



PROTECTING OHIO'S WATER

WELCOME

Mike DeWine, Governor
Jon Husted, Lt. Governor

By the Numbers: Year 1

1 Million Acres

in voluntary nutrient management applications

185

lead service lines to be replaced

180

home sewage treatment systems to be repaired or replaced

3,000 Square Miles

of additional watershed to be monitored for nutrient content

90,000

acres of watershed filtered by wetland projects

5,700

wetland acres to be created, restored or enhanced

20

new rain gauges installed

670

number of people to be served by 3 new wastewater projects

4,000 People

to be served by 4 new drinking water projects

Nearly 44%

of Maumee River Watershed cropland enrolled

1 Million Acres

enrolled in best management practices

1815 Producers

have entered into agreements



Proposed FY 2022-2023 Budget

\$98.6 million for the Department of Agriculture

Continue nutrient management, water management, and erosion management on farm fields.

\$50 million for the Department of Natural Resources

Restore wetlands projects.

\$92 million for the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

Protect public health by improving water and wastewater infrastructure, reducing lead exposure, and technology investments.

\$250,000 for Ohio Lake Erie Commission

Advance an H2Ohio response model.

TOTAL: \$240.85 million



**Ohio Department
of Agriculture**

Objective

To improve water quality in the Western Lake Erie Basin through implementation of strategic conservation practices:

Soil Testing & Volunteer Nutrient Management

**Plans
Variable Rate**

**Application
Subsurface Fertilizer Placement**

Manure Incorporation

Conservation Crop Rotation

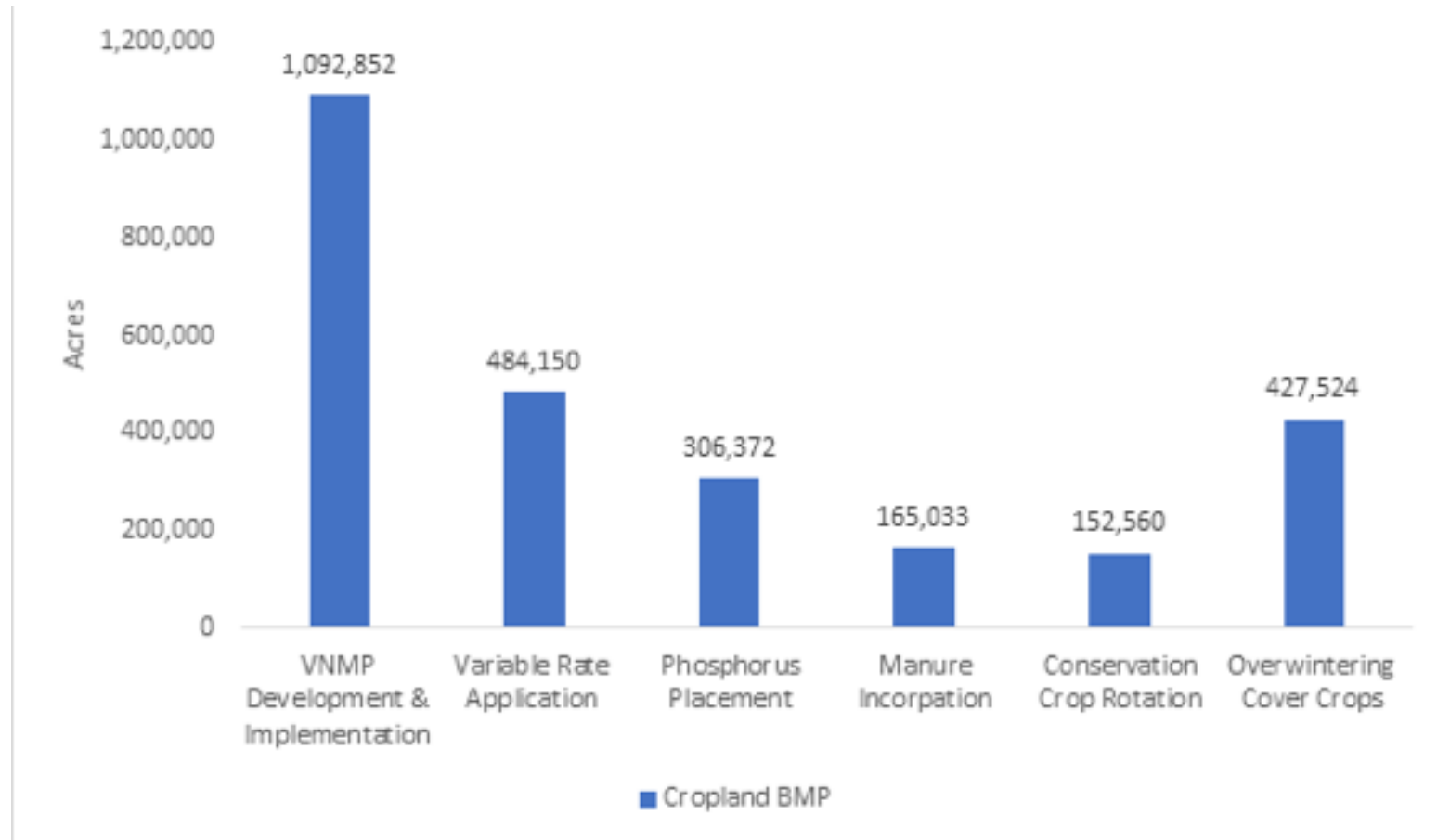
Cover Crops

Drainage Water Management

Interest and Implementation

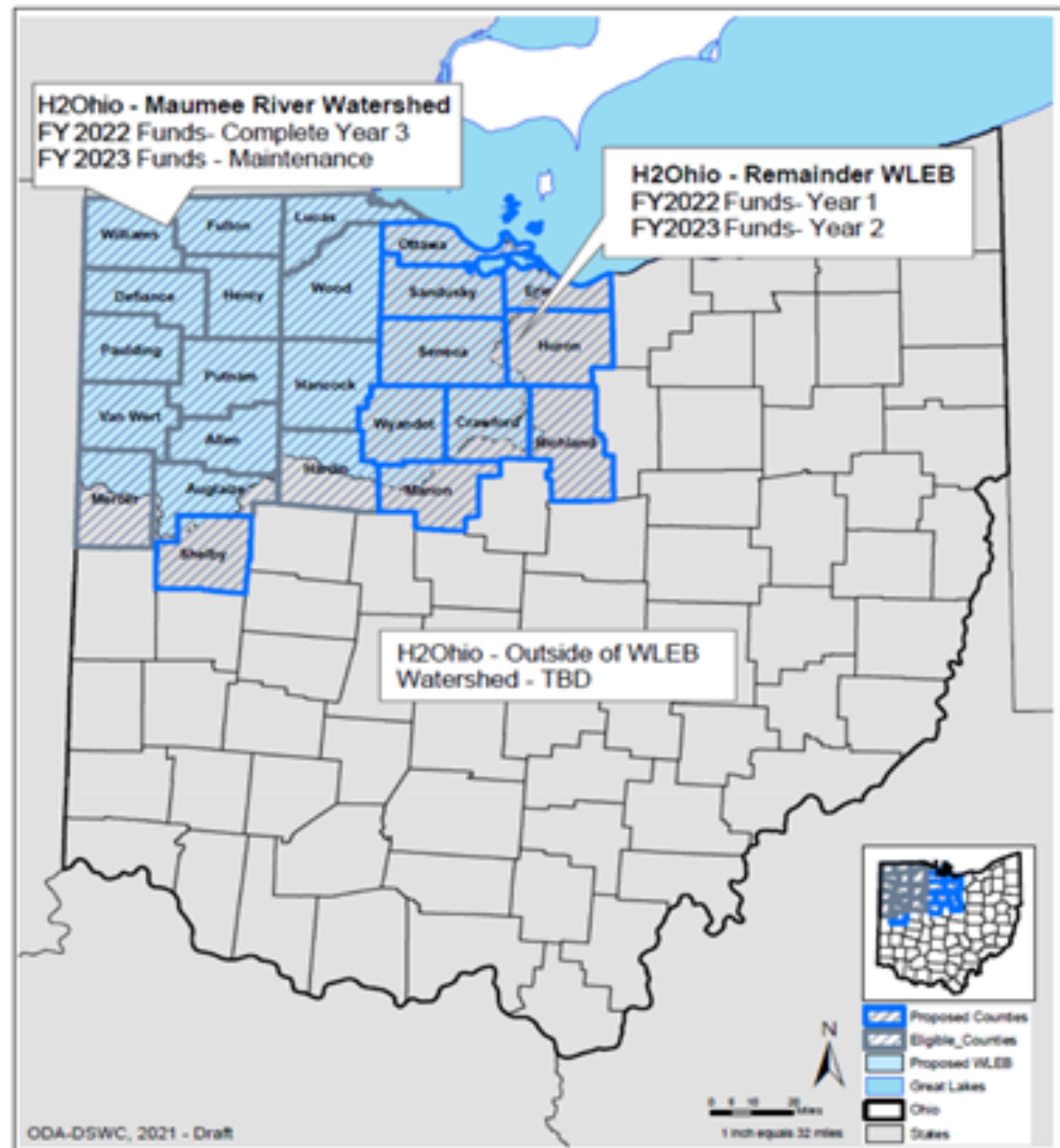
- 1,815 WLEB producers enrolled in H2Ohio
- Approximately 1.1 million acres of Voluntary Nutrient Management Plans (VNMPs) being developed
- This represents approximately 43% of total cropland in the 14 counties
- First year practice implementation began in the fall of 2020 and will continue through 2021

