



CleanOhioFund
Green Space Conservation
CUYAHOGA COUNTY
Natural Resources Assistance Council

CLEAN OHIO GREEN SPACE CONSERVATION PROGRAM

District One Natural Resources Assistance Council (NRAC) ROUND 12 APPLICATION MANUAL

About the Application Manual

The information in this document relates directly to the District One NRAC Project Evaluation Methodology. The NRAC evaluation process utilizes the evaluation criteria outlined in ORC Section 164.24. The NRAC assigns points and weight factors to each of the evaluation criteria in order to determine which projects should be approved for Clean Ohio Conservation funding.

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CLEAN OHIO GREEN SPACE CONSERVATION PROGRAM

In 2000, the State of Ohio voters approved a constitutional amendment authorizing the state to sell bonds and other obligations for the Clean Ohio Program. This program provides grants for open space and watershed conservation, farmland preservation and recreational trails. Information on these Clean Ohio Programs can be obtained at <http://clean.ohio.gov/>.

The Clean Ohio Green Space Conservation Program (COGSP) provides funds to preserve open spaces, sensitive ecological areas, and stream corridors. The Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC) is responsible for administering the COGSP through districts set up in the State Capital Improvement Program.

The District One Natural Resources Assistance Council (NRAC) is responsible for administering the COGSP in Cuyahoga County and is responsible for:

1. Promoting the development and improvement of Cuyahoga County's open space and the protection and enhancement of riparian corridors and watersheds; and
2. Evaluating and selecting applications from local jurisdictions within Cuyahoga County for financial assistance from the Clean Ohio Conservation Program.

CUYAHOGA COUNTY GREEN SPACE CONSERVATION PRINCIPLES

The District One NRAC considers the COGSP a unique opportunity for advancing environmental conservation and improving the quality of life in Cuyahoga County. The five principles listed below reflect the essential needs of Cuyahoga County. Successful applicants should ensure that their project(s) accomplishes these essential elements:

1. **Preserve** natural areas or open space.
2. **Restore** landscapes that have been degraded or destroyed.
3. **Enhance** the quality of natural areas or open space.
4. **Link** natural areas to each other or to county cultural and civic heritage areas.
5. **Provide** public access to natural areas and/or county cultural and civic heritage areas.

Cuyahoga is the largest and most urbanized of Ohio's eighty-eight counties – approximately ninety percent (90%) of its land developed, and only ten percent (10%) of this land is considered designated open space. These open spaces are fragmented and offer limited public access. Some are degraded and destroyed by pollution and mismanagement; others remain abandoned by outmigration and/or poor planning.

Open space is an important and vital part of daily life in urban areas – it can improve the social health of our communities, the environmental quality of our ecosystems, and the economic viability of our

region. Protecting and restoring natural systems—their biodiversity, habitats, and aesthetics will result in a cleaner, healthier, and more sustainable Cuyahoga County.

It is the NRAC's intent to ensure that the open space and riparian corridor projects that are selected for funding are visible, accessible, and instructional to the general public.

DISTRICT ONE NATURAL RESOURCES ASSISTANCE COUNCIL

The District One Public Works Integrating Committee (DOPWIC), as directed in the Ohio Revised Code Section 164.21, appoints the members of the Cuyahoga County Natural Resources Assistance Council (NRAC). The NRAC consists of eleven (11) members, with one (1) member being from the appointing integrating committee (DOPWIC) and one (1) member from the soil and water conservation district located in Cuyahoga County.

The other nine (9) members are appointed from categories of organizations, units of government or agencies as prescribed in ORC 164.21(A)(1), there must be at least one representative from each group:

Group 1: County, municipal corporation, township, conservancy district, regional or joint district or unit of government, or regional or joint political subdivision located in the geographical jurisdiction of the DOPWIC.

Group 2: Conservation or environmental advocacy organization, an organization with a primary interest in watershed protection and restoration, the department of natural resources, the environmental protection agency, or the U.S. natural resources conservation service.

