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By: *Kelly M. Vogel* Date: 04/11/2023

Effective Date: April 23, 2023

Expiration Date: April 22, 2028

OHIO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

GENERAL PERMIT AUTHORIZATION FOR STORMWATER DISCHARGES ASSOCIATED WITH CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY UNDER THE NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM

In compliance with the provisions of the federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended (33 U.S.C. Section 1251 et. seq. hereafter referred to as "the Act") and the Ohio Water Pollution Control Act [Ohio Revised Code ("ORC") Chapter 6111], dischargers of stormwater from sites where construction activity is being conducted, as defined in Part I.B of this permit, are authorized by the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, hereafter referred to as "Ohio EPA," to discharge from the outfalls at the sites and to the receiving surface waters of the state identified in their Notice of Intent ("NOI") application form on file with Ohio EPA in accordance with the conditions specified in Parts I through VII of this permit.

It has been determined that a lowering of water quality of various waters of the state associated with granting coverage under this permit is necessary to accommodate important social and economic development in the state of Ohio. In accordance with OAC 3745-1-05, this decision was reached only after examining a series of technical alternatives, reviewing social and economic issues related to the degradation, and considering all public and intergovernmental comments received concerning the proposal.

This permit is conditioned upon payment of applicable fees, submittal of a complete NOI application form, development (and submittal, if applicable) of a complete Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWP3) and written approval of coverage from the director of Ohio EPA in accordance with Ohio Administrative Code ("OAC") Rule 3745-38-02.

E-SIGNED by Anne Vogel
on 2023-04-11 19:00:28 GMT

2023-04-11 19:00:28 UTC

Anne M. Vogel
Director

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PART I. COVERAGE UNDER THIS PERMIT

A. Permit Area.

This permit covers the entire State of Ohio. Appendices A and B of this permit contain additional watershed specific requirements for construction activities located partially or fully within the Big Darby Creek Watershed and portions of the Olentangy River Watershed.

B. Eligibility.

1. Construction activities covered. Except for stormwater discharges identified under Part I.B.2, this permit may cover all new and existing discharges composed entirely of stormwater discharges associated with construction activity that enter surface waters of the state or a storm drain leading to surface waters of the state.

For the purposes of this permit, construction activities include any clearing, grading, excavating, grubbing and/or filling activities that disturb one or more acres. Discharges from trench dewatering are also covered by this permit as long as the dewatering activity is carried out in accordance with the practices outlined in Part III.G.2.g.iv of this permit.

Construction activities disturbing one or more acres of total land or will disturb less than one acre of land but are part of a larger common plan of development or sale that will ultimately disturb one or more acres of land are eligible for coverage under this permit. The threshold acreage includes the entire area disturbed in the larger common plan of development or sale.

This permit also authorizes stormwater discharges from support activities (e.g., concrete or asphalt batch plants, equipment staging yards, material storage areas, excavated material disposal areas, borrow areas) provided:

- a. The support activity is directly related to a construction site that is required to have NPDES permit coverage for discharges of stormwater associated with construction activity;
 - b. The support activity is not a commercial operation serving multiple unrelated construction projects and does not operate beyond the completion of the construction activity at the site it supports;
 - c. Appropriate controls and measures are identified in a stormwater pollution prevention plan (SWP3) covering the discharges from the support activity; and
 - d. The support activity is on or contiguous with the property defined in the NOI (offsite borrow pits and soil disposal areas, which serve only one project, do not have to be contiguous with the construction site).
2. Limitations on coverage. The following stormwater discharges associated with construction activity are not covered by this permit:
 - a. Stormwater discharges that originate from the site after construction activities have ceased, including any temporary support activity, and the site has achieved final

stabilization. Industrial post-construction stormwater discharges may need to be covered by an NPDES permit;

- b. Stormwater discharges associated with construction activity that the director has shown to be or may reasonably expect to be contributing to a violation of a water quality standard and such discharge would be a violation of this permit; and
- c. Stormwater discharges authorized by an individual NPDES permit or another NPDES general permit.

3. **Waivers.** After March 10, 2003, sites whose larger common plan of development or sale have at least one, but less than five acres of land disturbance, which would otherwise require permit coverage for stormwater discharges associated with construction activities, may request that the director waive their permit requirement. Entities wishing to request such a waiver must certify in writing that the construction activity meets one of the two waiver conditions:

- a. **Rainfall Erosivity Waiver.** For a construction site to qualify for the rainfall erosivity waiver, the cumulative rainfall erosivity over the project duration must be five or less and the site must be stabilized with a least a 70 percent vegetative cover or other permanent, non-erosive cover. The rainfall erosivity must be calculated according to the method in U.S. EPA Fact Sheet 3.1 Construction Rainfall Erosivity Waiver dated January 2001 and be found at: <https://epa.ohio.gov/divisions-and-offices/surface-water/permitting/stormwater-program>. If it is determined that a construction activity will take place during a time period where the rainfall erosivity factor is less than five, a written waiver certification must be submitted to Ohio EPA at least 21 days before construction activity is scheduled to begin. If the construction activity will extend beyond the dates specified in the waiver certification, the operator must either: (a) recalculate the waiver using the original start date with the new ending date (if the R factor is still less than five, a new waiver certification must be submitted) or (b) submit an NOI application form and fee for coverage under this general permit at least seven days prior to the end of the waiver period; or
- b. **TMDL (Total Maximum Daily Load) Waiver.** Stormwater controls are not needed based on a TMDL approved or established by U.S. EPA that addresses the pollutant(s) of concern or, for non-impaired waters that do not require TMDLs, and equivalent analysis that determines allocations for small construction sites for the pollutant(s) of concern or that determines that such allocations are not needed to protect water quality based on consideration of existing in-stream concentrations, expected growth in pollutant contributions from all sources, and a margin of safety. The pollutant(s) of concern include sediment or a parameter that addresses sediment (such as total suspended solids, turbidity or siltation) and any other pollutant that has been identified as a cause of impairment of any water body that will receive a discharge from the construction activity. The operator must certify to the director of Ohio EPA that the construction activity will take place, and stormwater discharges will occur, within the drainage area addressed by the TMDL or equivalent analysis. A written waiver certification must be submitted to Ohio EPA at least 21 days before the construction activity is scheduled to begin.

