

Ohio Environmental Education Fund

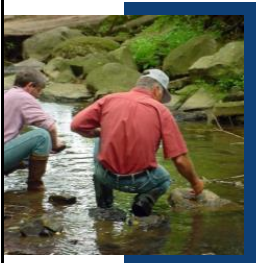
Dan Sowry, Assistant Environmental Administrator
Ohio EPA's Office of Environmental Education






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

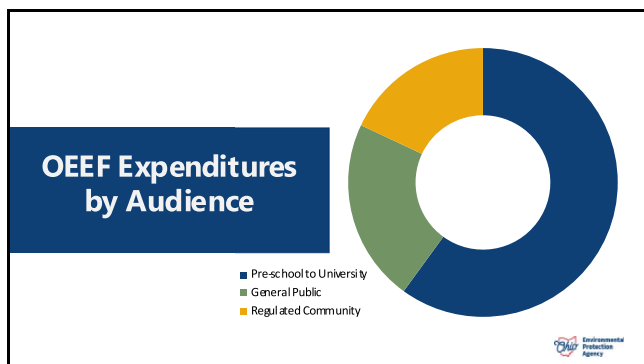


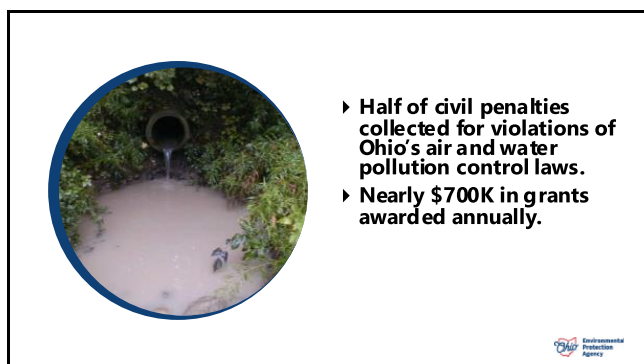


Audiences for Grant Projects

- ▶ Pre-school through university students and teachers
- ▶ General public
- ▶ Regulated community








OEEF Grant Sizes


- \$500 to \$50,000
- Most projects should be completed within 12 months
- Application deadlines normally each January 15 and July 15
- 10% match required (cash or in-kind contributions)

Ohio Department of Environmental Protection



Competition for EE Funds


- ▶ OEEF receives 30-50 applications each grant cycle.
- ▶ OEEF funds about 20% of applications received.
- ▶ Applicants often apply more than once before receiving funds.



OEE Funding Priorities



Ohio EPA identified seven funding priorities for 2025-2026



Funding Priorities

Encouraging Ohio students to explore environmental-related careers



Funding Priorities

Encouraging habitat and ecological restoration efforts






Funding Priorities



Reducing emissions to improve air quality, including through energy conservation and alternative energy sources





Funding Priorities

Reducing lead exposure in drinking water



contamination

water repellent PFAS PFDA PFDS

chemical compounds forever chemicals

Water Pollution toxic and carcinogenic

environmental damage

bioaccumulation

water-resistant properties

organofluorine fluorine chemicals

PFAS exposure

PFAS

contamination

water repellent PFAS PFDA PFDS

chemical compounds forever chemicals

Water Pollution toxic and carcinogenic

environmental damage

bioaccumulation

water-resistant properties

organofluorine fluorine chemicals

PFAS exposure

PFAS

Funding Priorities

Nonstick Cookware

Rain Gear

Shampoo

Stain Resistant Fabric

Cosmetics

Paint

PFAS

Environmental Protection Agency

Reducing exposure to per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), also known as "forever chemicals"

Funding Priorities

Encourage planning and emergency preparedness for extreme environmental events (environmental releases, extreme weather, etc.)


Environmental Protection Agency

Funding Priorities

Using innovative practices to improve water quality, reduce nutrient loading, and prevent harmful algal blooms


Environmental Protection Agency

5



Funding Priorities


Connections between the environment and human health, including but not limited to, air quality and respiratory conditions, tick prevalence and Lyme disease, scrap tires, and mosquitoes





OEEF Grant Recipients


- ▶ Ohio-based organizations
- ▶ Schools and universities
- ▶ Local governments (e.g., health departments, soil and water conservation districts, solid waste management districts)
- ▶ Private companies and trade associations
- ▶ Non-profit organizations



Sample Grant for K-12 Audience:

\$49,989 to Indian Lake Watershed Project

- ▶ **Intergenerational, age appropriate:** 1st graders learn land use history; 4th graders sample water; high school AP biology students do advanced sampling.
- ▶ **Strong collaboration:** 4 school districts, 1 city, 3 counties, 1 non-profit, 2 ODNR divisions, 1 state park, OSU and county extension offices and U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary.
- ▶ **Leveraged** OEEF grant to receive additional years of funding from Honda of America Foundation.



