborative sustainable community based partnership to help identify their environmental issues by implementing a 4-step environmental

education process which includes 1) community organization, 2) defining environmental issues and community needs, 3) community coordination, and 4) initiating education strategies in response to the community's environmental needs.

Ohio Valley Regional Development Center, \$11,206. The Economic Benefits of Reducing Waste in the Business Community, November 1997-January 2000, Adams, Brown, Clermont, Fayette, Gallia, Highland, Jackson, Lawrence, Pike, Ross, Scioto and Vinton Counties, 97G-089

Several Chamber of Commerce organizations in the Ohio Valley Regional Development Commission including Adams, Brown, Clermont, Fayette, Gallia, Jackson, Lawrence, Pike, Ross, Scioto, Highland, and Vinton counties will collaborate to educate area businesses. The project will educate members of the business community about how to save money by reducing waste in their business processes.

Little Miami Local Schools/Little Miami High School, \$7,336. An Interdisciplinary Study of the Little Miami River, November 1997-October, 1998, Warren County, 97G-090

To provide an interdisciplinary study of the ecology of the Little Miami River by using macroinvertebrate sampling, chemical sampling, and algae sampling (to determine water quality). The results of the study will be shared with the Scenic Rivers Director at ODNR, as well as Project Green.

Adams-Brown Counties Economics Opportunities, Inc., \$50,000. The Adams County Litter Education Project , November 1997-August 1999, Adams County, 97G-094

To creatively educate students about littering, dumping and household waste disposal. The project will involve a kid's activity book, a remote-controlled robot, a puppet show, a newsletter, summer tours, a creek clean up, and an adopt-a-spot activity.

Anthony Wayne Board of Education, \$20,909. The Waterville Land Lab, November 1997-November 1999, Lucas County, 97G-102

To create an appreciation for and awareness of Northwest Ohio's natural heritage for Anthony Wayne School District students and citizens by promoting stewardship of the natural environment through the use of a land lab which will link environmental education in the classroom to local natural areas.

Ohio EPA-Northeast District Office, \$13,420. On-Site Sewage Guides Distribution, statewide, 97G-110

To print two new published technical assistance operation and maintenance guides for the two most common sewage treatment systems serving small businesses in unsewered areas of Ohio. The project will involve partnering with

all 88 county health departments to distribute the copies of the guides to existing small businesses.

Association of Ohio Recyclers, \$50,000. Ohio Materials Exchange, December 1997-December 1998, statewide, 97G-113

To facilitate the creation and coordination of a statewide Materials Exchange program by bringing together several state agencies, solid waste district sponsored regional programs and Ohio's regulated community in a cooperative effort to reduce the amount of waste being disposed of in Ohio's landfills.

Switzerland of Ohio Local School District/River High School, \$20,066. Outdoor Environmental Learning Laboratory, November 1997-November 1999, Monroe County, 97G-116

To improve the understanding and competency of students in ecological relationships and the necessity for the healthy long-term sustainability of the local environment by implementing activities that investigate environmental problems, their causes and their effects on the community through the use of a 20 acre outdoor learning facility.

Cleveland Public Schools, General Education Division, Office of Science, \$26,876.31 Living at the Edge: Exploring Our North Coast Heritage, February 1998-June 2000, Cuyahoga County, 97G-117

To provide a collaborative effort between the Steamship William Mather Museum, John Carroll University, the Cleveland Public School's Urban Systemic Initiative Office and the Cleveland Public School's Office of Science which will provide selected ninth grade students the opportunity to study environmental issues that are both current and regional during three all-day visits to the museum.

Ohio Energy Project, \$50,000. Ohio Energy Project, January 1998-December 1998, 59 counties statewide 97G-120

To provide a week-long workshop for teachers, to present information about the economic and environmental advantages and disadvantages of the 10 major sources of energy. The teachers will construct an Energy Cycle which will be retained by the school district and used annually by teachers of grades 5 through 12.

Seventh Generation, \$49,154. The Watershed Education Partnership Project, January 1998-December 1998, Lorain County, 97G-121

To develop a comprehensive, interdisciplinary watershed-based environmental education curriculum for public schools which will raise awareness of Black River environmental issues, and develop a contiguous K-12 curriculum, support statewide watershed education initiatives and provide resources for increasing

demands for environmental education in Lorain County.