Group 3: A city park system or metropolitan park system or a board of park commissioners located within the geographical jurisdiction of the appointing integrating committee, a statewide parks and recreation organization, or the U.S. national park service.

Group 4: A statewide organization representing agriculture, an organization representing forestry interests, the department of agriculture, or the U.S. department of agriculture.

Group 5: An organization representing business, local realtors, or a planning agency, including a port authority, located within the geographical jurisdiction of the appointing integrating committee.

NATURAL RESOURCES ASSISTANCE COUNCIL

Ms. Sandra Albro

Research Associate, Applied Urban Ecology
Cleveland Botanical Garden and Holden Arboretum
11030 East Boulevard
Cleveland, OH 44113
Phone: 216.707.2860
Email: salbro@cbgarden.org

Mr. Rich Cochran

President and Chief Executive Officer
3850 Chagrin River Road
Gates Mills, OH 44022
Phone: 440.528.4150
Email: rcochran@wrlandconservancy.org

Ms. Kyle Dreyfuss-Wells, Chair

Chief Executive Officer
Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District
3900 Euclid Avenue
Cleveland, OH 44115
Phone: 216.881-6600
Email: dreyfuss-wellsk@neorsd.org

Ms. Jessica Gift

Manager of Park/Recreation & Research/Planning
City of Cleveland
601 Lakeside Avenue, Room 8
Cleveland, OH 44114
Phone: 216.664.6012
Email: JGift@city.cleveland.oh.us

Ms. Dorothy Hazel

Board of Supervisors
Cuyahoga Soil and Water Conservation District
6601 W. Ridgewood Drive
Parma, OH 44129
Phone: 440.884.8563
Email: drlhazel@aol.com

Group 2 (Environmental) Representative

Term of Appointment:
October 15, 2015 – October 14, 2018

Group 2 (Environmental) Representative

Term of Appointment:
October 15, 2016 - October 14, 2019

Group 2 (Environmental) Representative

Term of Appointment:
October 15, 2015 - October 14, 2018

Group 3 (Park) Representative

Term of Appointment:
October 15, 2016 - October 14, 2019

Soil & Water Conservation Representative

Term of Appointment:
October 15, 2015 - October 14, 2018

Honorable Michael Procuk

Mayor, Village of Brooklyn Heights
345 Tuxedo Avenue
Brooklyn Heights, OH 44131
Phone: 216.749.4300
Email: mprocuk@brooklynhts.org

Ms. Kimberly Rassi-Gollin, Secretary

Cuyahoga County Farm Bureau
371 Park Drive
Brooklyn Heights, OH 44131
Phone: 216.276.9405
Email: vinatagealpacas@aol.com

Honorable Susan Renda,

Mayor, Village of Moreland Hills
4350 SOM Center Road
Moreland Hills, OH 44022
Phone: 440. 248-1188
Email: srenda@morelandhills.com

Mr. Terry Robison

Director of Natural Resources
Cleveland Metroparks
2777 West Ridgewood Drive
Parma, OH 44134
Phone: 440.253.2162
Email: tlr@clevelandmetroparks.com

Ms. Shanelle Smith

Deputy Director, Office of Sustainability
Office of the Cuyahoga County Executive
2079 East 9th Street, Suite 8-300
Cleveland, Ohio 44115
Phone: 216.443.3785
Email: ssmith2@cuyahogacounty.us

Mr. Chris Urban

Manager of Physical Development
Greater Cleveland Partnership
1240 Huron Road East, Suite 300
Phone: 216.592.2444
Email: CUrban@gcpartnership.com

Group 1 (Government) Representative

Term of Appointment:
October 15, 2014 – October 14, 2017

Group 4 (Agricultural) Representative

Term of Appointment:
October 15, 2014 – October 14, 2017

DOPWIC Representative

Term of Appointment:
October 15, 2015 – October 14, 2018

Group 3 (Park) Representative

Term of Appointment:
October 15, 2016 - October 14, 2019

Group 1 (Government) Representative

Term of Appointment:
December 17, 2015 – October 14, 2017

Group 5 (Business/Planning) Representative

Term of Appointment:
October 15, 2015 – October 14, 2018

ROUND 12 GUIDELINES

The funding available for Round 12 consists of:

Round 12 Allocation	\$3,339,704
Round 11 Remaining Balance	0
Round 12 Administrative Costs	- \$15,000
Total Available	\$3,324,704

APPLICATION DUE DATE

To be considered for financial assistance applications must be submitted by:

4:30 p.m. Friday, October 20, 2017 to the
Cuyahoga County Planning Commission
2079 East 9th Street, Suite 5-300
Cleveland, OH 44114
(216) 443-3700

APPLICATION MATERIALS

The application materials must be submitted using the following organization and naming convention:

- 1. Submit three (3) hardcopies, one original, noted as such in the upper right-hand corner of the first page, containing the required original signatures and two copies.**
 - Submit the OPWC application and District One NRAC application Supplement, with the supporting documentation included in the following attachments, titled as such:
 - Authorizations and Resolutions of Support,
 - Agreements and Letters of Support,
 - Maps and Photos,
 - Natural Resource Information, and
 - Property Information (Parcel #).
 - Conservation Easements
 - Letters of Intent/Memorandum of Understanding
 - Purchase Agreements
 - Deeds and Proposed Deed Restrictions
 - Property Value - Appraisals and County Fiscal Office
 - All materials must be typed in 11-point font or larger, and have page numbers at the bottom of each page.

2. **A compact disc or flash drive with an electronic copy must also be included. Please utilize the following District One NRAC Standard application format and naming convention:**

[Org name] _Application.pdf

[Org name] _Supplement.pdf

[Org name] _Attachment_Authorizations.pdf

[Org name]_Attachment_AgreementsLOS.pdf

[Org name]_Attachment_MapsPhotos.pdf

[Org name]_Attachment_NaturalResources.pdf

[Org name]_Attachment[Parcel #]_PropertyInfo.pdf

- Conservation Easements
- Letters of Intent/Memorandum of Understanding
- Purchase Agreements
- Deeds and proposed Deed Restrictions
- Property Value - Appraisals and County Fiscal Office

It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that all of the documents are accurate, complete and in accordance with the requirements, terms, and conditions set down by the OPWC and the NRAC. Failure to meet these conditions will result in the disqualification of a project. **INCOMPLETE OR LATE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE EVALUATED BY THE NRAC.**

Each applicant will be given five (5) business days after the Applicant Interviews to respond to any requests for additional information regarding the submitted items. If the applicant does not respond, the project will be scored using the original information.

ROUND 12 SCHEDULE

The NRAC has established the following schedule for evaluating and selecting projects for Round 12.

DATE*	ACTIVITY
Friday, July 7, 2017	Round 12 Applications Materials made available
Tuesday, August 15, 2017, 1 PM OR Wednesday, August 16, 2017, 1 PM	APPLICANT WORKSHOPS (Attend One Workshop Only)
Friday, October 20, 2017	Clean Ohio Applications Due by 4:30PM
Wednesday, November 1, and Thursday, November 2, 2017	Site Visits
October 20 - November 3, 2017	Preliminary screening of submitted applications
November 6 - December 15, 2017	NRAC Evaluation and Preliminary Scoring
Friday, December 1, 2017 Friday, December 8, 2017	NRAC Meeting - Applicant Interviews
Friday, January 12, 2018	NRAC Meeting - Review Scores**
Friday, February 9, 2018	NRAC Meeting - Vote on Final Project Ranking**
April 30, 2018	Deadline to Submit Recommendations to OPWC

*All Dates subject to change.

** Vote on Final Project Ranking may occur at January 12th Score Review Meeting

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

Local Political Subdivisions

- Counties
- Municipalities
- Villages
- Townships
- Conservancy Districts
- Soil and Water Conservation Districts
- Joint Recreation Districts
- Park District/Authority

Non-Profit Corporations – A non-profit corporation is eligible to apply if it is exempt from federal income taxation pursuant to 26 USC 501 (a) and one of its designated activities is directly related to the purposes for which Clean Ohio Conservation grants are issued.