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

- Public Awareness Campaign for 104,000 residents of Maumee River basin: how citizens impact water quality.
- Quarterly brochures, billboards supplemented with tv, radio, print ads.
- Multiple jurisdictions.
- Themes: water conservation, lawn care, septic systems, stream bank stabilization, native plants, household hazardous waste, storm drains and ditches.

Environmental Protection Agency




Sample Grant for Regulated Community Audience:
\$2,930 to Licking County Health Department

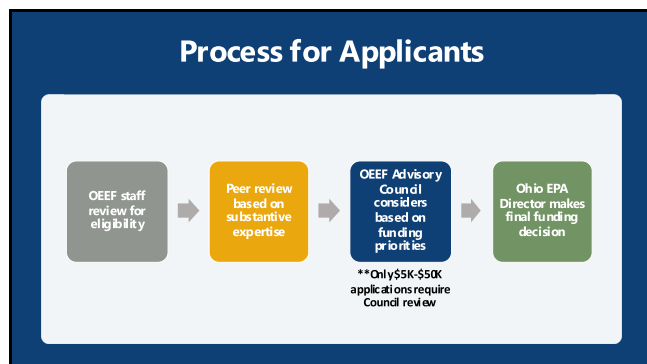
- Training for operators of small extended aeration wastewater treatment plants and sanitarian inspectors.
- Classroom and on-site demonstrations in:
 - system design
 - operation and maintenance
 - proper use of testing equipment
- Goal to reduce noncompliance by 50%

Environmental Protection Agency

OEEF Does NOT Fund

- Research
- Basic certification course costs and graduate credit
- Political lobbying, litigation, or fundraising
- Membership drives
- Food or beverages
- Construction
- Indirect costs
- Major equipment expenses
- Pass-through grants to third parties
- Drones







Ohio EPA's Office of Environmental Education also provides...

Engaging Students with Scientists, Engineers and Environmental Professionals

EECO | Ohio Environmental Protection Agency | Ohio State University

eeeo.wildapricot.org

Environmental Science and Engineering Career Initiatives

- Career ambassador network
- Future City Competition
- Ohio Envirothon
- Scholarships
- State Science Day
- STEM Events

Water Quality Education & Monitoring by Students & Citizens

- Project WET
- Healthy Water, Healthy People
- Ohio Stormwater Conference
- Ohio Credible Data Law

8

Other Ohio EPA
Grant Funding
Opportunities

► Office of Environmental
Innovation

► Recycle Ohio Grants

- Community and Litter Prevention
- Academic Institutions
- Source Reduction
- Market Development, and
- Scrap Tire Grants

► Grant Timelines

- Accepting applications in October
- Funding provided in Spring



epa.ohio.gov/get-funding

The Recycle Ohio Grant

\$8 million across 5 grant types:


- Community and Litter
- Academic Institutions
- Source Reduction
- Market Development
- Scrap Tire

Grant Website: recycleohio.gov



Grant Match Depending on Grant Type

<u>25% Match Application</u>	<u>100% Match Application</u>	<u>0% Match Application</u>
A project that costs \$1,000	A project that costs \$1,000	A project that costs \$1,000
Grant pays 75%, grantee pays 25%	Grant pays 50%, grantee pays 50%	Grant pays 100%



Community and Litter Grant

- 25% match
- Grant period of 12 months
- Most projects must occur on public property
- Grant funds should not be relied on for your operating budget
- Initial payment of 50% is released on April 1 and remaining funds are released after a completed electronic closeout report



Community and Litter Grant Projects		
Project Category	Maximum Request	Project Examples <i>examples are illustrative and not all inclusive</i>
C&D Collection and Processing Equipment	\$200,000	Equipment for collecting and processing construction and demolition debris (conveyors, magnetic units, bales, material graders, skid steers, & front loader).
Curbside Recycling	\$200,000	New or expansion of existing curbside recycling including equipment (trucks and machinery) and recycle containers.
Material Recovery Facility	\$200,000	Equipment for new or expansion of publicly owned or operated MRF (conveyors, bales, screening systems, optical sorters, air systems, skid steer, & front loader).
Drop-off Recycling	\$200,000	New or expansion of existing drop-off recycling including equipment (trucks and machinery) and recycle containers.
Recycling Equipment	\$200,000	Equipment for collecting and processing of recyclable material (cardboard, glass, metal, plastic, etc.), including bagging units, bales, containers, conveyors, grinding units, optical sorters, plastic extrusion systems, printing & production materials, pulping units, screening equipment, signage, & trucks.
Organic Material Diversion	\$200,000	Equipment for the collection, reuse, or recycling of organic material. Includes equipment for food rescue such as trucks, freezers, carts, wagons, and bins. Also includes equipment for composting such as bagging units, conveyors, drying units in-vessel composting units, screening beds, and signage.