H2Ohio Best Management Practices - First Program Year



Future Expansion

Expanding conservation practices to the entire Western Lake Erie Basin and beyond depending on funding availability in FY 22/23 Budget



HB 7

Passed by the 133rd General Assembly to provide a Statewide Watershed Planning and Management Program under the administration of the Director of Agriculture.



1. Western Lake Erie (HUC 041000)
2. Central Lake Erie (HUC 041100)
3. Wabash River (HUC 051200)
4. Scioto River (HUC 050600)
5. Muskingum River (HUC 050400)
6. Mahoning River (HUC 050301)
7. Hocking River (HUC 050901)



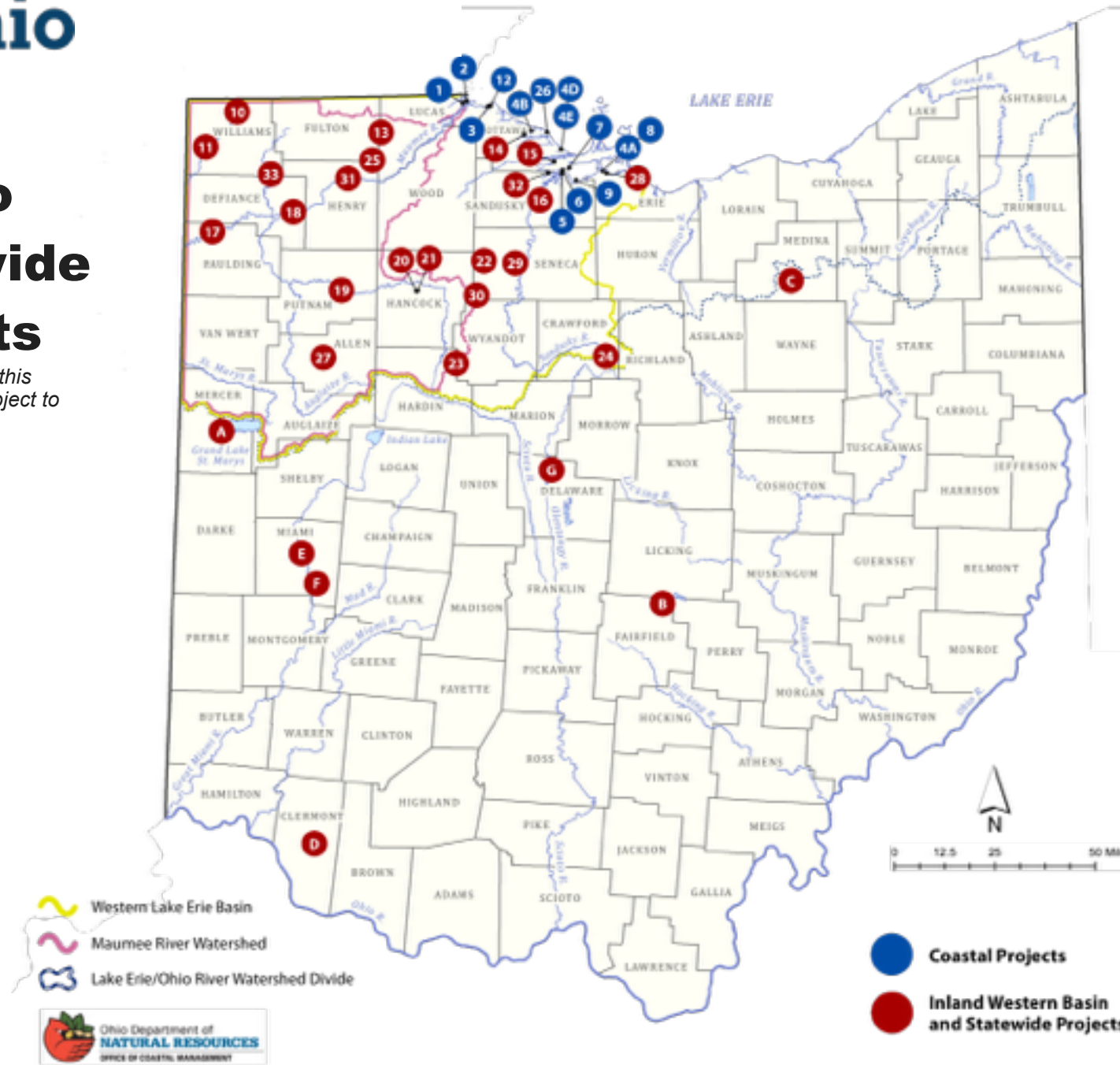
**OHIO DEPARTMENT OF
NATURAL RESOURCES**

WHY WETLANDS?

One of the most effective and cost-efficient long-term solutions to reducing excess nutrients in our waterways.

H2Ohio Statewide Projects

Projects featured in this presentation are subject to modification



Lake Erie Basin Projects

- 1 Cullen Park Wetland Restoration
- 2 Grassy Island Flow-through Wetland Restoration
- 3 Maumee Bay State Park Wetland Reconnection
- 4A Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge Wetland Reconnection Projects
- 4B Magee Marsh Turtle Creek Bay Wetland Reconnection
- 4D Bohling Marsh Wetland Reconnection
- 4E Darby Refuge Wetland Reconnection
- 5 Muddy Creek Bay Wetland Restoration
- 6 Winous Point - North Marsh Reconnection
- 7 Inner Bay Shoals & Islands Restoration
- 8 Moxley Wetland Reconnection
- 9 Inner Bay Coastal Wetlands Restoration
- 10 St. Joseph Confluence Wetland Reconnection
- 11 St. Joseph's River Restoration Project
- 12 Mallard Club Wildlife Area Reconnection
- 13 Oak Openings Preserve Wetland Restoration
- 14 Gatorland Wetland Restoration
- 15 Little Portage Nutrient Reduction & Coastal Wetland Restoration
- 16 Redhorse Bend Preserve Wetland Restoration
- 17 Forder Bridge Floodplain Reconnection
- 18 Independence Dam Canal Reconnection & Wetland Creation
- 19 Blanchard River Oxbow Restoration
- 20 Oakwoods Nature Preserve Wetland Restoration Project
- 21 Oakwoods Nature Preserve Wetland Restoration Project
- 22 Fruth Wetland Nature Preserve
- 23 Andreoff Wetland Restoration
- 24 Sandusky River Headwaters Preserve Wetland & Habitat Restoration
- 25 Van Order Wetland & Forest Restoration
- 26 Navarre Marsh Wetland Restoration & Reconnection
- 27 Baughman Ditch Wetland Restoration
- 28 Sanford Agricultural Drainage Treatment Train
- 29 Wolf Creek Floodplain Restoration
- 30 Springville Marsh Wetland Restoration
- 31 Huddle Maumee Floodplain Restoration
- 32 Muddy Creek Wetland Enhancement and Reconnection
- 33 Tiffin River Pohlman Floodplain Restoration