4. Prohibition on non-stormwater discharges. All discharges covered by this permit must be composed entirely of stormwater with the exception of the following: discharges from firefighting activities; fire hydrant flushings; potable water sources including waterline flushings; irrigation drainage; lawn watering; routine external building washdown which does not use detergents; pavement washwaters where spills or leaks of toxic or hazardous materials have not occurred (unless all spilled material has been removed) and where detergents are not used; air conditioning condensate; springs; uncontaminated groundwater from trench or well point dewatering and foundation or footing drains where flows are not contaminated with process materials such as solvents. Dewatering activities must be done in compliance with Part II.C and Part III.G.2.g.iv of this permit. Discharges of material other than stormwater or the authorized non-stormwater discharges listed above must comply with an individual NPDES permit or an alternative NPDES general permit issued for the discharge.

Except for flows from firefighting activities, sources of non-stormwater listed above that are combined with stormwater discharges associated with construction activity must be identified in the SWP3. The SWP3 must identify and ensure the implementation of appropriate pollution prevention measures for the non-stormwater component(s) of the discharge.

5. Spills and unintended releases (Releases in excess of Reportable Quantities). This permit does not relieve the permittee of the reporting requirements of Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations ("CFR") Part 117 and 40 CFR Part 302. In the event of a spill or other unintended release, the discharge of hazardous substances in the storm water discharge(s) from a construction site must be minimized in accordance with the applicable stormwater pollution prevention plan for the construction activity and in no case, during any 24-hour period, may the discharge(s) contain a hazardous substance equal to or in excess of reportable quantities.

40 CFR Part 117 sets forth a determination of the reportable quantity for each substance designated as hazardous in 40 CFR Part 116. The regulation applies to quantities of designated substances equal to or greater than the reportable quantities, when discharged to surface waters of the state. 40 CFR Part 302 designates under section 102(a) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act of 1980, those substances in the statutes referred to in section 101(14), identifies reportable quantities for these substances and sets forth the notification requirements for releases of these substances. This regulation also sets forth reportable quantities for hazardous substances designated under section 311(b)(2)(A) of the Clean Water Act (CWA).

C. Requiring an individual NPDES permit or an alternative NPDES general permit.

1. The director may require an alternative permit. The director may require any operator eligible for this permit to apply for and obtain either an individual NPDES permit or coverage under an alternative NPDES general permit in accordance with OAC Rule 3745-38-02. Any interested person may petition the director to take action under this paragraph.

The director will send written notification that an alternative NPDES permit is required. This notice shall include a brief statement of the reasons for this decision, an application

form and a statement setting a deadline for the operator to file the application. If an operator fails to submit an application in a timely manner as required by the director under this paragraph, then coverage, if in effect, under this permit is automatically terminated at the end of the day specified for application submittal.

2. Operators may request an individual NPDES permit. Any owner or operator eligible for this permit may request to be excluded from the coverage of this permit by applying for an individual permit. The owner or operator shall submit an individual application with reasons supporting the request to the director in accordance with the requirements of 40 CFR 122.26. If the reasons adequately support the request, the director shall grant it by issuing an individual NPDES permit.
3. When an individual NPDES permit is issued to an owner or operator otherwise subject to this permit or the owner or operator is approved for coverage under an alternative NPDES general permit, the applicability of this permit to the individual NPDES permittee is automatically terminated on the effective date of the individual permit or the date of approval for coverage under the alternative general permit, whichever the case may be.

D. Permit requirements when portions of a site are sold

If an operator obtains a permit for a development, and then the operator (permittee) sells off lots or parcels within that development, permit coverage must be continued on those lots until a Notice of Termination (NOT) in accordance with Part IV.B is submitted. For developments which require the use of centralized sediment and erosion controls (i.e., controls that address stormwater runoff from one or more lots) for which the current permittee intends to terminate responsibilities under this permit for a lot after sale of the lot to a new owner and such termination will either prevent or impair the implementation of the controls and therefore jeopardize compliance with the terms and conditions of this permit, the permittee will be required to maintain responsibility for the implementation of those controls. For developments where this is not the case, it is the permittee's responsibility to temporarily stabilize all lots sold to individual lot owners unless an exception is approved in accordance with Part III.G.4. In cases where permit responsibilities for individual lot(s) will be terminated after sale of the lot, the permittee shall inform the individual lot owner of the obligations under this permit and ensure that the Individual Lot NOI application is submitted to Ohio EPA.

E. Authorization

1. Obtaining authorization to discharge. Operators that discharge stormwater associated with construction activity must submit an NOI application form and Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWP3) if located within the Big Darby Creek watershed or portions of the Olentangy watershed in accordance with the requirements of Part I.F of this permit to obtain authorization to discharge under this general permit. As required under OAC Rule 3745-38-02(E), the director, in response to the NOI submission, will notify the applicant in writing that he/she has or has not been granted general permit coverage to discharge stormwater associated with construction activity under the terms and conditions of this permit or that the applicant must apply for an individual NPDES permit or coverage under an alternate general NPDES permit as described in Part I.C.1.
2. No release from other requirements. No condition of this permit shall release the permittee from any responsibility or requirements under other environmental statutes or

regulations. Other permit requirements commonly associated with construction activities include, but are not limited to, section 401 water quality certifications, isolated wetland permits, permits to install sanitary sewers or other devices that discharge or convey polluted water, permits to install drinking water lines, single lot sanitary system permits and disturbance of land which was used to operate a solid or hazardous waste facility (i.e., coverage under this NPDES general permit does not satisfy the requirements of OAC Rule 3745-27-13 or ORC Section 3734.02(H)). The issuance of this permit is subject to resolution of an antidegradation review. This permit does not relieve the permittee of other responsibilities associated with construction activities such as contacting the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Water, to ensure proper well installation and abandonment of wells.

F. Notice of Intent Requirements

1. Deadlines for notification.

a. Initial coverage: Operators who intend to obtain initial coverage for a stormwater discharge associated with construction activity under this general permit must submit a complete and accurate NOI application form, a completed Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWP3) for projects within the Big Darby Creek and portions of the Olentangy river watersheds and appropriate fee at least 21 days (or 45 days in the Big Darby Creek watershed and portions of the Olentangy watershed) prior to the commencement of construction activity. If more than one operator, as defined in Part VII of this general permit, will be engaged at a site, each operator shall seek coverage under this general permit prior to engaging in construction activities. Coverage under this permit is not effective until an approval letter granting coverage from the director of Ohio EPA is received by the applicant. Where one operator has already submitted an NOI prior to other operator(s) being identified, the additional operator shall request modification of coverage to become a co-permittee. In such instances, the co-permittees shall be covered under the same facility permit number. No additional permit fee is required.

b. Individual lot transfer of coverage: Operators must each submit an individual lot notice of intent (Individual Lot NOI) application form (no fee required) to Ohio EPA at least seven days prior to the date that they intend to accept responsibility for permit requirements for their portion of the original permitted development from the previous permittee. Transfer of permit coverage is not granted until an approval letter from the director of Ohio EPA is received by the applicant.

