Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

Sediment and Phosphorus Reduction in the Lye Creek Watershed Project Summary

Project Number	**FY2012 GLRI-BLAN-01**
Est. Project Completion	December 31, 2015
SubGrantee	**Hancock County Soil & Water Conservation District** 7868 County Road 140 #E Findlay, Ohio 45840-1898
Project Contact:	**Jean Ann Derr** Hancock County Soil & Water Conservation District 7868 County Road 140 #E Findlay, Ohio 45840-1898 419-422-6569 jderr@hotmail.com
Federal Amount: **Local Match:**	**$336,574** **$ 61,000**
Project Title:	**Sediment and Phosphorus Reduction in the Lye Creek Watershed**
Project Location:	Hancock County
Watershed:	Lye Creek of the Blanchard River

Project Summary: $336,574 in FY 2012 Great Lake Restoration Initiative (GLRI) grant funding is awarded to reduce sediment and phosphorus loadings from agricultural runoff and nutrient loading into Lye Creek, a tributary of Blanchard River. This project will facilitate cost share installation of conservation practices to reduce agricultural nonpoint source pollution loading to Lye Creek and Blanchard River. A set of preferred practices have been identified that focus on improving soil water holding capacity (such as cover crops, and conservation tillage), provide nutrient uptake (cover crops, filter areas, riparian buffers), reduce erosion (grassed waterways and cover crops) and altogether will reduce the rate and amount of runoff (and likewise sediment and phosphorus, and nitrogen) from cropland. This project is being implemented consistent with the recommendations in the state-endorsed Blanchard River/Lye Creek Watershed Action Plan. It is also consistent with findings and recommendations within the Blanchard River Total Maximum Daily Load study completed by Ohio EPA and approved by U.S. EPA in 2009.

Project Deliverables:

- Establish 60 acres of riparian buffers or filter areas
- Maintain reshape or reseed 20 acres of Filter areas/buffers
- Increase conservation tillage on 600 acres
- Plant 600 acres of cover crops
- Install grassed waterways on 15 acres
- Maintain reshape or reseed 5 acres of grassed waterways
- Install 20 tile control structures
- Repair 10 tile main blowouts
- Conduct public education and outreach by developing site-specific fact sheets and newsletters, conducting public meetings, maintaining the BRWP website, and conducting at least one field day

Environmental Results: Successful completion of this project will reduce nonpoint source pollutant loadings of nutrients and sediment by reducing the rate and amount of runoff from agricultural lands within the Lye Creek watershed. There will be considerable outreach to farmers and conservation planning. However practices that are to be are specifically promoted in this proposal include: cover crops, conservation tillage, designed filter areas, riparian buffers, and grassed waterways.

NPS Load Reductions Resulting from Project

Pollutant	Estimated Loading Reduction
Nitrogen	2,000 pounds/year*
Phosphorus	3,000 pounds/year*
Sediments	1,400 tons/year*

*Reduction estimates provided by applicant. Design basis for listed practices will be analyzed and reviewed by OEPA staff which may result in the modification of estimates listed above