

## **The Upper Tuscarawas River Watershed Action Plan and Cost Analysis**

The Upper Tuscarawas River Watershed Action Plan is a strategic plan that aims to restore and protect water quality, habitat, wildlife, and recreational and commercial uses of natural resources in the Watershed. The Plan outlines a series of seven goals and numerous objectives that, if achieved, should lead to a higher level of environmental quality and a preservation of important resources. The actions in the Plan provide the methods by which to achieve the objectives.

The identification of goals stems from a series of meetings of the Portage Lakes Task Force held in 1998, which brought together a variety of backgrounds, interests and expertise. Such combined efforts help ensure that all aspects of water quality improvement and protection are considered and will ultimately help toward implementing comprehensive and holistic solutions.

In addition to informing officials and residents about water quality issues in the Upper Tuscarawas River Watershed, the Action Plan can also serve as a tool to help focus and organize efforts to improve, preserve and protect water quality. To further the potential efficacy of the Plan, NEFCO performed a cost analysis, assigning cost estimates to the actions contained in the Plan. This information was gathered through personal communications with professionals, from both the public and private sectors, who are familiar with implementing actions like those called for in the Plan. These cost estimates are meant to provide basic, general examples of what implementation costs may be incurred. Similar projects may produce greatly differing costs, as many situation-specific factors determine what the cost of a given project will be.

The amendment of the Action Plan by the addition of the Cost Analysis can help in ascertaining the level of feasibility of implementing the many actions that the Plan contains. It is hoped that reasonable cost estimates will allow various entities, who can provide guidance and assistance in carrying out the actions in the Plan, to better judge their own capabilities and available resources. Establishing how much support exists for carrying out particular aspects of the Action Plan is necessary for a prioritization of specific tasks as well as insight into their feasibility.

The following comprises two complimentary documents--the amended Upper Tuscarawas River Watershed Action Plan and an analysis of the costs contained within it. The latter explains how costs were derived, and in many cases gives further information about the actions themselves. Each document may be used to reference the other. The individual actions in the Plan are coded, leading the reader to the accompanying explanation, while the Cost Analysis examples refer the reader to those actions in the Plan that they exemplify.

An explanation of abbreviations and acronyms used in the Plan is attached at the end of this document. Some cost explanations use specific business or product names for illustrative purposes only. The use of such names does not necessarily represent endorsement.

<b>ABBREVIATIONS/ACRONYMS</b>	
BMP	Best Management Practice
CRP	Conservation Reserve Program
EQIP	Environmental Quality Incentives Program
HBA	Home Builders Association
HSDS	Home Sewage Disposal System
IPM	Integrated Pesticide Management
LUST	Leaking Underground Storage Tank
MCL	Maximum Contaminant Loads
NEFCO	Northeast Ohio Four County Regional Planning and Development Organization
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
NPS	Nonpoint Source Pollution
ODA	Ohio Department of Agriculture
ODNR	Ohio Department of Natural Resources DSWC - Division of Soil and Water Conservation
ODOT	Ohio Department of Transportation
OEEF	Ohio Environmental Education Fund
Ohio EPA	Ohio Environmental Protection Agency DDAGW - Division of Drinking and Groundwater DERR - Division of Environmental and Remedial Response DSW - Division of Surface Water DWPC - Division of Water Pollution Control
OSU	Ohio State University
PL-566	Refers to the Small Watershed Program through the NRCS
PS	Point Source Pollution
RAP	Remedial Action Plans
RUST	Registered Underground Storage Tank
SFM	State Fire Marshal (Ohio Department of Commerce) BUSTR - Bureau for Underground Storage Tank Regulations
SIP	Stewardship Incentives Program
SPSDS	Semi-Public Sewage Disposal System
S.R.	State Route
SWCD	Soil and Water Conservation District
SWPPP	Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan
USDA	United States Department of Agriculture NRCS - Natural Resources Conservation Service
UST	Underground Storage Tank
VLMP	Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program
WPCLF	Water Pollution Control Loan Fund
WWTP	Wastewater Treatment Plant