



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Natural Resources
Conservation Service
200 North High Street, Room 522
Columbus, OH 43215
Voice: 614.255.2472
Email: PublicAffairs@oh.usda.gov
Web: www.oh.nrcs.usda.gov

News Release

Michiko Riley
Public Affairs
Michiko.riley@usda.gov

December 9, 2020

Accepting Applications for Western Lake Erie Basin Funding

Application Deadline is January 15, 2021

COLUMBUS, OH, Dec. 9, 2020 — The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) has a funding opportunity for conservation assistance to Ohio agricultural producers in the Western Lake Erie Basin (WLEB). Application deadline for FY21 funding consideration is January 15, 2021.

The WLEB Special Project targets funding to obtain the greatest environmental benefits in two ways:

- Applications containing the most effective systems of conservation practices to address water quality concerns will be given a higher priority.
- Applications with land located within the WLEB that contain soils with a high risk for leaching or surface run-off, land with high soil test phosphorus levels, and land with direct drainage to tributaries within the Basin will receive priority over applications that do not address these conditions.

Ohio WLEB producers in Allen, Ashland, Auglaize, Crawford, Defiance, Erie, Fulton, Hancock, Hardin, Henry, Huron, Lorain, Lucas, Marion, Mercer, Ottawa, Paulding, Putnam, Richland, Sandusky, Seneca, Shelby, Van Wert, Williams, Wood, and Wyandot Counties may apply (some counties have only a small area in the basin, see map below).

This project will utilize Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) funding. EQIP is a voluntary conservation program that helps agricultural producers protect the environment while promoting agricultural production. With EQIP, NRCS conservation experts provide technical assistance to implement environmentally beneficial conservation practices on working agricultural land.

-more-