Ohio River Basin Projects

- A Burntwood-Langenkamp Wetland Conservation Area
- B Brooks Park Wetland Creation & Water Quality Initiative
- C Chippewa Lake Wetland Restoration
- D East Fork Lake Nutrient Reduction & Wetland Initiative
- E Great Miami Off-Channel Wetland Project - Duke Phase
- F Great Miami Off-Channel Wetland Project - Tipp City Phase
- G Delaware Wildlife Area O'Donnell Treatment Train

Western Lake Erie Basin
 Maumee River Watershed
 Lake Erie/Ohio River Watershed Divide

Coastal Projects
 Inland Western Basin and Statewide Projects

H2Ohio

BY THE NUMBERS

44 

wetland projects

\$51.2
MILLION 

to support wetland project
implementation.

\$4.3 Million



allocated to establish
independent project
monitoring program.

20 

nonprofit
conservation
partners engaged.

 90,000

acres of watershed
filtered by wetland
projects.

5,700 

wetland acres to be
created, restored or
enhanced.

\$5 Million



allocated to incentivize
landowners to establish
wetlands and wooded
riparian buffers through
Lake Erie CREP
enrollment.

90 

threatened or
endangered species
dependent on wetlands;
many will benefit from
this additional habitat.

Project Monitoring



Lake Erie Aquatic Research Network



FUTURE PRIORITIES

- ODNR's request for the upcoming biennium is **\$50 million** to be used for:
 - **Additional Wetland Projects in the Lake Erie and Ohio River Basins**
 - **Implementation of technologies vetted and approved by the H2Ohio Technology Assessment Program**
 - Continued engagement with the **Lake Erie and Aquatic Research Network (LEARN)** to assess the effectiveness and future role of implemented and planned wetland restoration projects under the H2Ohio Initiative.



H2Ohio

\$3,500,000 For Six Critical Water and Sewer Projects



Three wastewater projects in Miami, Meigs, and Williams counties serving 600 people and 250 homes.



Three drinking water projects in Pike, Coshocton, and Columbiana counties serving 4,000 people in rural Ohio.



Ohio Environmental
Protection Agency

\$1,250,000



Lead service line and fixture replacement for safer water at Ohio daycare facilities.

\$1,750,000



To seven local health districts for replacement of household sewage treatment systems.

Increased Monitoring and Data Collection

Installing an additional 20 rain gages to improve weather forecasting and rainfall estimates in northwest Ohio.