PROJECT TYPES

OPEN SPACE

Open Space projects should promote the following:

- Comprehensive open space planning.
- Aesthetically pleasing and ecologically informed design.
- Economic development that promotes local economic development and/or community development initiatives in high unemployment and/or low-income areas.
- Protection of rare, threatened and endangered species habitats.
- Protection of high quality, viable habitats for plant and animal species.
- Preservation of wetlands or other scarce natural resources.
- Pedestrian or bicycle linkages.
- Educational opportunities.
- Quality of life and the natural heritage of the state.
- Reduction or elimination of nonnative, invasive species of plants or animals.
- Balancing the natural ecosystem.

Eligible Open Space projects include:

- Acquisition of open space.
- Acquisition of easements.
- Acquisition of land or rights in land for parks, forests, wetlands or natural areas that protect an endangered plant or animal population.
- Connecting corridors for natural areas.
- Construction or enhancement of facilities to make open space accessible and usable by the general public

Not Eligible – Acquisition of open space for “active recreation” like baseball diamonds, tennis courts, etc.

RIPARIAN CORRIDORS

Riparian Corridor projects should promote:

- Habitat protection.
- Stream corridor-wide or watershed planning.
- Recreational, economic and aesthetic preservation benefits.

- Floodplain and streamside forest functions.
- Headwater stream preservation.
- Restoration and preservation of aquatic biological communities.

Eligible Riparian Corridor projects include:

- Reforestation of land or the planting of vegetation for filtration purposes.
- Fee simple acquisition of lands to provide access to riparian corridors or watersheds.
- Acquisition of easements for the purpose of protecting and enhancing riparian corridors or watersheds.

Not Eligible -Riparian corridor projects that initiate or perpetuate hydromodification such as dams, ditch development or channelization.

The following activities are eligible for both Open Space and Riparian Corridor projects:

ACQUISITION

- Fee Simple Purchase
- Easement Purchase
- Transfer of Conservation Easement

PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION

- Certified Appraisal – which must be ***performed by an ODOT Prequalified Appraiser credentialed in value analysis***
- Closing Costs
- Title Search
- Environmental Assessments
- Design
- Restoration work must comprise a portion of the project scope, budget or local match and must include documentation in the application.

CONSTRUCTION OR ENHANCEMENT OF FACILITIES

Access improvements to make open space accessible and useable by the general public that promote passive recreation and educational opportunities include but are not limited to:

- Trails
- Pedestrian Bridges
- Observation Decks
- Kiosks/Signs
- Benches
- Trash Receptacles
- Invasive Species Removal and Plantings for Restoration for the first time.

- Parking Lots
- Fencing

PERMIT, ADVERTISING, AND LEGAL DOCUMENTS

Not Eligible - Administrative services incurred by the applicant.

FUNDING

GRANTS: 75% of the estimated total project cost: a minimum 25% local match is required.

ELIGIBLE LOCAL MATCH SOURCES:

- Contributions of money by any person, local political subdivision, or the federal government.
- Contributions in-kind through the purchase or donation of equipment, land, easements, interest in land, labor and materials necessary to complete the project.

PROJECT SELECTION PROCESS

The NRAC has established a three-phase process to select the projects that will be recommended to the OPWC for final evaluation and approval.

PHASE 1: ELIGIBILITY

1.1 Applications will be reviewed for eligibility. Applications deemed ineligible will not be evaluated by the NRAC. (See the NRAC Policy Manual) Point values will be assigned by NRAC staff for the following categories:

- Local Match
- Readiness to Proceed based on documentation for land acquisition projects only.
- Mineral Rights based on acquisition and maintenance of available mineral, oil, gas and/or extraction rights

PHASE 2: PRELIMINARY PROJECT EVALUATION

2.1 Applications will be reviewed by the NRAC members for compliance with OPWC and NRAC policies and procedures.

2.2 Using the Evaluation Criteria, the NRAC members evaluate each application and assign a preliminary score in each of the evaluation categories. Documents used by the NRAC are the OPWC Application, the NRAC Application Supplement and any other documentation supplied by the applicant.