2. Failure to notify. Operators who fail to notify the director of their intent to be covered and who discharge pollutants to surface waters of the state without an NPDES permit are in violation of ORC Chapter 6111. In such instances, Ohio EPA may bring an enforcement action for any discharges of stormwater associated with construction activity.

3. How to submit an NOI. Operators seeking coverage under this permit must submit a complete and accurate Notice of Intent (NOI) application using Ohio EPA's electronic application form which is available through the Ohio EPA eBusiness Center at: <https://ebiz.epa.ohio.gov/>. Submission through the Ohio EPA eBusiness Center will require establishing an Ohio EPA eBusiness Center account and obtaining a unique Personal Identification Number (PIN) for final submission of the NOI. Existing eBusiness

Center account holders can access the NOI form through their existing account and submit using their existing PIN. Please see the following link for guidance: <https://epa.ohio.gov/divisions-and-offices/surface-water/permitting/electronic-business-services-sub/streams>. Alternatively, if you are unable to access the NOI form through the agency eBusiness Center due to a demonstrated hardship, the NOI may be submitted on a paper NOI form provided by Ohio EPA. NOI information shall be typed on the form. Please contact Ohio EPA, Division of Surface Water at (614) 644-2001 if you wish to receive a paper NOI form.

4. **Additional notification.** NOIs and SWP3s are considered public documents and shall be made available to the public in accordance with Part III.C.2. The permittee shall make NOIs and SWP3s available upon request of the director of Ohio EPA, local agencies approving sediment and erosion control plans, grading plans or stormwater management plans, local governmental officials, or operators of municipal separate storm sewer systems (MS4s) receiving drainage from the permitted site. Each operator that discharges to an NPDES permitted MS4 shall provide a copy of its Ohio EPA NOI submission to the MS4 in accordance with the MS4's requirements, if applicable.
5. **Re-notification.** Existing permittees having coverage under the previous generation of this general permit shall have continuing coverage under OHC000006 with the submittal of a timely renewal application. Within 180 days from the effective date of this permit, existing permittees shall submit the completed renewal application expressing their intent for continued coverage. In accordance with Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) 3745-38-02(E)(2)(a)(ii), a renewal application fee will not apply to existing permittees having general permit coverage issued on or after April 22, 2022. Permit coverage will be terminated if Ohio EPA does not receive the renewal application within this 180-day period.

Part II. NON-NUMERIC EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS

You shall comply with the following non-numeric effluent limitations for discharges from your site and/or from construction support activities. Part III of this permit contains the specific design criteria to meet the objectives of the following non-numeric effluent limitations. You shall develop and implement the SWP3 in accordance with Part III of this permit to satisfy these non-numeric effluent limitations.

- A. **Erosion and Sediment Controls.** You shall design, install and maintain effective erosion controls and sediment controls to minimize the discharge of pollutants. At a minimum, such controls shall be designed, installed and maintained to:
 1. Control stormwater volume and velocity within the site to minimize soil and stream erosion;
 2. Control stormwater discharges, including both peak flowrates and total stormwater volume, to minimize erosion at outlets and to minimize downstream channel and streambank erosion;
 3. Minimize the amount of soil exposed during construction activity;
 4. Minimize the disturbance of steep slopes;

5. Minimize sediment discharges from the site. The design, installation and maintenance of erosion and sediment controls shall address factors such as the amount, frequency, intensity and duration of precipitation, the nature of resulting stormwater runoff, and soil characteristics, including the range of soil particle sizes expected to be present on the site;
 6. If feasible, provide and maintain a 50-foot undisturbed natural buffer around surface waters of the state, direct stormwater to vegetated areas to increase sediment removal and maximize stormwater infiltration. If it is infeasible to provide and maintain an undisturbed 50-foot natural buffer, you shall comply with the stabilization requirements found in Part II.B for areas within 50 feet of a surface water; and
 7. Minimize soil compaction and, unless infeasible, preserve topsoil.
- B. Soil Stabilization.** Stabilization of disturbed areas shall, at a minimum, be initiated in accordance with the time frames specified in the following tables.

Table 1: Permanent Stabilization

Area requiring permanent stabilization	Time frame to apply erosion controls
Any areas that will lie dormant for one year or more	Within seven days of the most recent disturbance
Any areas within 50 feet of a surface water of the state and at final grade	Within two days of reaching final grade
Other areas at final grade	Within seven days of reaching final grade within that area

Table 2: Temporary Stabilization

Area requiring temporary stabilization	Time frame to apply erosion controls
Any disturbed areas within 50 feet of a surface water of the state and not at final grade	Within two days of the most recent disturbance if the area will remain idle for more than 14 days
Any disturbed areas that will be dormant for more than 14 days but less than one year, and not within 50 feet of a surface water of the state	Within seven days of the most recent disturbance within the area For residential subdivisions, disturbed areas must be stabilized at least seven days prior to transfer of permit coverage for the individual lot(s).
Disturbed areas that will be idle over winter	Prior to the onset of winter weather

Where vegetative stabilization techniques may cause structural instability or are otherwise unobtainable, alternative stabilization techniques must be employed. Permanent and temporary stabilization are defined in Part VII.

- C. Dewatering.** Discharges from dewatering activities, including discharges from dewatering of trenches and excavations, are prohibited unless managed by appropriate controls.

- D. Pollution Prevention Measures.** Design, install, implement and maintain effective pollution prevention measures to minimize the discharge of pollutants. At a minimum, such measures must be designed, installed, implemented and maintained to:
1. Minimize the discharge of pollutants from equipment and vehicle washing, wheel washwater, and other washwaters. Washwaters shall be treated in a sediment basin or alternative control that provides equivalent or better treatment prior to discharge;
 2. Minimize the exposure of construction materials, products, and wastes; landscape materials, fertilizers, pesticides, and herbicides; detergents, sanitary waste and other materials present on the site to precipitation and to stormwater; and
 3. Minimize the discharge of pollutants from spills and leaks and implement chemical spill and leak prevention and response procedures.
- E. Prohibited Discharges.** The following discharges are prohibited:
1. Wastewater from washout of concrete, unless managed by an appropriate control;
 2. Wastewater from washout and cleanout of stucco, paint, form release oils, curing compounds and other construction materials;
 3. Fuels, oils, or other pollutants used in vehicle and equipment operation and maintenance; and
 4. Soaps or solvents used in vehicle and equipment washing or all other waste water streams which could be subject to an individual NPDES permit (Part III.G.2.g).
- F. Surface Outlets.** When discharging from sediment basins utilize outlet structures that withdraw water from the surface, unless infeasible. (Note: Ohio EPA believes that the circumstances in which it is infeasible to design outlet structures in this manner are rare. Exceptions may include time periods with extended cold weather during winter months. If you have determined that it is infeasible to meet this requirement, you shall provide documentation in your SWP3 to support your determination.)
- G. Post-Construction Stormwater Management Controls.** So that receiving stream's physical, chemical and biological characteristics are protected, and stream functions are maintained, post-construction stormwater practices shall provide long-term management of runoff quality and quantity.

