**2022 Partners in Watershed Management Grants**

**Project No. 1 Cover Crop Crimper Roller**

**Applicant Ashland SWCD**

**County Ashland**

**Total Project Cost** $31,910.00

**Requested Grant** $28,910.00

**Approved Grant** $28,910.00

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

Ashland Soil & Water Conservation District is proposing the purchase of a new cover crop crimper/roller. This proposal would complement MWCD's existing commitment to cover crop implementation as a conservation tool throughout the watershed. Through this proposal, the cover crop crimper/roller would be available for farmers in Ashland and surrounding counties to rent in order to take their cover crop implementation to the next level by encouraging experimentation in the practice of "planting green" into a live cover crop, rather than termination by spray/harvest.

 **Project No. 2 City of Marietta Streambank Stabilization**

**Applicant City of Marietta**

**County Washington**

**Total Project Cost** $110,000.00

**Requested Grant** $110,000.00

**Approved Grant** $100,000.00

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

The applicant is seeking grant funding to analyze and design improvements to mitigate streambank erosion at four locations within city limits. The city has noted an increase in rainfall frequency and intensity over the past several years leading to increased runoff that is deepening and widening streams. As result of the deepening and widening, even small tributaries are beginning to erode public and private property and threaten facilities.

**Project No. 3 Wills Creek Road Culvert Replacement**

**Applicant Muskingum County Engineer**

**County Muskingum**

**Total Project Cost** $300,000.00

**Requested Grant** $250,000.00

**Approved Grant** $250,000.00

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

The project consists of the replacement of a failing culvert under Wills Creek Road located along the south shore of Wills Creek approximately 1.2 miles southeast of Wills Creek Dam. The existing culvert is a 14-ft diameter corrugated metal pipe approximately 155-ft long located under 21-ft of roadway fill. The culverthas reached the end of its design life and is severely compromised. This culvert was part of the original Wills Creek Dam project and when the culvert fails, it will block drainage into Wills Creek from the south and prevent backwater to enter the culvert from the reservoir increasing pool elevations during storm and flood events.

**Project No. 4** **Nobles Pond Drainage Project**

**Applicant Nobles Pond District**

**County Stark**

**Total Project Cost** $462,501.00

**Requested Grant** $213,341.00

**Approved Grant** $213,341.00

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

This project is intended to reduce siltation, retain water to mitigate flood potential, remove nutrients from residential and agricultural runoff that promote algae growth, and improve the quality of water entering Nobles Pond using best management practices. Nobles Pond is ahistorically and archeologically significant site that, if not for the efforts of the Nobles Pond Drainage District, would now be entirely filled with silt. It has flooded in the past and there continues to be threat of flooding. In recent years the water level has repeatedly, and seemingly more frequently, risen to concerning levels. In 2022 there was a significant flood that was caused by debris that somehow made it past the steel outlet guard and into the outlet pipe, obstructing flow and raising the water level to nearly 9' above normal.

*\*This project was approved by MWCD Board of Directors and is contingent upon applicant receiving other sources of grant funding for their project.*

**Project No. 5 Drainage Water Management Tools for Education and Outreach**

**Applicant Ohio State Agricultural Technical Institute**

**County Wayne**

**Total Project Cost** $150,430.00

**Requested Grant** $ 73,100.00

**Approved Grant** $ 73,100.00

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

This project is for the acquisition of equipment to greatly enhance Ohio State University ATI, Wooster, to train students in drainage water management techniques and best management practices. It would also enhance outreach capacity to train non-traditional learners including conservation professionals, dealer networks in the drainage industry, landowners, and land improvement contractors. The Crop and Soil Technology and Engineering Technology programs at OSU ATI offer numerous courses focused on agricultural production and soil and water conservation. In these courses, students gain hands-on experience with land surveying and drainage system design with a focus on drainage water management, soil health, and soil and water conservation. Currently, students engage in laboratory experiences to collect GPS data, construct topographic maps, and develop surface and subsurface drainage designs. Unfortunately, installation of the students' designs in the field is not possible due to a lack of appropriate equipment. This request is for financial assistance to purchase a tile plow, tile cart, and a forced ejection plan.

**Project No. 6 Monarch Meadows Preserve**

**Applicant Plain Township Board of Trustees**

**County Stark**

**Total Project Cost** $564,500.00

**Requested Grant** $141,125.00

**Approved Grant** $141,125.00

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

This project is for the acquisition of 19.79 acres of meadow, mesic forest, and Category 3 wetland habitats located in Plain Township, Stark County in the Muskingum River watershed. Plain Township is partnering with Western Reserve Land Conservancy to acquire the Monarch Meadows Preserve property. The Property contains high-quality natural resources in a heavily developed, suburban area. The Property is adjacent to an existing 42-acre park owned and managed by the Township. Acquisition will allow for preservation of the Property's natural resources and expansion of green space for the benefit of water quality, wildlife, and the public. Acquisition of the Property will serve to protect the habitat for these State-listed species and the buffering function of the wetland in an urban area will benefit the watershed. The Property will remain protected in its current state with no plans to build trails or other park infrastructure.

