

OHIO DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
OFFICE OF COASTAL MANAGEMENT  
2007 REVIEW



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Cover Photo: Walnut Beach, Ashtabula County

# F O R E W O R D

*Dear Ohio Coastal Friends,*

*There is an increasingly strong link between healthy natural resources and economic sustainability. Along Ohio's 312-mile Lake Erie coast, the presence of abundant fresh water and healthy ecosystems is directly connected to the region's economic potential and quality of life.*

*In recognition of the significance of Ohio's greatest natural resource, the Ohio Department of Natural Resources led the effort to develop the Ohio Coastal Management Program, which was federally approved in 1997. In 2002, the Department created the Office of Coastal Management to directly oversee the Program. The Program connects policies for the protection of air, water, wildlife, rare and endangered species, wetlands and natural areas. The Program also provides a framework for agencies, political subdivisions and local groups to collectively manage Ohio's Lake Erie coastal resources, monitor activities that affect these resources, and foster sustainable use for the benefit of all citizens.*

*In addition to the Ohio Coastal Management Program, the Office of Coastal Management administers several regulatory programs and Ohio's Federal Consistency program, which provides for state oversight of federal activities affecting Ohio's Coastal Management Area. The office provides free technical assistance, outreach, and education activities; awards Coastal Manage-*

*ment Assistance Grants; administers the Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Program; and provides research and planning tools for the public and local decision-makers.*

*We are pleased to present this report highlighting the Office of Coastal Management's activities and accomplishments for 2007. A large proportion of the Ohio Coastal Management Program's goals are addressed directly through activities outlined in this report. Our network partners' individual and joint efforts are also critical in realizing the full potential of the goals outlined in the Program.*

*Our message today is one of hope and commitment. We have a unique organization that delivers integrated services and understands the connections between upstream and downstream actions and their effects on Lake Erie. We are dedicated to standing shoulder-to-shoulder with those who live, work and play in Ohio's coastal region and building strong, strategic partnerships to achieve healthy, vital ecosystems and prosperous coastal communities.*

*John Watkins, P.E.  
Chief*

# MISSION

To achieve a balance between use and preservation of Lake Erie's coastal resources, in collaboration with our partners, by effectively administering the Ohio Coastal Management Program.

# VISION

Working with our public and private partners, we will attain a healthy Lake Erie region with vital ecosystems and prosperous coastal communities.

# ACCOMPLISHMENTS

## Education and Outreach



The Office of Coastal Management provides information to coastal communities, decision-makers and the public regarding Lake Erie, coastal resources, the Ohio Coastal Management Program, and the Great Lakes ecosystems. The following activities supported this theme in 2007:

- Published and distributed 3,000 paper copies and 5,000 DVD copies of the *Ohio Coastal Atlas, Second Edition*. Copies were given to libraries, schools, local governments, decision makers, citizens and others.
- Field-checked, digitized and published a current inventory of Lake Erie public access facilities in the *Ohio Coastal Atlas, Second Edition* and the on-line interactive Lake Erie GIS Map Viewer.
- Upgraded the Lake Erie GIS Map Viewer including adding 22 additional data layers and enhancements for exporting map products. The Viewer, found by selecting the “GIS/Mapping” link at [www.ohiodnr.com/coastal](http://www.ohiodnr.com/coastal), is visited by a daily average of 14 users. To view, visit and select “GIS”.
- Hosted a hands-on display visited by an estimated 3,000 people at the 10-day Cleveland Boat and Waterfront Lifestyles Expo. The display was also presented at numerous smaller trade shows and events.

- Created a 4-poster series on mapping in Ohio to accompany the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s poster series on the 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Coastal Survey.
- Published the *Ohio Coastal Management Program Grants 1998-2006* booklet. It showcases how coastal funding benefits communities and leverages additional funding for local economic development and resource protection projects.
- Provided more than 1,000 walk-in citizens with fact sheets, brochures, maps, pamphlets and information on coastal resources, services and attractions.
- Fielded approximately 700 phone inquiries from citizens seeking information on Lake Erie, the Great Lakes, and other coastal resources.
- Maintained an updated website with a wide-range of coastal information including grants, partners, policies, plans, news, publications and other material.

