



Maumee Area of Concern Small Grant Request for Proposals

Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Partners for Clean Streams Inc. (PCS), and Maumee AOC Advisory Committee (MAAC) announces funding available to support projects within the Maumee Area of Concern (AOC). The aim of these funded projects is to make measurable improvements toward the removal of beneficial use impairments within the Maumee AOC. We are seeking opportunities to support new projects that can address water quality concerns or that may represent demonstration projects that could result in future expansion into larger projects from other funding sources.

Eligible Applicants and Projects

Eligible applicants include local municipalities, non-government organizations, public land management agencies, and universities. Proposals will be **due on Friday, January 30, 2015 at 5:00pm (EST)** and should be submitted in PDF format to PCS. Awards to be announced in mid-March 2015. Work can start as soon as a contract with PCS is signed. All projects need to be completed by June 30, 2016.

Two types of projects are being requested for the submission of proposals

1. Ottawa River - Tenmile Creek HUC (04100001 03 06):
 - a. Improvements of fish populations (looking for MIwb score improvements)
 - b. One (1) project funded at \$15,000 maximum
2. Maumee Area of Concern:
 - a. Demonstration projects*
 - b. Two (2) projects, funded at \$10,000 maximum each

*Examples of demonstration projects include:

- bioswales
- rain gardens
- wetland restoration
- streambank improvements
- removal of riparian or wetland invasive species
- planting of riparian or wetland native species
- in-stream habitat improvements

For other types of potential demonstration projects, please contact PCS to discuss and seek approval of the project before preparing and submitting a proposal.

These grants *will not support* projects focusing on research only, monitoring, sampling or education only efforts. The proposals do not require local match, and these funds are not intended to be used solely as a match for a larger grant proposal to another funding source. Funded projects from these grants are to support “on the ground” direct, implementable work with measurable results to improve habitat, water quality or other environmental conditions in local rivers and streams, and associated riparian and wetland areas, within the Maumee AOC specifically aimed to address beneficial use impairments. Applicants will be required to provide documentation of achieved goals as intended outcomes of their project. For example, acres of restoration, stream miles improved, number of plants, or estimated volume of storm water retention.

Budgetary Requirements

Permissible budget expenses include overhead and staff (capped at 15% of requested amount), equipment, supplies, materials, subcontracts, and meeting costs. Applicants are also encouraged to include some form of public engagement, outreach or educational opportunities within their project that could include workshops, public meetings, signage, website or informational brochures.

Monitoring and Reporting

Awardees will not be required to complete post-project monitoring of results and outcomes as related to measured improvements of BUIs within the defined project site/HUC, as this work will be completed by Ohio EPA. Awardees will be required to provide semi-annual financial and project progress reports to PCS, as well as updates at the semi-annual Maumee AOC Summits.

Proposal

The proposal is limited to a total of ten (10) pages, including all text, maps, tables and illustrations and should include the following information:

- ◆ Project Title
- ◆ Contact Person, Company/Organization, address, phone number, email
- ◆ Site, including location and 12-digit HUC name/number within the Maumee AOC
- ◆ Project Description
- ◆ Methods and Techniques
- ◆ Aims and Anticipated Project Outcomes
- ◆ Schedule and Deliverables
- ◆ Public Engagement and Outreach Efforts
- ◆ Detailed Budget
- ◆ Summary of Qualifications of the Organization and PI

Scoring Criteria

The evaluation of proposals submitted will be based on the following scoring:

Project Definition and need (10 points)
Work plan and outcomes (10 Points)
Relevance to improving/removing BUI(s) (10 points)
Qualifications of applicant (10 points)
Budget Justification (10 points)
TOTAL = 50 points

A proposal review team consisting of representatives from Ohio EPA, PCS and the MAAC will conduct the evaluation of proposals and selection of awardees. Successful applicants will be notified of their award in mid-March 2015.

Proposal Submission and/or Questions

Please contact Kristina Patterson, PCS Executive Director, by phone at 419-874-0727 or via email at executive.director@partnersforcleanstreams.org.

**DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS
IS FRIDAY, JANUARY 30, 2015
BY 5:00PM (EST)
VIA EMAIL in PDF FORMAT TO PCS**