PART III. STORMWATER POLLUTION PREVENTION PLAN (SWP3)

A. Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plans.

A SWP3 shall be developed for each site covered by this permit. For a multi-phase construction project, a separate NOI shall be submitted when a separate SWP3 will be prepared for subsequent phases. SWP3s shall be prepared in accordance with sound engineering and/or conservation practices by a professional experienced in the design and implementation of standard erosion and sediment controls and stormwater management practices addressing all phases of construction. The SWP3 shall clearly identify all activities which are required to be

authorized under Section 401 and subject to an antidegradation review. The SWP3 shall identify potential sources of pollution which may reasonably be expected to affect the quality of stormwater discharges associated with construction activities. The SWP3 shall be a comprehensive, stand-alone document, which is not complete unless it contains the information required by Part III.G of this permit. In addition, the SWP3 shall describe and ensure the implementation of best management practices (BMPs) that reduce the pollutants and impact of stormwater discharges during construction and pollutants associated with the post-construction land use to ensure compliance with ORC Section 6111.04, OAC Chapter 3745-1 and the terms and conditions of this permit.

B. Timing.

An acceptable SWP3 shall be completed and submitted to the applicable regulated MS4 entity (for projects constructed entirely within a regulated MS4 area) prior to the timely submittal of an NOI. Projects within the Big Darby Creek and portions of the Olentangy watersheds must submit a SWP3 with the NOI. The SWP3 shall be updated in accordance with Part III.D. Submission of a SWP3 does not constitute review and approval on the part of Ohio EPA. Upon request and good cause shown, the director may waive the requirement to have a SWP3 completed at the time of NOI submission. If a waiver has been granted, the SWP3 must be completed prior to the initiation of construction activities. The SWP3 must be implemented upon initiation of construction activities.

In order to continue coverage from the previous generations of this permit, the permittee shall review and update the SWP3 to ensure that this permit's requirements are addressed within 180 days after the effective date of this permit. If it is infeasible for you to comply with a specific requirement in this permit because (1) the provision was not part of the permit you were previously covered under, and (2) because you are prevented from compliance due to the nature or location of earth disturbances that commenced prior to the effective date of this permit, you shall include documentation within your SWP3 of the reasons why it is infeasible for you to meet the specific requirement.

Examples of OHC000006 permit conditions that would be infeasible for permittees renewing coverage to comply with include:

- OHC000006 post-construction requirements, for projects that obtained NPDES construction stormwater coverage and started construction activities prior to the effective date of this permit;
- OHC000006 post-construction requirements, for multi-phase development projects with an existing regional post-construction BMP issued under previous NPDES post-construction requirements. This only applies to construction sites authorized under Ohio EPA's Construction Stormwater Permits issued after April 20, 2003; or
- Case-by-case situations approved by the Director.

C. SWP3 Signature and Review.

1. Plan Signature and Retention On-Site. The SWP3 shall include the certification in Part V.H, be signed in accordance with Part V.G., and be retained on site during working hours.

2. Plan Availability

- a. On-site: The plan shall be made available immediately upon request of the director or his authorized representative and MS4 operators or their authorized representative during working hours. A copy of the NOI and letter granting permit coverage under this general permit also shall be made available at the site. The NOI and letter granting permit coverage may be maintained electronically under the condition that they can be immediately produced on-site upon request. The SWP3 may be prepared, signed, and kept electronically, rather than in paper form, if the records are: (a) in a format that can be read in a similar manner as a paper record; (b) legally dependable with no less evidentiary value than their paper equivalent; and (c) immediately accessible to the inspector during an inspection to the same extent as a paper copy stored at the site would be, if the records were stored in paper form. For additional guidance on the proper practices to follow for the electronic retention of inspection report records, refer to this general permit's Fact Sheet at <https://epa.ohio.gov/divisions-and-offices/surface-water/permitting/storm-water-discharges-from-small-and-large-construction-activities--general-permit>
- b. By written request: The permittee must provide the most recent copy of the SWP3 within 7 days upon written request by any of the following:
 - i. The director or the director's authorized representative;
 - ii. A local agency approving sediment and erosion plans, grading plans or stormwater management plans; or
 - iii. In the case of a stormwater discharge associated with construction activity which discharges through a municipal separate storm sewer system with an NPDES permit, to the operator of the system.
- c. To the public: All NOIs, general permit approval for coverage letters, and SWP3s are considered reports that shall be available to the public in accordance with the Ohio Public Records law. The permittee shall make documents available to the public upon request or provide a copy at public expense, at cost, in a timely manner. However, the permittee may claim to Ohio EPA any portion of an SWP3 as confidential in accordance with Ohio law.

3. Plan Revision. The director or authorized representative may notify the permittee at any time that the SWP3 does not meet one or more of the minimum requirements of this part. Within 10 days after such notification from the director or authorized representative (or as otherwise provided in the notification), the permittee shall make the required changes to the SWP3 and shall submit to Ohio EPA the revised SWP3 or a written certification that the requested changes have been made.

D. Amendments.

The permittee shall amend the SWP3 whenever there is a change in design, construction, operation or maintenance, which has a significant effect on the potential for the discharge of pollutants to surface waters of the state or if the SWP3 proves to be ineffective in achieving the general objectives of controlling pollutants in stormwater discharges associated with

construction activity. Amendments to the SWP3 may be reviewed by Ohio EPA in the same manner as Part III.C.

E. Duty to inform contractors and subcontractors.

The permittee shall inform all contractors and subcontractors not otherwise defined as "operators" in Part VII of this general permit who will be involved in the implementation of the SWP3 of the terms and conditions of this general permit. The permittee shall maintain a written document containing the signatures of all contractors and subcontractors involved in the implementation of the SWP3 as proof acknowledging that they reviewed and understand the conditions and responsibilities of the SWP3. For contractors and subcontractors which do not meet the definition of an operator, the written document shall be created and signatures shall be obtained prior to commencement of each contractors/subcontractors work.

F. Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) allocations.

If a TMDL is approved for any waterbody into which the permittee's site discharges and requires specific BMPs for construction sites, the director may require the permittee to revise his/her SWP3. Specific conditions have been provided in Appendix A (for the Big Darby Creek Watershed) and Appendix B (for portions of the Olentangy river watershed).

G. SWP3 Requirements.

Operations that discharge stormwater from construction activities are subject to the following requirements and the SWP3 shall include the following items:

1. Site description. Each SWP3 shall provide:
 - a. A description of the nature and type of the construction activity (e.g., low density residential, shopping mall, highway, etc.);
 - b. Total area of the site and the area of the site that is expected to be disturbed (i.e., grubbing, clearing, excavation, filling or grading, including off-site borrow areas);
 - c. A measure of the impervious area and percent imperviousness created by the construction activity (existing, new and total impervious area after construction);
 - d. Stormwater calculations, including the volumetric runoff coefficients for both the pre-construction and post- construction site conditions, and resulting water quality volume; design details for post-construction stormwater facilities and pretreatment practices such as contributing drainage areas, capacities, elevations, outlet details and drain times shall be included in the SWP3; and if applicable, explanation of the use of existing post-construction facilities. Ohio EPA recommends the use of data sheets (see Ohio's Rainwater and Land Development manual and Ohio EPA resources for examples);
 - e. Existing data describing the soil and, if available, the quality of any discharge from the site;

- f. A description of prior land uses at the site;
- g. A description of the condition of any on-site streams (e.g. prior channelization, bed instability or headcuts, channels on public maintenance, or natural channels);
- h. A BMP implementation schedule which describes the sequence of major construction operations (i.e., designation of vegetative preservation areas, grubbing, excavating, grading, utilities, infrastructure installation and others) and the implementation of erosion, sediment and stormwater management practices or facilities to be employed during each operation of the sequence;
- i. The name and/or location of the immediate receiving stream or surface water(s) and the first subsequent named receiving water(s) and the areal extent and description of wetlands or other special aquatic sites at or near the site which will be disturbed, or which will receive discharges from disturbed areas of the project. For discharges to an MS4, the point of discharge to the MS4 and the location where the MS4 ultimately discharges to a stream or surface water of the state shall be indicated;
- j. For subdivided developments, a detail drawing of individual parcels with their erosion, sediment or stormwater control practices and/or a typical individual lot showing standard individual lot erosion and sediment control practices.

A typical individual lot drawing does not remove the responsibility to designate specific erosion and sediment control practices in the SWP3 for critical areas such as steep slopes, stream banks, drainage ways and riparian zones;
- k. Location and description of any stormwater discharges associated with dedicated asphalt and dedicated concrete plants covered by this permit and the best management practices to address pollutants in these stormwater discharges;
- l. A cover page or title identifying the name and location of the site, the name and contact information of all construction site operators, the name and contact information for the person responsible for authorizing and amending the SWP3, preparation date, and the estimated dates that construction will start and be complete;
- m. A log documenting grading and stabilization activities as well as amendments to the SWP3, which occur after construction activities commence; and
- n. Site map showing:
 - i. Limits of earth-disturbing activity of the site including associated off-site borrow or spoil areas that are not addressed by a separate NOI and associated SWP3;
 - ii. Soils types for all areas of the site, including locations of unstable or highly erodible and/or known contaminated soils;

- iii. Existing and proposed contours. A delineation of drainage watersheds expected during and after major grading activities as well as the size of each drainage watershed, in acres;
- iv. The location of any delineated boundary for required riparian setbacks;
- v. Conservation easements or areas designated as open space, preserved vegetation or otherwise protected from earth disturbing activities. A description of any associated temporary or permanent fencing or signage;
- vi. Surface water locations including springs, wetlands, streams, lakes, water wells, etc., on or within 200 feet of the site, including the boundaries of wetlands or stream channels and first subsequent named receiving water(s) the permittee intends to fill or relocate for which the permittee is seeking approval from the Army Corps of Engineers and/or Ohio EPA;
- vii. Existing and planned locations of buildings, roads, parking facilities and utilities;
- viii. The location of all erosion and sediment control practices, including the location of areas likely to require temporary stabilization during site development;
- ix. Sediment traps and basins noting their sediment storage and dewatering (detention) volume and contributing drainage area. Ohio EPA recommends the use of data sheets (see Ohio EPA's Rainwater and Land Development manual and website for examples) to provide data for all sediment traps and basins noting important inputs to design and resulting parameters such as their contributing drainage area, disturbed area, detention volume, sediment storage volume, practice surface area, dewatering time, outlet type and dimensions;
- x. The location of permanent stormwater management practices (new and existing) including pretreatment practices to be used to control pollutants in stormwater after construction operations have been completed along with the location of existing and planned drainage features including catch basins, culverts, ditches, swales, surface inlets and outlet structures;
- xi. Areas designated for the storage or disposal of solid, sanitary and toxic wastes, including dumpster areas, areas designated for cement truck washout, and vehicle fueling;
- xii. The location of designated construction entrances where the vehicles will access the construction site; and
- xiii. The location of any areas of proposed floodplain fill, floodplain excavation, stream restoration or known temporary or permanent stream crossings.

2. **Controls.** In accordance with Part II.A, the SWP3 shall contain a description of the controls appropriate for each construction operation covered by this permit and the operator(s) shall implement such controls. The SWP3 shall clearly describe for each major construction activity identified in Part III.G.1.h: (a) appropriate control measures and the general timing (or sequence) during the construction process that the measures will be implemented; and (b) which contractor is responsible for implementation (e.g., contractor A will clear land and install perimeter controls and contractor B will maintain perimeter controls until final stabilization). The SWP3 shall identify the subcontractors engaged in activities that could impact stormwater runoff. The SWP3 shall contain signatures from all of the identified subcontractors indicating that they have been informed and understand their roles and responsibilities in complying with the SWP3. Ohio EPA recommends that the primary site operator review the SWP3 with the primary contractor prior to commencement of construction activities and keep a SWP3 training log to demonstrate that this review has occurred.