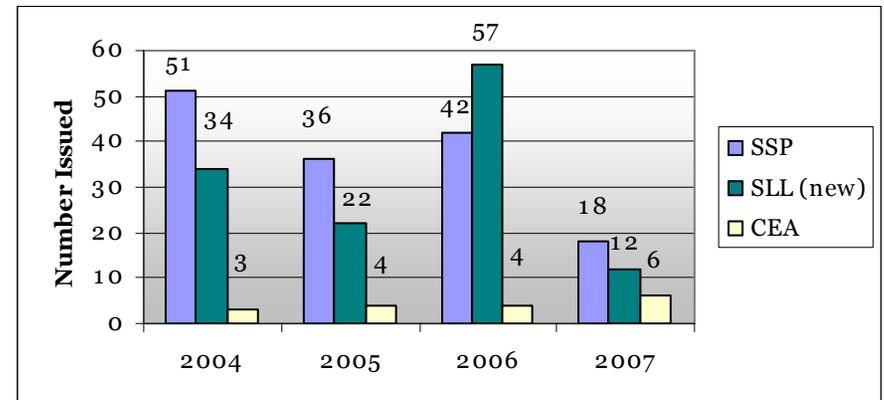


# Regulatory Program Implementation

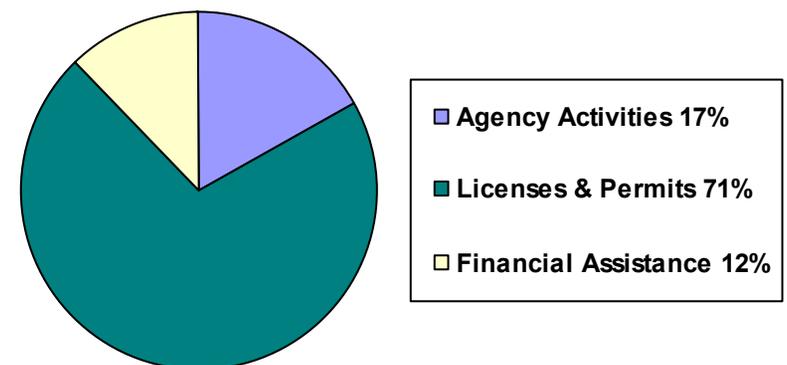
The Office of Coastal Management administers regulatory programs for which it has direct authorities and coordinates with state, federal and local agencies to promote the effective management of Ohio's coastal resources. The following activities supported this theme in 2007:

- Responded to over 100 requests for technical assistance related to Ohio Department of Natural Resources regulatory programs including information regarding Coastal Erosion Areas, engineering design of coastal structures, and survey methods utilized in coastal areas.
- Began the development and implementation of a regulatory compliance monitoring and enforcement plan.
- Continued the development of the Coastal Design Manual to be utilized in designing effective coastal structures by consultants, local officials, and property owners.
- Worked closely with U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and Ohio Environmental Protection Agency to coordinate regulatory reviews of proposed projects.
- Coordinated the creation of a regulatory database to improve the tracking of applications and authorizations and increase the efficiency of regulatory functions.
- Conducted 50 Federal Consistency reviews. The figure at right breaks down consistency determinations by category. Federal Consistency is the requirement that certain federal agency projects, permits and funding having reasonably foreseeable effects on Ohio's designated Coastal Management Area must be consistent with the enforceable policies of the Ohio Coastal Management Program.

**Number of Shore Structure Permits (SSP), Submerged Land Leases (SLL), and Coastal Erosion Area Permits (CEA) issued in 2007** compared to prior years are shown in the figure below. In addition to the new leases, there were 12 modifications to existing leases and 16 assignments (changes in leasehold interest). A total of 616 Shore Structure Permits have been issued through the OCM since the Coastal Program was approved on May 16, 1997. A total of 28 Coastal Erosion Area Permits were issued between 1998-2007, and there are approximately 815 Submerged Land Leases on file.