2.3 Applicant interviews give the NRAC and the applicant an opportunity to clarify issues and highlight aspects of the project that could not be conveyed through the application.

2.4 NRAC members submit preliminary scores. The District 1 NRAC has prioritized the criteria into three categories: High, Medium and Low. Criteria that is of High interest will have a weight of 3; Medium interest a weight of 2; and Low interest a weight of 1 (see the Evaluation Points on page 21). Weight factors will be applied and preliminary project rankings will be determined.

PHASE 3: PROJECT SCORING AND SELECTION

3.1 NRAC members will meet to review and discuss the project rankings and to allow any interested applicants the opportunity to raise questions. The NRAC can choose to adopt the project rankings as final and close Round 12 at this first review meeting.

3.2 If NRAC members need to reconsider or refine their scores and submit new scores, the NRAC will reconvene to review and discuss the revised Project Ranking and adopt the Round 12 Final Project Ranking.

- 3.3** To be considered for recommendation to OPWC, a project must receive a minimum evaluation score of 156 points, sixty percent (60%) of the total points available.
- 3.4** In the case of a tie between two or more projects, the NRAC through discussion will attempt to re-score the projects. If the discussions do not result in a tie breaker then the project with the highest percentage of local match will be selected.
- 3.5** If the last qualified project on the funding list cannot receive its full funding request, the NRAC will consider a request for partial funding along with a revised budget and project scope.
- 3.6** All final NRAC scores will be posted online and the Round 12 will be submitted to the OPWC for final project review and funding determination.

ROUND 12 APPLICATION SUPPLEMENT INSTRUCTIONS

The NRAC evaluation process utilizes the evaluation criteria outlined in ORC Section 164.24. The NRAC assigns points and weight factors to each of the evaluation criteria in order to determine which projects should be approved for Clean Ohio Conservation funding. This document, along with the "[Ohio Public Works Commission Application for Financial Assistance](#)" will be used by the NRAC to evaluate projects.

It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that all of the documents are accurate, complete and in accordance with the requirements, terms, and conditions set down by the OPWC and the NRAC. Failure to meet these conditions will result in the disqualification of a project.

Each applicant will be given five (5) business days to respond to a request for additional information. If the applicant does not respond, the project will be scored using the original information.

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Project Name:

Name of the project. Please use the same name stated on the OPWC application.

Sponsoring Organization:

Indicate the name of the applicant. Projects involving multiple applicants must designate a lead agency.

Other Sponsoring Organization:

Indicate the name(s) of any other organizations that are participating in the project.

Contact Person:

Provide the name of the individual who can best answer or coordinate the response to questions about the project.

Phone, Fax and Email Address:

Enter the daytime telephone number, the fax number and the email address (if available) of the contact person.

SECTION ONE - PROJECT EMPHASIS

Depending upon the type of project submitted, open space or riparian corridor; check each factor that will be achieved by the project.

For example: If an open space project will **incorporate aesthetically-pleasing** and **ecologically-informed design, protect high quality viable habitats for plant and animal species** and will **provide educational opportunities**, then all four factors should be checked.

SECTION TWO - PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Project Name: Enter the project name as listed in Applicant Information (see above).

Type of Project for which funds are being requested: Check one of the types of projects:

1. Acquisition of land and facilities enhancement;
2. Open Space Development or Enhancement of Clean Ohio Properties; or
3. Riparian corridor project.

Appraisal or Conservation Value and Property Information

For Acquisition Projects: Indicate the value of the land by providing both:

1. A certified appraisal performed by an ODOT Prequalified Appraiser who is credentialed in value analysis. A The list of approved ODOT appraisers can be found at <http://www.dot.state.oh.us/Divisions/Engineering/Consultant/Consultant/prequal-row.pdf>
2. Cuyahoga County Fiscal Officer's property valuation.

For Open Space Development Projects: provide the required documentation: the executed settlement statement, and recorded deed and deed restrictions or conservation easement.

