



# Ohio Division of Natural Areas and Preserves



## Scenic Rivers Program Funding Information 2021-2022

Funding for the Division of Natural Areas and Preserves' Scenic Rivers Program is provided through several different sources. The primary funding source is the Ohio Waterways Safety Fund (Fund 7086) which accounts for \$650,000 of the annual budget. These funds which are comprised of a share of the state motor fuel tax, watercraft registration and titling fees, and funding from the U.S. Coast Guard help cover payroll expenses as well as other operations expenses.

Another significant source of funds for the Scenic Rivers Program comes from the General Revenue Funds (GRF) allotted to the Ohio Division of Natural Areas and Preserves. These funds provide for additional payroll expenses which included the creation of a new Scenic River Region with accompanying staff. This new region will work with local communities on additional future river designations, particularly in Southeast Ohio. GRF funds have also been used for other site improvement projects such as parking lots, signage, and river access improvements.

Two other sources of funding for the Scenic River Program include revenue from the sale of the two Scenic Rivers License Plates (Fund 4U60) and donations to *Nature Preserves and Scenic Rivers* on the Ohio Income Tax Form (Fund 5220). These two funds serve to support special projects, stream quality monitoring, habitat restoration and management efforts and additional land acquisition projects.

The current administration has encouraged the use of grants and other non-traditional funding sources. These funds have allowed for additional land acquisition and other scenic river conservation projects. One such grant the, Water Resource Restoration Sponsor Program (WRRSP) Grant administered through the Ohio EPA is being used to acquire 75 acres of riparian corridor with high quality wetlands and other sensitive habitats along Little Darby Creek.

Tax Checkoff funds are also being used to complete the acquisition of over 100 acres of riparian habitat along sections of Little Beaver Creek. The state's H2Ohio Program is also investing in land protection and wetland restoration in designated scenic river watersheds across Ohio.

The next page presents expenditures for the Scenic Rivers Program over the past two years and the funding source for those costs.

**Payroll:** General Revenue Funds and Waterway Safety Funds

Fiscal Year 2022 (projected)	\$860,541
Fiscal Year 2021	\$757,476

**Operating expenses:** Fund 4U60 (Scenic River License Plates)*Annual allocations for maintenance costs and personal services agreements*

Fiscal Year 2022 Actual Expenditures	\$53,418
Fiscal Year 2021 Actual Expenditures	\$33,330

**Total Payroll and Operations** **\$1,704,765****Vehicles and Equipment** GRF

Fiscal year 2021 and 2022	\$103,023
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**Total Vehicles and Equipment** **\$103,023****Land Acquisition:** Fund 5220 (Tax Checkoff) and Grants FY 21&22

Little Beaver Creek - Little Beaver Church Camp	\$29,500
Little Beaver Creek – Grimm	\$235,000*
WRRSP Grant (total grant award)	\$698,300

Little Darby Creek – Rhoner (\$318,898)

Little Darby Creek – Forrest (\$229,174)

Site Restoration – Forrest and Rohner (\$150,228)

CAUV recoupment - Rohner	\$15,310
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CAUV recoupment – Forrest	\$11,850
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(Note: CAUV costs not part of grant)

Greene/ODOT Mitigation Property Acquisition	\$489,000
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**Total Land Acquisition and Restoration** **\$1,478,960****Special Projects** GRF and Fund 5220 FY 21&22**Sandusky River**

Kildow Restoration (seed, herbicide, sprayer, tractor rental)	\$4,200
Steyer Park Kayak/canoe Launch access	\$25,000
Access Improvements at Indian Mill	\$17,000
Clinton Nature Preserve Paving improvement	\$16,000

**Little Miami River**

Log Jam Removal Green County	\$39,800
Beavercreek Twp. – (\$25,000)	
Xenia Twp. – (\$14,800)	

Little Miami River Mussel Survey	\$20,000
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**Big/Little Darby**

Robin Green Restoration	\$30,000
Little Darby/Duke Wetland project planning (potential H2Ohio project)	\$2,450

**Total Special Projects** **\$154,450****Total Funds Allotted to Scenic Rivers Program** **\$3,441,198**