Ohio EPA recommends that the erosion, sediment, and stormwater management practices used to satisfy the conditions of this permit should meet the standards and specifications in the most current edition of Ohio's Rainwater and Land Development (see definitions) manual or other standards acceptable to Ohio EPA. The controls shall include the following minimum components:

- a. **Preservation Methods.** The SWP3 shall make use of practices which preserve the existing natural condition as much as feasible. Such practices may include: preserving existing vegetation, vegetative buffer strips, and existing soil profile and topsoil; phasing of construction operations to minimize the amount of disturbed land at any one time; and designation of tree preservation areas or other protective clearing or grubbing practices. For all construction activities immediately adjacent to surface waters of the state, the permittee shall comply with the buffer non-numeric effluent limitation in Part II.A.6, as measured from the ordinary high water mark of the surface water. Ohio EPA strongly recommends that 50-foot buffers be maintained around surface waters, including wetlands.
- b. **Erosion Control Practices.** The SWP3 shall make use of erosion controls that provide cover over disturbed soils unless an exception is approved in accordance with Part III.G.4. A description of control practices designed to re-establish vegetation or suitable cover on disturbed areas after grading shall be included in the SWP3. The SWP3 shall provide specifications for stabilization of all disturbed areas of the site and provide guidance as to which method of stabilization will be employed for any time of the year. Such practices may include: temporary seeding, permanent seeding, mulching, matting, sod stabilization, vegetative buffer strips, phasing of construction operations, use of construction entrances and the use of alternative ground cover.
- i. **Stabilization.** Disturbed areas shall be stabilized in accordance with Table 1 (Permanent Stabilization) and Table 2 (Temporary Stabilization) in Part II.B of this permit.
- ii. **Permanent stabilization of conveyance channels.** Operators shall undertake special measures to stabilize channels and outfalls and prevent erosive flows. Measures may include seeding, dormant seeding

(as defined in the most current edition of the Rainwater and Land Development manual), mulching, erosion control matting, sodding, riprap, natural channel design with bioengineering techniques or rock check dams.

- c. **Runoff Control Practices.** The SWP3 shall incorporate measures which control the flow of runoff from disturbed areas so as to prevent erosion from occurring. Such practices may include rock check dams, pipe slope drains, diversions to direct flow away from exposed soils and protective grading practices. These practices shall divert runoff away from disturbed areas and steep slopes where practicable. Velocity dissipation devices shall be placed at discharge locations and along the length of any outfall channel to provide non-erosive flow velocity from the structure to a water course so that the natural physical and biological characteristics and functions are maintained and protected.
- d. **Sediment Control Practices.** The plan shall include a description of structural practices that shall store runoff allowing sediments to settle and/or divert flows away from exposed soils or otherwise limit runoff from exposed areas. Structural practices shall be used to control erosion and trap sediment from a site remaining disturbed for more than 14 days. Such practices may include, among others: sediment settling ponds, sediment barriers, earth diversion dikes or channels which direct runoff to a sediment settling pond and storm drain inlet protection. All sediment control practices must be capable of ponding runoff in order to be considered functional. Earth diversion dikes or channels alone are not considered a sediment control practice unless those are used in conjunction with a sediment settling pond.

The SWP3 shall contain detail drawings for all structural practices.

- i. **Timing.** Sediment control structures shall be functional throughout the course of earth disturbing activity. Sediment basins and perimeter sediment barriers shall be implemented prior to grading and within seven days from the start of grubbing. They shall continue to function until the upslope development area is stabilized with permanent cover. As construction progresses and the topography is altered, appropriate controls shall be constructed, or existing controls altered to address the changing drainage patterns.
- ii. **Sediment settling ponds.** A sediment settling pond is required for any one of the following conditions:
- Concentrated or collected stormwater runoff (e.g., storm sewer or ditch);
 - Runoff from drainage areas, which exceed the design capacity of silt fence or other sediment barriers; or
 - Runoff from drainage areas that exceed the design capacity of inlet protection.

The permittee may request approval from Ohio EPA to use alternative controls if the permittee can demonstrate the alternative controls are equivalent in effectiveness to a sediment settling pond.

In accordance with Part II.F, if feasible, sediment settling ponds shall be dewatered at the pond surface using a skimmer or equivalent device. The sediment settling pond volume consists of both a dewatering zone and a sediment storage zone. The volume of the dewatering zone shall be a minimum of 1800 cubic feet (ft³) per acre of drainage (67 yd³/acre) with a minimum 48-hour drain time. The volume of the sediment storage zone shall be calculated by one of the following methods:

Method 1: The volume of the sediment storage zone shall be 1000 ft³ per disturbed acre within the watershed of the basin. OR

Method 2: The volume of the sediment storage zone shall be the volume necessary to store the sediment as calculated with RUSLE or a similar generally accepted erosion prediction model.

Accumulated sediment shall be removed from the sediment storage zone once it exceeds 50 percent of the minimum required sediment storage design capacity and prior to the conversion to the post-construction practice unless suitable storage is demonstrated based upon over-design. When determining the total contributing drainage area, off-site areas and areas which remain undisturbed by construction activity shall be included unless runoff from these areas is diverted away from the sediment settling pond and is not co-mingled with sediment-laden runoff. The depth of the dewatering zone shall be less than or equal to five feet. The configuration between inlets and the outlet of the basin shall provide at least two units of length for each one unit of width ($\geq 2:1$ length:width ratio); however, a length to width ratio of 4:1 is recommended. When designing sediment settling ponds, the permittee shall consider public safety, especially as it relates to children, as a design factor for the sediment basin and alternative sediment controls shall be used where site limitations would preclude a safe design. Combining multiple sediment and erosion control measures in order to maximize pollutant removal is encouraged.

- iii. **Sediment Barriers and Diversions.** Sheet flow runoff from denuded areas shall be intercepted by sediment barriers or diverted to a sediment pond to protect adjacent properties and water resources from sediment transported via sheet flow. Where intended to provide sediment control, sediment barriers shall be placed on a level contour downslope of the disturbed area. For most applications, standard silt fence or a 12-inch diameter tubular filter may be used as a sediment barrier. The relationship between the maximum drainage area to sediment barrier for a particular slope range is shown in the following table:

Table 3 Sediment Barrier Maximum Drainage Area Based on Slope

Maximum drainage area (in acres) to 100 linear feet of sediment barrier	Range of slope for a particular drainage area (in percent)
0.5	< 2%
0.25	$\geq 2\%$ but < 20%
0.125	$\geq 20\%$ but < 50%

Placing sediment barriers in a parallel series does not extend the size of the drainage area. Stormwater diversion practices shall be used to keep runoff away from disturbed areas and steep slopes where practicable. Diversion practices, which include swales, dikes or berms, may receive stormwater runoff from areas up to 10 acres.

