Protecting Ohio’s Natural Resources
H2Ohio Fund will be invested in targeted solutions to ensure safe and clean water across Ohio.

• $172 million appropriated for FY2020-2021

Ohio Environmental Protection Agency – Director Laurie Stevenson
• $8 million in FY2020 to support infrastructure improvements, lead, water quality monitoring and technology R&D

Ohio Department of Agriculture – Director Dorothy Pelanda
• $30 million in FY2020 to support best management practices for water quality

Ohio Department of Natural Resources – Director Mary Mertz
• $46 million in FY2020 to restore and construct wetlands to capture and filter nutrients from runoff

Lake Erie Commission – Director Joy Mulinex
ODA H2Ohio 2019
$30.3 million to support best management practices for water quality

Soil and Water Phosphorus Program (SB299)
$20 million for Programs in the Western Lake Erie Basin
Funds will be distributed through local Soil and Water Conservation Districts.
Water Management

- Drainage Water Management
- Wetlands & Water Retention Reservoirs
- Conservation Buffers
COASTAL WETLANDS
- Nature-Based Shorelines / Beneficial Use
- In-Water, Flow-Through
- Reconnected Diked Systems

INLAND LAKE ERIE WETLANDS
- Targeted Watershed Approach
- Headwater, In-Stream, In-River Focused

STATEWIDE WETLANDS
- Focus on areas most affected by HABs and other water quality challenges

ODNR H2Ohio 2019
$46 million to restore and construct wetlands that will assist in filtering nutrients from water
COASTAL WETLAND PROJECTS

Nineteen coastal wetland projects will maximize nutrient reduction flowing into Lake Erie.

• The creation of multiple “in-water, flow through wetlands” in the mouth of the Maumee and Sandusky Rivers and other critical areas.

• The reconnection of diked wetlands and adjacent tributaries including agricultural drainage channels that flow directly into Lake Erie
INLAND WESTERN LAKE ERIE BASIN WETLAND PROJECTS

• Fifteen targeted inland wetland projects will reduce nutrient runoff

• Focused on nutrient reduction, but anticipate positive impact on streams, wildlife habitat, flood and channel protection

STATEWIDE WETLAND PROJECTS

Focused on other regions in the state experiencing harmful algae blooms and other water quality challenges

Buckeye Lake
Dillon Lake
East Fork Lake
Grand Lake St. Marys
Disadvantaged Community Drinking Water and Wastewater Infrastructure

Failing Home Sewage Treatment Systems

Reduce Risk of Drinking Water-Related Lead Exposure in Daycares and Schools

Enhance State Water Quality Monitoring Capabilities

Support R&D for Wastewater Treatment Technologies

OEPA H2Ohio 2019
$8.675 million to support infrastructure improvements, lead, water quality monitoring and technology R&D
Disadvantaged Community Drinking Water and Wastewater Infrastructure

Fund infrastructure projects in small, disadvantaged communities to increase accessibility to safe drinking water and sewer services.

$3.5 million to be disbursed to “shovel ready” projects through Ohio EPA’s Division of Environmental and Financial Assistance. Have identified small community projects in NE and SE Ohio (Columbiana, Coshocton, Noble, Pike and Meigs counties).

Will conduct community outreach and solicit nominations for future projects, using DEFA’s existing funding program/process.
Addressing Failing Home Septic Systems

Over 1 million existing home sewage treatment systems and an estimated 6,000 new systems installed each year.

Estimated 31% of existing systems are failing, resulting in public health and water quality concerns.

$2.5 million to fund replacement of 250-300 failing home sewage treatment systems, focusing on low MHI households. Builds upon existing Ohio EPA program that has already provided $21 million to replace 1,500 systems and repair 400 systems statewide.
Addressing Lead-Related Drinking Water Hazards in Daycares and Schools

• $1.3 million in federal grant dollars to assist schools/daycares in testing drinking water
• $1.5 million of H2Ohio will fund replacement of lead service lines and fixtures
• Partners include ODH and ODJFS
• Initially targeting urban areas
Enhance Water Quality Monitoring and Support R&D for Treatment Technologies

More in-stream monitoring and rainfall gages in Lake Erie basin and Ohio River areas to fill gaps in nutrient load monitoring.

Gages currently in place are operated/managed by USGS. ~$700K for additional stations.

~$500K to vet project proposals for treatment efficacy, scalability and speed at which technology could be implemented.
Next Steps
• Rollout of the H2Ohio Plan
• Targeting official announcement by the end of September

Questions?
2019 Highlights

https://youtu.be/74Kc1x2BGKM