For Riparian Corridor projects provide conservation agreement or recorded deed and proposed Deed Restrictions

Project Description: Provide a project description that includes the project benefits, attach a map showing the project location(s) and the local setting(s), and explain if applicable:

1. Whether the project is part of phased project. If so, briefly explain the larger project and the specific phase that is included in the application.

2. The project's links in the Cuyahoga County Greenprint available at <http://www.countyplanning.us/projects/cuyahoga-county-greenprint/>
3. Whether there are existing structures on the property. If so the appraised value of the structure, proportion of value to the overall value, and the intended actions (e.g. demolition, re-use)

SECTION THREE - COUNTY PRINCIPLES

Scoring: Up to 10 points per principle - maximum of 50 points.

The five (5) principles are the foundation upon which the evaluation methodology was developed. The NRAC's intent is to select projects that advance these principles. Each NRAC member will assess to what degree a principle is met.

Principle 1: Preserve natural areas or open space.

Principle 2: Enhance the quality of natural areas or open space.

Principle 3: Restore landscapes that have been degraded or destroyed. *

Principle 4: Link natural areas to each other or to cultural and civic heritage areas within the county.

Principle 5: Provide public access to natural areas and/or cultural and civic heritage areas within the county.

**** To be eligible for restoration points, the project must include restoration as a portion of the project scope, budget, or local match, and provide supporting documentation.***

Applicants should identify the principle(s) that will be advanced by their project. Provide a description in the appropriate section. All statements regarding a project's benefits must be supported by documentation.

SECTION FOUR - PROJECT BENEFITS

Scoring: Up to 10 points per benefit

Studies have shown that conservation projects can provide value beyond those associated with environmental benefits. Indeed, the existence of open space and watershed projects can provide economic and social benefits to all members of society.

Indicate the applicable benefits that are anticipated as a result of this project:

ECONOMIC BENEFITS

- Supports a priority local economic and/or community development initiative.
- Catalyzes other improvements.
- Increases the value of adjacent or nearby land.
- Reduces annual municipal service costs (e.g., public safety, public service).
- Develops or redevelops vacant, underutilized parcels/acres.
- Other economic benefits.

SOCIAL BENEFITS

- Provides public access.
- Creates a gathering place.
- Provides educational opportunities.
- Provides bicycle and pedestrian linkages.
- Removes a blighted image.
- Improves public health and safety.
- Enhances the cultural and civic heritage of the area.
- Incorporates aesthetically pleasing and ecologically informed design.
- Other social benefits.

ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS

- Balances the built environment with the natural environment.
- Enhances environmental health or reduce ecological risks.
- Converts degraded parcels/acres to a natural area and/or open space.
- Creates habitats or other natural areas and/or open space.
- Improves biodiversity.
- Protects a rare, threatened or endangered species classified as regionally endangered or included in the State Natural Heritage Inventory (See OPWC Glossary of Terms).
- Protects high quality or regionally significant biological communities.
- Reduces the quantity or improve the quality of stormwater runoff.
- Restores floodplain functions.
- Other environmental benefits.

Check all of the economic, social and environmental benefits of the project that apply. Please explain other benefits not listed. Provide supporting documentation, as necessary, to support the stated benefits in the Natural Resources Attachment. The supporting documentation may be in the form of specific citations to relevant studies or plans.

SECTION FIVE - NEEDS OF THE DISTRICT

Scoring: 0-10 points

Cuyahoga County needs an integrated system of key natural areas that will provide benefits to all

residents, particularly those residents that reside in areas that lack greenspace and/or the ability to enjoy the benefits of these areas.

Explain how the project:

- Is part of an adopted regional, county, and community or watershed plan? Provide project plan documentation.
- Is of regional or county significance.
- Provides a key linkage to an existing or proposed greenway.
- Preserves or restores an example of the county’s natural heritage.
- Serves an underserved population.
- Serves a low-income and/or minority neighborhood.