- iv. **Inlet Protection.** Other erosion and sediment control practices shall minimize sediment laden water entering active storm drain systems. All inlets receiving runoff from drainage areas of one or more acres will require a sediment settling pond.
 - v. **Surface Waters of the State Protection.** If construction activities disturb areas adjacent to surface waters of the state, structural practices shall be designed and implemented on site to protect all adjacent surface waters of the state from the impacts of sediment runoff. No structural sediment controls (e.g., the installation of silt fence or a sediment settling pond) shall be used in a surface water of the state. For all construction activities immediately adjacent to surface waters of the state, the permittee shall comply with the buffer non-numeric effluent limitation in Part II.A.6, as measured from the ordinary high water mark of the surface water. Where impacts within this buffer area are unavoidable, due to the nature of the construction (e.g., stream crossings for roads or utilities), the project shall be designed such that the number of stream crossings and the width of the disturbance within the buffer area are minimized.
 - vi. **Modifying Controls.** If periodic inspections or other information indicates a control has been used inappropriately or incorrectly, the permittee shall replace or modify the control for site conditions.
- e. **Post-Construction Stormwater Management Requirements.** So that receiving stream's physical, chemical and biological characteristics are protected, and stream functions are maintained, post-construction stormwater practices shall provide long-term management of runoff quality and quantity. To meet the post-construction requirements of this permit, the SWP3 shall contain a description of the post-construction BMPs that will be installed during construction for the site and the rationale for their selection. The rationale shall address the anticipated impacts on the channel and floodplain morphology, hydrology, and water quality. Post-construction BMPs cannot be installed within a surface water of the state (e.g., wetland or stream) unless it is authorized by a CWA 401 water quality certification, CWA 404 permit, or Ohio EPA non-jurisdictional wetland/stream program approval. Note: local jurisdictions may have more stringent post-construction requirements.
- i. **Operation and Maintenance Plans.** Detail drawings and maintenance plans shall be provided for all post-construction BMPs in the SWP3. Maintenance plans shall be provided by the permittee to the post-construction operator of the site (including homeowner associations) upon completion of construction activities (prior to termination of permit coverage). Maintenance plans shall ensure that pollutants collected within structural post-construction practices are disposed of in accordance with

local, state, and federal regulations. To ensure that stormwater management systems function as designed and constructed, the post-construction operation and maintenance plan shall be a stand-alone document which contains:

- 1) a designated entity for stormwater inspection and maintenance responsibilities;
- 2) the routine and non-routine maintenance tasks to be undertaken;
- 3) a schedule for inspection and maintenance;
- 4) any necessary legally binding maintenance easements and agreements;
- 5) construction drawings or excerpts showing the plan view, profile and details of the outlet(s);
- 6) a map showing all access and maintenance easements; and
- 7) for table 4a/4b practices, provide relevant elevations and associated volumes that dictate when removal of accumulated sediments must occur.

Permittees are responsible for assuring all post-construction practices meet plan specifications and intended post-construction conditions have been met (e.g., sediment removed from, and sediment storage restored to, permanent pools, sediment control outlets removed and replaced with permanent post-construction discharge structures, and all slopes and drainageways permanently stabilized), but are not responsible under this permit for operation and maintenance of post-construction practices once coverage under this permit is terminated.

- ii. Point Source Dischargers. Post-construction stormwater BMPs that discharge pollutants from point sources once construction is completed may in themselves need authorization under a separate NPDES permit (one example is stormwater discharges from regulated industrial sites).
- iii. No Impervious Surface. Construction activities that do not include the installation of any impervious surface (e.g., park lands), abandoned mine land reclamation activities regulated by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, stream and wetland restoration activities, and wetland mitigation activities are not required to comply with the conditions of Part III.G.2.e of this permit. Linear construction projects (e.g., pipeline or utility line installation) which do not result in the installation of additional impervious surface are not required to comply with the conditions of Part III.G.2.e of this permit. However, linear construction projects shall be designed to minimize the number of stream crossings and the width of disturbance, and to achieve final stabilization of the disturbed area as defined in Part VII.M.1.
- iv. Post-Construction BMPs. For all construction activities that will disturb two or more acres of land or will disturb less than two acres that are part of a larger common plan of development or sale which will disturb two or more acres of land, the post construction BMP(s) chosen shall be able to manage stormwater runoff for protection of stream channels, stream stability, and water quality. The BMP(s) chosen must be compatible with

site and soil conditions. Structural post-construction stormwater treatment practices shall be incorporated into the permanent drainage system for the site. The BMP(s) chosen must be sized to treat the water quality volume (WQ_v) and ensure compliance with Ohio's Water Quality Standards in OAC Chapter 3745-1. The WQ_v shall be equivalent to the volume of runoff from a 0.90-inch rainfall and shall be determined using the following equations:

$$WQ_v = R_v * P * A / 12 \quad (\text{Equation 1})$$

where:

WQ_v = water quality volume in acre-feet

R_v = the volumetric runoff coefficient calculated using equation 2

P = 0.90 inch precipitation depth

A = area draining into the BMP in acres

$$R_v = 0.05 + 0.9i \quad (\text{Equation 2})$$

where i = fraction of post-construction impervious surface

Ohio EPA recommends BMPs be designed according to the methodology described in the most current edition of the Rainwater and Land Development manual or in another design manual acceptable for use by Ohio EPA and in accordance with ORC Chapter 4733.

The BMPs listed in Tables 4a and 4b below are considered standard BMPs approved for general use. However, communities with a regulated MS4 may limit the use of some of these BMPs. BMPs shall be designed such that the drain time is long enough to provide treatment but short enough to provide storage for successive rainfall events and avoid the creation of nuisance conditions. The outlet structure for the post-construction BMP shall not discharge more than the first half of the WQ_v in less than one-third of the minimum drain time listed in Table 4a. The WQ_v is the volume of stormwater runoff that must be detained by a post-construction practice as specified by the most recent edition of the Rainwater and Land Development manual.

Post-construction practices shall be sized to treat 100% of the WQ_v associated with their contributing drainage area. If there is an existing post-construction BMP that treats runoff from the disturbed area and the BMP meets the post-construction requirements of this permit, no additional post-construction BMP will be required. A regional stormwater BMP may be used to meet the post-construction requirement if: (1) the BMP meets the design requirements for treating the WQ_v; and (2) a legal agreement is established through which the regional BMP owner or operator agrees to provide this service in the long term. Design information for such facilities such as contributing drainage areas, capacities, elevations, outlet details and drain times shall be included in the SWP3.