Wastewater and Water Infrastructure Funding



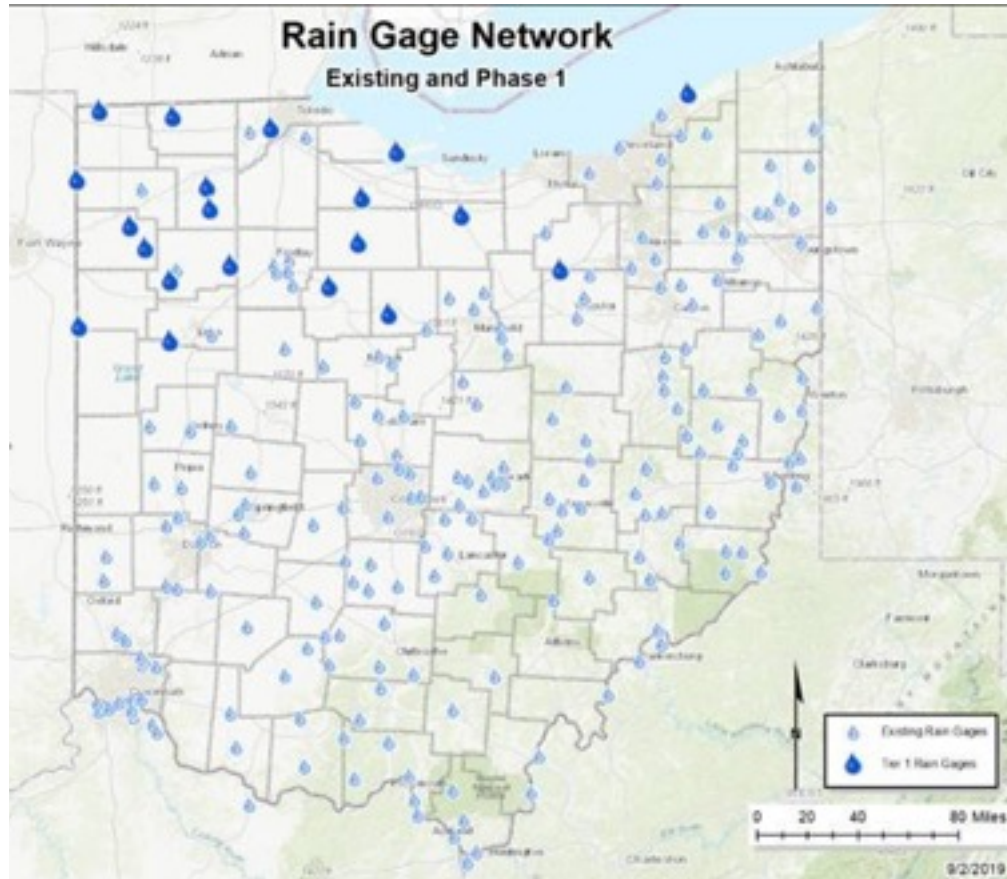
- Six communities
- \$3,500,000 total
- Drinking water projects addressing contaminated wells and inadequate water supply
- Wastewater projects serving disadvantaged communities with failing HSTS
- Seven local health districts (LHDs) \$250,000 each

Childcare Lead Service Line (LSL) Replacement



- \$1.25 million in targeted funding to address LSL and lead fixtures replacements in Cincinnati childcare centers
- Limited to licensed childcare centers
- Leveraged federal grant funding will address water quality testing after LSL removal

Twenty New Rain Gages Installed Throughout Northwestern Ohio



- \$136,000 invested in rain gages filling a gap in Doppler weather radar network
- Improves flood forecasting as well as nutrient runoff modeling and the manure runoff risk tool



Technology Vetting Program

H2Ohio funding of \$500,000 to set up a third-party technology vetting process to evaluate emerging technologies that:

- Reduce or remove nutrient loading to streams and lakes;
- Reduce toxicity of algal blooms;
- Improve nutrient removal from wastewater; and
- Recover nutrients from manure.

Request for Technologies accepted technology proposals from Nov. 16, 2020, until Jan. 15, 2021. Proposals are being evaluated.

Current and Future Funding

- For Year Two, **\$9.5 million** will support wastewater and drinking water infrastructure projects, replace failing home sewage treatment systems, and replace lead service lines
- Ohio EPA's request in the upcoming Biennium Budget is for **\$92 million** to continue protecting public health by improving water and wastewater infrastructure, replacing failed home sewage treatment systems, and reducing lead exposure by replacing lead service lines





H2Ohio

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