## Federal Consistency Determinations by Category



# Coastal Resources Protection and Restoration



The Office of Coastal Management works closely with partners at the local, state and federal levels to identify key coastal resources and secure funding to protect and restore Ohio's coastal resources. The following activities supported this theme in 2007:

- Served on the advisory boards for the Ohio Coastal Training Program, the Old Woman Creek National Estuarine Research Reserve, and the Ohio Clean Marinas Program.
- Assisted the National Wetland Inventory update for Ohio by field-checking wetland sites.
- Participated in grant review committees for Ohio Sea Grant and the Ohio Lake Erie Commission.
- Included staff from Ohio Sea Grant, Old Woman Creek National Estuarine Research Reserve, the Ohio Lake Erie Commission, and the ODNR Division of Soil & Water Conservation on the Coastal Management Assistance Grants review team.
- Continued development of the Lake Erie Shore Erosion Management Plan by engaging stakeholders at the federal, state, and local government levels, academia, and non-governmental organizations.
- Participated in the NOAA Program Managers' meeting, the Great Lakes regional coastal management program meeting, and the Coastal States Organization's spring and annual meetings.
- Administered meetings of the Integrated Management Team, which coordinates coastal activities within ODNR.
- Administered meetings of the Policies and Programs Committee, which coordinates coastal activities among State agencies.
- Provided direct and indirect staff support to the Ohio Lake Erie Commission for Ohio's Lake Erie Balanced Growth Initiative.
- Participated in workgroups focused on reauthorization of the federal Coastal Zone Management Act, regional coastal/ocean governance, and climate change issues.
- Served on the Environmental Action Team for the Ohio Wind Working Group.
- Provided support to regional and national organizations with a stake in Ohio coastal management, including:
  - \* Coastal States Organization
  - \* Great Lakes Commission
  - \* Great Lakes Dredging Team
  - \* Professional Land Surveyors of Ohio
  - \* Ohio Association of Realtors

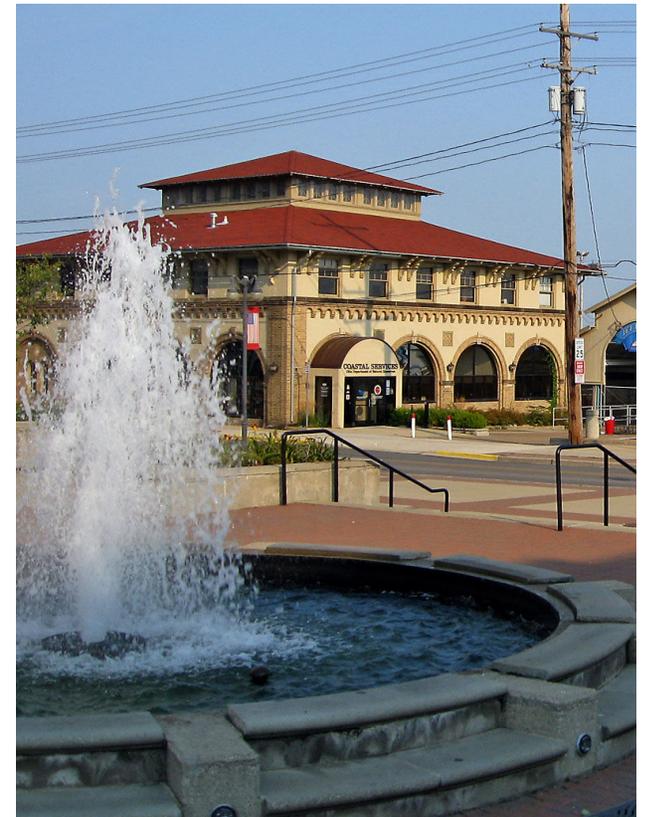


# Office Functions

The Office of Coastal Management strives to maintain and enhance its existing grants and business functions while improving efficiency and effectiveness as opportunities arise. The following activities supported this theme in 2007:

- Administered the NOAA annual Ohio Coastal Management Program grant.
- Awarded eight Coastal Management Assistance Grants and 14 Core Discretionary Grants; Closed out 36 grants for projects commencing in previous years (See pages 8-9 for a complete listing of grants awarded in 2007).
- Administered three Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Program (CELCP) Grants with five property acquisitions completed.
- Coordinated the customization of a grants database to improve tracking of awarded grants.
- Provided summaries of Ohio Coastal Management Program activities and logistical and administrative support to the Ohio Coastal Resources Advisory Council for four quarterly meetings and numerous subcommittee and executive meetings.
- Recommended individuals to fill six vacant seats on the Coastal Resources Advisory Council; reappointed five council members to their positions.
- Upgraded the lease and permit regulatory file system to promote uniformity and accommodate future filing needs.
- Obtained federal approval of changes to the Ohio Coastal Management Program that: reflect the creation of the Office of Coastal Management; integrate revisions to laws, administrative code and organizational structures; and update lists of federal agencies, permits and federal financial assistance.
- Developed an Office of Coastal Management Strategic Plan for 2008-2013.
- Coordinated and participated in NOAA's triennial review of the Ohio Coastal Management Program, as set forth in Section 312 of the Coastal Zone Management Act.
- As part of routine fleet turnover, purchased two hybrid fuel vehicles to reduce the Office's carbon footprint and dependence on foreign oil as called for in Governor Strickland's 2007 executive order on Coordinating Ohio Energy Policy and State Energy Utilization.
- Continued implementation of recycling efforts within the Office including 100% recycling of paper and print cartridges.

*The Office of Coastal Management is located on Lake Erie's Sandusky Bay in Sandusky, Ohio and is housed in the historic G. A. Boeckling Building. This structure, built in 1928 to serve as the winter administration headquarters for the Cedar Point amusement park, is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.*



# GRANTS



Area or County	Project Title	Grantee	Amount
Erie	East Sandusky Bay Extension Project - MHD Property	City of Sandusky	\$150,000
Lake Erie Watershed	Peachman Lake Erie Shipwreck Research Center	Great Lakes Historical Society	\$26,000
Lake Erie Watershed	Ohio Clean Marinas Program (2007)	ODNR-Soil and Water	\$75,000
Erie	Sandusky Area Maritime Curriculum Guide	Sandusky Area Maritime Association	\$5,000
Lake Erie Watershed	Nautical Archaeology: Training and Survey	Great Lakes Historical Society	\$5,938
Defiance, Ashland	Ground Water Pollution Potential Mapping in the Lake Erie Basin, Defiance and Ashland	ODNR-Water	\$35,866
Wood, Hancock, Hardin, Marion	Potentiometric Surface Mapping in the Lake Erie Basin Wood, Hancock, Hardin and Marion	ODNR-Water	\$35,098
Lake Erie Watershed	Balanced Growth Economic Analysis	Ohio Lake Erie Commission	\$13,997
Western Project Area	Water Quantity Portage River	ODNR-Water	\$15,504
Lucas	Toledo Lighthouse Restoration Plans and Specifications	Toledo Harbor Lighthouse Preservation Society	\$48,000
Lake Erie Watershed	Balanced Growth Program Implementation	Ohio Lake Erie Commission	\$45,000
Cuyahoga	Euclid Beach Fishing Pier Feasibility Study	Northeast Shores Development Corp.	\$11,000
Ashtabula	City of Geneva Comprehensive Plan	City of Geneva	\$21,250
Lake Erie Watershed	Inventory and Control of Invasive Plants (2007)	ODNR-Natural Areas and Preserves	\$77,693

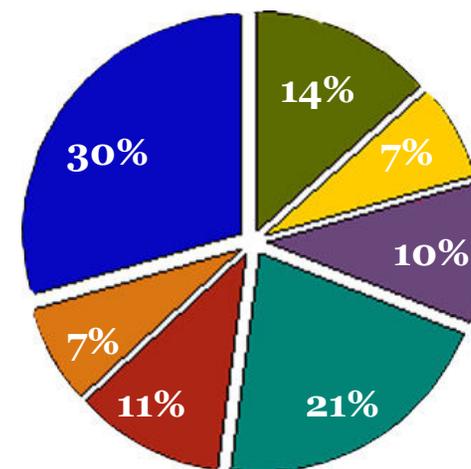
Area or County	Project Title	Grantee	Amount
Lorain	Riverwalk	Lorain Port Authority	\$78,250
Lake Erie Watershed	Initial Monitoring Guidelines-Voluntary Wind Energy Cooperative Agreement Model	ODNR-Wildlife	\$25,000
Ottawa	East Harbor Shoreline Erosion Survey	ODNR-Parks and Recreation	\$12,500
Lake Erie Watershed	Avian and Bat Resource Pre-construction Monitoring	ODNR-Wildlife	\$26,000
Lake Erie Watershed	Lake Erie Watershed Habitat GIS Coordination	ODNR-Natural Areas and Preserves	\$60,000
Lake Erie Watershed	Lake Erie Home Sewage Treatment System	ODNR-Soil and Water	\$35,000
Erie, Huron, Lorain, Ashland, Richland	Vermilion River Watershed Coordinator	ODNR-Natural Areas and Preserves	\$120,000
Ashtabula	Ashtabula River Watershed Coordinator (2007)	ODNR-Natural Areas and Preserves	\$65,491
Eastern Project Area	Lake Erie Watershed Coordinators (West Creek and Grand River)	ODNR-Soil and Water	\$47,752
Lake Erie Watershed	Coastal Nonpoint Pollution Control Program Continued Development and Implementation (2007)	ODNR-Soil and Water	\$36,790
Cuyahoga	Watershed Management Plan for the Big Creek Watershed	Cuyahoga River Community Planning Organization	\$19,950

