



COASTAL MANAGEMENT ASSISTANCE GRANTS

The Coastal Management Assistance Grant program is a competitive annual grant opportunity offered by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources through the Ohio Coastal Management Program. Grants can be issued to eligible entities for water quality improvement, coastal planning, education programs, land acquisition, research, public access, habitat restoration, and other purposes.

Funding is provided through the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) in the U.S. Department of Commerce. Approximately \$400,000 total is available for projects annually. Applications should request \$50,000 to \$150,000 in federal funds. A minimum 1:1 non-federal match is required, and other federal funds cannot be used for match. Funds are provided on a reimbursement basis.

Eligible Applicants

Eligible recipients include units of local government (municipalities, townships, counties, school districts, park districts, port authorities, etc.), state agencies, academic institutions, and 501(c)(3) non-profit corporations. Only public entities are eligible to receive grants for construction, engineering/design, or land acquisition projects.

Timeframes

- Pre-proposals are required and typically due in September/October. Specific dates are available by mid-August each year.
- Applicants who submitted pre-proposals are notified in November whether the submittal of a full application is recommended. Full applications are typically due in December.
- Funding is for projects that begin no earlier than July 1 of the following year.

Eligible Uses of Funds

- Feasibility studies and engineering reports for enhancing coastal resources
- Protection/enhancement of wetlands, dunes, and other coastal habitat
- Habitat enhancement using dredge material
- Increased public access to Lake Erie and its tributaries
- Protection of historical and cultural coastal resources
- Redevelopment of deteriorating or underutilized waterfronts and ports
- Other purposes approved by the Director of the Ohio Department of Natural Resources

Ineligible Uses of Funds

- Restroom facilities
- Erosion control structures
- Beach nourishment
- Maintenance activities
- Active recreation facilities, such as ball fields, etc.
- Parking lots or roads
- Water or sewer lines
- Activities required as a permit condition or mitigation
- Construction on private property
- Construction or acquisition outside the designated Coastal Area
- Other uses that are deemed ineligible

For more information, please contact the Office of Coastal Management at coastal.grants@dnr.ohio.gov or (419) 626-7980. You may also access the Office of Coastal Management website at <https://coastal.ohiodnr.gov>.