*\*This project was approved by MWCD Board of Directors and is contingent upon applicant receiving other sources of grant funding for their project.*

**Project No. 7 Black Fork River Log Jams Removal**

**Applicant Richland SWCD**

**County Richland**

**Total Project Cost** $132,800.00

**Requested Grant** $132,800.00

**Approved Grant** $ 99,000.00

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

The applicant is requesting grant funding to remove up to 6 log jams within the channel of the Black Fork River to help alleviate prolonged flooding along state routes, county roads, and township roads. These trees and debris will be taken out of the floodplain to either be used as a wildlife habitat brush piles on upland sites out of the floodplain and flowage easement areas.

**Project No. 8 McConnel Run Watershed Flood Control Project**

**Applicant Village of McConnelsville**

**County Morgan**

**Total Project Cost** $131,151.00

**Requested Grant** $ 75,813.00

**Approved Grant** $ 75,813.00

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

The project is for the planning and design of the restoration of approximately 440 feet of McConnel Run streambank, construction of a regional flood retention/detention pond, and relocation of approximately 356 feet of sanitary sewer (relocation to be paid for by Ohio Public Works). This project will protect Village infrastructure including a main sewer line and Village recreational facilities and reduce erosion and degradation of McConnel Run streambank.

**Project No. 9 Floodplain Property Acquisition and Improvement**

**Applicant Village of McConnelsville**

**County Morgan**

**Total Project Cost** $92,700.00

**Requested Grant** $92,700.00

**Approved Grant** $65,000.00

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

The applicant is requesting grant funding for the acquisition of a parcel along the Muskingum River that was a former gas station in the Village of McConnelsville. This property is in the floodplain and is a part of the Morgan County Flooding Mitigation Feasibility Study funded in part by MWCD. The acquisition of this property would allow the village to prevent future development or misuse of the property and protect the floodplain and riparian area.

**Project No. 10 County Home Creek Restoration Project**

**Applicant Washington County Commissioners, City of Marietta, Marietta Country Club**

**County Washington**

**Total Project Cost** $66,000.00

**Requested Grant** $60,000.00

**Approved Grant** $60,000.00

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

This project is the first phase of a three-phased approach to reduce siltation, nutrient migration, and flooding along County Home Creek in Washington County. Grant funds will be used to locate and design a treatment wetland along County Home Creek on the Washington County Home farmlands property upstream of Marietta Country Club near the confluence of Duck Creek and the Ohio River. The treatment wetlands will be designed to reduce the run-off of silt and nutrients from the farmlands into County Home Creek in order to minimize the deposition of silt into the Creek. Later phases of this project will involve coordination with USACE to raise a levee along Duck Creek and carry out a waterway restoration of County Home Creek.

**Project No. 11 Dorn Forest Preserve**

**Applicant Natural Areas Land Conservancy**

**County Stark**

**Total Project Cost** $746,911.00

**Requested Grant** $154,000.00

**Approved Grant** $154,000.00

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

This project involves Natural Areas Land Conservancy's acquisition and protection of an approximate 153-acre property in Lawrence Township, Stark County. This request is an extension of a 2019 PWM grant which was applied to the purchase of a conservation easement to protect Dorn Forest Preserve. At the time of the 2019 application, the current landowner did not want to sell the Property but did want to ensure its protection. This application requests additional funding assistance to acquire the Property. Acquisition of the Dorn Forest Preserve presents an opportunity for the investment of PWM funds in a project designed to support strategic management of high-quality habitat for the benefit of the watershed with the option for future restoration. The Property is protected with a conservation easement held by Western Reserve Land Conservancy but is privately owned. Acquisition of the protected property will allow for management of the forested land, pristine water resources, and wildlife habitat found on site.

*\*This project was approved by MWCD Board of Directors and is contingent upon applicant receiving other sources of grant funding for their project.*

**Project No. 12 Zoar Goose Run Conservation Project**

**Applicant Zoar Community Association**

**County Tuscarawas**

**Total Project Cost** $54,000.00

**Requested Grant** $47,000.00

**Approved Grant** $47,000.00

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

The purpose of this project is to acquire and preserve approximately four acres of real estate that includes a portion of Goose Run, borders 4th Street extension on the north, East Street and Historic Zoar Village on the west, and Lime Kiln Lake on the east. The purpose of the project is to conserve the land, improve the forest resources, add a natural walking path to allow access to historic Zoar structures at Lime Kiln Lake and to ensure that this part of the watershed of Goose Run remains undeveloped and contributes to water management and water quality at the Zoar Levee project and in the Muskingum River watershed.