### Grant Type and Total Amount



### Total Awarded- \$1,092,079

Dollars awarded in calendar year 2007 from one or more fiscal year's funding.



For detailed grant information, visit [www.ohiodnr.com/coastal](http://www.ohiodnr.com/coastal), select "Grants" and view or download the *Ohio Coastal Management Program Grants 1998-2007* booklet.

# PROGRAMS



Examples of coastal network partner programs funded through the Office of Coastal Management:

## Lake Erie Balanced Growth Program

[www.epa.state.oh.us/oleo/bg1/index.html](http://www.epa.state.oh.us/oleo/bg1/index.html)

Balanced Growth is a strategy to protect and restore Lake Erie and its watersheds to assure economic competitiveness and ecological health by protecting natural resources and encouraging redevelopment in urban areas.

In 2007, the Ohio Lake Erie Commission updated the Balanced Growth Strategy, held Best Practices workshops, and assisted four watershed planning partnerships.



## Ohio Coastal Nonpoint Pollution Control Program

[www.ohiodnr.com/coastal](http://www.ohiodnr.com/coastal) and select "Regulations/Programs"

Nonpoint source pollution consists of contaminants that originate diffusely on land and run off with rain or snow.

This program funds 31 watershed coordinator positions. In 2007, 14 groups began coordination activities to implement endorsed plans and six new groups began development of state endorsed Watershed Action Plans.



## Ohio Clean Marinas Program

[www.sg.ohio-state.edu/cleanmarinas/](http://www.sg.ohio-state.edu/cleanmarinas/)

The Ohio Clean Marinas Program is a proactive partnership designed to encourage marinas and boaters to use simple, innovative solutions to keep Ohio's coastal and inland waterway resources clean.

Ohio Clean Marinas certification was given to 11 new marinas in 2007 bringing the total number certified to 36.

The Program, which began in 2005, also includes the successful Shrink Wrap Recycling Program.



## Ohio Coastal Training Program

[www.ohiodnr.com/coastal](http://www.ohiodnr.com/coastal) and select "Coastal Training"

A national initiative funded by NOAA, the goal of the Coastal Training Program is to achieve informed decision-making regarding our nation's coastal resources through science-based training for professionals.

Program accomplishments for 2007 are presented in the Old Woman Creek National Estuarine Research Reserve 2007 Annual Report.



# B U D G E T

The Office of Coastal Management receives an annual federal award for the administration of the approved Ohio Coastal Management Program under the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972. Funds awarded under Section 306 of the Act must be matched by state and local funds. The budget below includes funds used for grant awards (see pages 8-9). Funds are tracked using the state fiscal year, July 1– June 30.

Source	Amount
Base Program Funds: Coastal Zone Management Act, Section 306	\$1,899,000
Program Enhancement Funds: Coastal Zone Management Act, Section 309	\$180,000
State and Other Matching Funds:	\$1,899,000
<b>Total (State FY08):</b>	<b>\$3,978,000</b>

All federal funds are from the U.S. Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.



*In 2003, properties on Ottawa County's North Bass Island were purchased in part through a land acquisition grant from the Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Program. These competitive funds are awarded annually by Congress and are not included in the annual budget for the Ohio Coastal Management Program. This late summer 2007 picture of sunflowers is looking southwest from "Junkyard Point."*



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OFFICE OF COASTAL MANAGEMENT

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Governor Ted Strickland  
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