Community and Litter Grant Projects		
Project Category	Maximum Request	Project Examples <i>examples are illustrative and not all inclusive</i>
Outreach & Education Training	\$75,000	Materials for outreach and education for recycling and litter prevention activities (printing, design, and/or production of recycled educational materials).
Contamination Reduction	\$75,000	Materials for communities to engage residents through a cart tagging program directly and indirectly to change the curbside recycling behavior of those containing the recycling stream (mailers, tags, tracking apps, etc.).
Special Venue Recycling	\$75,000	Recycling equipment, materials, and supplies for special venues and events. Cardboard containers, clear stream containers, permanent containers (ex. recycling bins) signage, and litter disposal.
Household Hazardous Waste Collection	\$50,000	Materials and supplies for household hazardous waste drop off and disposal, including collection days, Centers for Hard-To-Recycle Materials (CHARTMs), or other collection facilities. Includes disposal fees, containers, and marketing (mailers, signage, promotions).
Litter Clean-up Events	\$50,000	Materials and supplies for litter clean up events on public property, including river sweeps, roadside cleanups, parks, and more. Includes disposal and hauling fees, bags, gloves, litter grabbers, safety vests, dumpster rental, and marketing (mailers, signage, promotions).
Tire Amnesty Events	\$50,000	Materials and supplies for tire amnesty events on public property, including disposal and hauling fees and marketing (mailers, signage, promotions).




Source Reduction Grants

- 0% match
- Up to \$10,000
- Funds water bottle refilling stations, dishwashers, etc.

Source Reduction Grant Projects


Project Category	Maximum Request	Match	Project Examples <i>(examples are illustrative and not all inclusive)</i>
Source Reduction Equipment	\$10,000	No Match	Equipment for promoting reuse practices over single use disposable products. New or retrofit water bottle refilling stations, dishwashers, hand dryers, etc.



Market Development Grants

- 100% match
- Needs a public sponsor
- Funds recycling equipment




Market Development Grant Projects		
Project Category	Maximum Request	Project Examples <i>examples are illustrative and not all inclusive</i>
C&D Collection and Processing Equipment	\$200,000	Equipment for collecting and processing construction and demolition debris (conveyors, magnetic units, balers, material graders, skid steers, and front loader).
Recycling Equipment	\$200,000	Equipment for collecting and processing of recyclable material (cardboard, glass, metal, plastic, etc.), including bagging units, balers, containers, conveyors, grinding units, optical sorters, plastic extrusion systems, printing & production materials, pulping units, screening equipment, signage, & trucks.
Material Recovery Facility	\$200,000	Equipment for new or expansion of privately owned or operated MRF (conveyors, balers, screening systems, optical sorters, air systems, skid steer, and front loader).
Organic Material Diversion	\$200,000	Equipment for collection, reuse or recycling of organic material. Includes equipment for food rescue such as trucks, freezers, carts, wagons, and bins. Also includes equipment for composting such as bagging units, conveyors, drying units in-vessel composting units, screening beds, and signage.
		

Scrap Tire Grant: Governments/Nonprofits

- 100% match
- Funds for local governments/nonprofits to complete beneficial use projects that incorporate the use of ground tire rubber
- Construction of trails, walkways, or roads
- Government/nonprofits cannot apply for manufacturing or processing
- Initial payment of 50% is released on April 1 and remaining funds are released after a completed electronic closeout report
- Grant period of 24 months
- This grant does not cover Tire Amnesty Events



Scrap Tire Grant Projects		
Project Category	Maximum Request	Project Examples <i>examples are illustrative and not all inclusive</i>
Scrap Tire Manufacturing and Processing Equipment	\$300,000	Equipment for creating or expanding scrap tire processing capacity and product manufacturing. Includes equipment for conveying, classifying units, metal detectors, primary and secondary shredding units, granulators, powderizers/cracker mills, magnetic separation units, bagging equipment, skid steers and front loaders.
Scrap Tire for Civil Engineering or Construction Projects	\$300,000	Projects using scrap tires for drainage, backfill in construction projects or paving initiatives in civil engineering projects. Construction of trails, walkways, or ramp utilizing scrap tire material or use of pavers made of scrap tire material (ground tire rubber).
		



Ohio EPA

Office of Environmental Education
 Environmental Education Fund
 Dan Sowry – Asst. Env. Administrator
 Phone: (614) 935-3718
 Email: dan.sowry@epa.ohio.gov
 Web: epa.ohio.gov/oee

Office of Environmental Innovation
 Recycle Ohio Grants
 Marie Barnett – Grants Administrator
 Phone: (614) 705-1019
 Email: marie.barnett@epa.ohio.gov
 Web: recycleohio.gov