SECTION SIX - OTHER RELEVANT FACTORS

6.1 Other Project Funding

Scoring: 0- 10 points

Projects will be awarded points in this category based on the total match provided. Please provide a breakdown of the local match (e.g. federal and state grants) and specify all sources.

The higher the percentage of match, the higher the points that will be awarded.

% of Local Match	Points
25	2
35	3
45	4
55	5
65	6
75	7
85	8
95	9
More than 95	10

6.2 Level of Coordination

Scoring: 0 - 10 points

Projects that involve more than one agency or organization will be extra given consideration. The level of coordination can be financial contributions, the donation of property, assistance in planning and implementing the project or responsibility for completing a part of the project. If applicable, explain:

- The agencies and organizations that have been involved in the planning and preparation of this project application.
- The level of coordination that each agency or organization has provided.
- Attach Letters of Support

6.3 Readiness to Proceed

Scoring: 0 - 10 points

Projects not scheduled for acquisition within 12 months from the date of the Project Agreement will be rejected by OPWC.

Acquisition Projects must provide documentation of a pending land transaction:

- A fully executed contract with the owner (signed purchase agreement) will receive 10 points
- A contract, purchase agreement that does not have all the signatures, or a letter/memorandum of understanding will receive 5 points

In the case of riparian corridor and open space development projects that do not include land acquisition, applicants must include at least one of the following:

- Project Schedule
- Formal estimate or quote by architect, landscape architect, or other qualified professional.
- Documentation of appropriate permits, or permitting process

6.4 Immediacy

Scoring: 0 - 10 bonus points

Applicants should indicate and explain if the project area is vulnerable to being developed as something other than open space (e.g. commercial development) and how this development would be detrimental to the community.

6.5 Mineral Rights

Scoring: 10 bonus points

In accordance with the OPWC guidelines regarding gas and oil leasing, projects that acquire and maintain available mineral, oil, gas and/or extraction rights, on properties, with no active gas and oil wells, as part of the property acquisition will be awarded the full 10 points. Applicants that

achieve legal agreements to minimize the impacts of existing oil and gas leases, either through narrowing the lease area, minimizing the number of wells that can be drilled, minimizing surface impacts, requiring restoration following disturbance or can demonstrate that the current oil and gas well will not impact sensitive natural resource areas will be awarded points on a sliding scale between zero (0) and five (5) points; as to the effectiveness of limiting future disturbances and/or demonstrating how the oil and gas well will not disturb sensitive natural resource areas.

The applicant must provide the following information on the property being acquired:

1. The date, if applicable, of any pre-existing lease or similar agreement on the mineral rights, including oil, gas and/or extraction leases and if the lease or agreement allows for surface disturbance within the property.
2. Property Rights: (Check all that apply)
 - The current landowner will retain the mineral rights
 - The mineral rights will be purchased and transferred to another entity;
 - The mineral rights will be purchased and maintained, with no active gas or oil wells; and
 - The applicant has obtained legal agreements with Lessee to minimize the impacts of the lease through the following steps and/or can show how current oil and gas well will not impact sensitive natural resource areas:

EVALUATION POINTS

NRAC EVALUATION POINTS				
CRITERIA	MAXIMUM POINTS	WEIGHT FACTOR	MAXIMUM WEIGHTED POINTS	%
County Principles				
Preserves	10	3	30	11.5
Restores	10	2	20	7.5
Enhances	10	2	20	7.5
Links areas	10	3	30	11.5
Provides	10	2	20	7.5
Subtotal	50		120	45.5
Benefits				
Economic	10	1	10	4.0
Social	10	2	20	7.5
Environmental	10	3	30	11.5
Subtotal	30		60	23.0
Needs of the District	10	3	30	11.5.
Other Relevant Factors				
Other Project Funding	10	1	10	4.0
Level of Coordination	10	1	10	4.0
Readiness to Proceed	10	1	10	4.0
Immediacy (bonus)	10	1	10	4.0
Mineral Rights (bonus)	10	1	10	4.0
Subtotal	50		50	20.0
Total	140		260	100

A minimum score of 156 points, 60% of total points available, is required to be considered for funding.