The Ohio Historical Society, \$50,000. Why is Rush Creek Orange?, Perry County, 97G-124

Using a cooperative learning model and distance-learning technology, the New Lexington Ohio school district second, third, ninth, and tenth grade students will study the environmental history of Rush Creek. The students will explore the need for clean-up solutions that will revitalize Rush Creek and preserve part of New Lexington's landscape legacy.

Lourdes College, \$49,993. Environmental Balance--The Whole Picture: Student Explorations of Plants, Pollinators, Pests and Predators, Lucas County, 97G-134

To provide hands-on, environmental science education to elementary through adult-age learners by having the learners participate in field classes, Summer Earth Science Camps, LC Continuing Education classes, and/or outreach, field study programs in secondary schools.

Ohio EPA - Southwest District Office, \$17,892. Southwest Ohio Local Government Pollution Prevention Collaborative, November 1997-April 1999, Butler, Brown, Clark, Clermont, Darke, Greene, Hamilton, Highland, Logan, Miami, Montgomery, Preble, Shelby Counties, 97G-141

The Southwest Ohio Local Government Pollution Prevention Collaborative will operate a permanent networking group for local government personnel. The Collaborative will train local governments in the knowledge and skills needed to promote and implement pollution prevention in their operations and communities.

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION CO-SPONSORSHIP

State Science Day, \$12,500.

OEEF was a cosponsor of State Science Day 1998 and awarded 24 Governor's Awards for Excellence in Environmental Research.

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION PARTNERSHIP

Environmental Education Council of Ohio (EECO), \$160,140 for two years. 97G-081.

During 1998, the Office of Environmental Education maintained a partnership with EECO. Among other accomplishments, the partnership produced Ohio's first ever *Directory of Environmental Education Sites and Resources*.

COMPARATIVE RISK EDUCATION PROJECTS

The mission of the Comparative Risk Education Strategy Team (CREST) is to develop education programs from opportunities identified in the Ohio Comparative Risk Project. To that end, in State Fiscal Year 1998 the following projects were funded:

Youngstown State University--Center for Environmental Studies, \$34,089. Curriculum Development in Risk Assessment, May 1998-June 1999, Mahoning County, 98G-018.

YSU will develop a curriculum in quantitative and comparative risk assessment for senior undergraduate and graduates by: 1) adding two new courses in risk assessment; 2) adding risk assessment lectures to existing risk assessment courses; and 3) running a certificate program for the 98-99 academic year.

Rural Action, Inc., \$34,905. Southeast Ohio School Integrated Pest Management, September 1998-June 2000, Athens, Gallia, Hocking, Jackson, Meigs, Morgan, Perry, Vinton and Washington Counties, 98G-051.

This project will facilitate the adoption of safe school pest control, or integrated pest management (IPM), in nine counties in southeastern Ohio. The project will raise awareness in school personnel, boards, and parents of the rationale and methods of IPM.

Environmental Education Council of Ohio, \$10,000. 98CR-002.--to assist with EE 2000, the strategic environmental education planning for the state.

Hamilton County, \$15,000. 98CR-003.--to assist in the implementation of the Hamilton County Environmental Priorities Project, which is a local comparative risk project.

The City of Columbus, \$50,000. 98CR-004.--to provide funding for the development of a Baseline Survey Tool to be used in the implementation of the City's risk communication initiative through the City's Community Risk Panel.

The Strategy Team, Ltd., \$49,371. 98CR-005.--to create and administer an environmental literacy study of Ohioans.

Crossroads Resource Conservation and Development Council, Inc., \$46,000. 98CR-006.--to conduct minority and low-income grant writing workshops.

Marcy Design Group, \$146,000. Ohio State of the Environment Report on CD-ROM, statewide, 98CR-008.

This multi-year project will update the 1995 *Ohio State of the Environment Report* developed by Ohio EPA as part of the Ohio Comparative Risk Project, and distribute it in a new interactive format on CD-ROM for schools and citizens.

COMPARATIVE RISK CO-SPONSORSHIP

Ohio Alliance for the Environment, “Healthy Environment, Healthy Lifestyle: What Can be Done to Reduce the Risk of Cancer?”, \$34,803. 98 CR 001.

OEEF was a co-sponsor, along with the Ohio Alliance for the Environment, of this conference, which featured John Stossel from ABC News.

COMPARATIVE RISK PARTNERSHIP

Ohio Alliance for the Environment (OAE), \$100,000. 98 CR 007

A new partnership with OAE was developed in 1998. This partnership will involve targeted adult education activities identified as priorities in the comparative risk project.

In SFY 98, OEEF awarded a total of \$1,630,489.57 in grants, sponsorships and partnerships.