Table 4a Extended Detention Post-Construction Practices with Minimum Drain Times

Extended Detention Practices	Minimum Drain Time of WQv
Wet Extended Detention Basin ^{1,2,3}	24 hours
Extended Detention Constructed Wetland ^{1, 3}	24 hours
Dry Extended Detention Basin with Forebay and Micropool ^{1,3,4}	48 hours
Permeable Pavement – Extended Detention ¹	24 hours
Underground Storage Facility– Extended Detention ^{1,5}	24 hours
Sand Filter - Extended Detention ^{1, 6}	24 hours

Notes:

1. The outlet structure shall not discharge more than the first half of the WQv in less than one-third of the minimum drain time.
2. Provide a permanent pool with a minimum volume equal to the WQv and an extended detention volume above the permanent pool equal to the WQv.
3. An additional volume equal to 20 percent of the WQv shall be incorporated into the BMP for sediment storage.
4. Dry extended detention basins must include a forebay and a micropool each sized at a minimum of 0.1 x WQv and a protected outlet, or include acceptable pretreatment and a protected outlet.
5. Underground storage must have pretreatment for removal of suspended sediments included in the design and documented in the SWP3. This pretreatment shall concentrate sediment in a location where it can be readily removed. For non-infiltrating, underground extended detention systems, pretreatment shall be at least 50% effective at capturing total suspended solids according to the testing protocol established in the Alternative Post-Construction BMP Testing Protocol.
6. The WQv ponding area shall completely empty between 24 and 72 hours.

Table 4b Infiltration Post-Construction Practices with Maximum Drain Times

Infiltration Practices	Maximum Drain Time of WQv
Bioretention ^{1,2,3}	24 hours
Infiltration Basin ^{2,3}	24 hours
Infiltration Trench ^{3,4}	48 hours
Permeable Pavement – Infiltration ³	48 hours
Underground Storage Facility – Infiltration ^{3,4,5}	48 hours

Notes:

1. Bioretention soil media shall have a permeability of approximately 1 – 5 in/hr. Meeting the soil media specifications in the Rainwater and Land Development manual is considered compliant with this requirement. Bioretention cells must have underdrains unless in-situ conditions allow for the WQv (surface ponding) plus the bioretention soil (to a depth of 24 inches) to drain completely within 48 hours.
2. Infiltrating practices with the WQv stored aboveground (bioretention, infiltration basin) shall fully drain the WQv within 24 hours to minimize nuisance effects of standing water and to promote vigorous communities of appropriate vegetation.
3. The SWP3 shall demonstrate the design infiltration rate values are derived from site-specific measurements obtained through field tests of the in-situ soil for practices designed to infiltrate the WQv.
4. Subsurface practices designed to fully infiltrate the WQv (infiltration trench, permeable pavement with infiltration, underground storage with infiltration) shall empty within 48 hours to recover storage for subsequent storm events.
5. Underground storage systems with infiltration must have adequate pretreatment of suspended sediments included in the design and documented in the SWP3 in order to minimize clogging of the infiltrating surface. Pretreatment shall concentrate sediment in a location where it can be readily removed. Examples include media filters situated

upstream of the storage or other suitable alternative approved by Ohio EPA. For infiltrating underground systems, pretreatment shall be at least 80% effective at capturing total suspended solids according to the testing protocol established in the Alternative Post-Construction BMP Testing Protocol.

- v. Small Construction Activities. For all construction activities authorized under this permit which result in a disturbance less than 2 acres, a post-construction practice shall be used to treat stormwater runoff for pollutants and to reduce adverse impacts on receiving waters. The applicant must provide a justification in the SWP3 why the use of table 4a and 4b practices or runoff reduction practice are not feasible. The justification must address limiting factors which would prohibit the project going forward should table 4a and 4b practices be required. Please note that practices selected will require approval from the regulated MS4.
- vi. Transportation Projects. The construction of new roads and roadway improvement projects by public entities (i.e., the state, counties, townships, cities, or villages) and the construction of publicly accessible, non-vehicular (i.e., pedestrian or shared-use) paths by public entities or non-governmental, non-profit organizations may implement post-construction BMPs in compliance with the current version (as of the effective date of this permit) of the Ohio Department of Transportation's "Location and Design Manual, Volume Two Drainage Design" that has been accepted by Ohio EPA as an alternative to the conditions of this permit.
- vii. Offsite Mitigation of Post-Construction. Ohio EPA may authorize the offsite mitigation of the post-construction requirements of Part III.G.2.e of this permit on a case by case basis provided the permittee clearly demonstrates the BMPs listed in Tables 4a and 4b are not feasible and the following criteria are met: (1) a maintenance agreement or policy is established to ensure operations and treatment long-term; (2) the offsite location discharges to the same HUC-12 watershed unit; and (3) the mitigation ratio of the WQv is 1.5 to 1 or the WQv at the point of retrofit, whichever is greater. Requests for offsite mitigation must be received prior to receipt of the NOI application.
- viii. Previously Developed Areas. Ohio EPA encourages the redevelopment of untreated impervious areas through a reduction of the WQv treatment requirement. For an untreated previously developed area, one or a combination of the following two conditions shall be met:
 - A 20 percent net reduction of the site's volumetric runoff coefficient through impervious area reduction with soil restoration or replacing impervious roof area with green roof area (for these purposes green roofs shall be considered pervious surface) or
 - Treatment of a portion of the site using a practice meeting Table 4a/4b criteria for which the WQv (see Equation 1) equals or exceeds the WQv_R determined with the following equation:

$$WQ_{VR} = P * A * [(Rv_1 * 0.2) + (Rv_2 - Rv_1)] / 12 \quad (\text{Equation 3})$$

where

WQ_{VR} = Redevelopment Water Quality Volume in acre-feet

P = 0.90 inches

A = disturbed area in acres

Rv_1 = volumetric runoff coefficient for existing (current site) conditions within the disturbed area

Rv_2 = volumetric runoff coefficient for proposed (post-construction site) conditions within the disturbed area

and is located to treat impervious areas most likely to generate the highest pollutant load, such as parking lots or roadways.

This section does not apply to previous development that was obligated to obtain CGP coverage and provide management of the WQv under previous generations of this general permit (i.e., after April 21, 2003).

- ix. **Runoff Reduction Practices.** The size of structural post-construction practices used to capture and treat the WQv can be reduced by incorporating runoff reducing practices into the design of the site's drainage system. The approach to calculate and document runoff reduction is detailed in the Rainwater and Land Development Manual. BMP-specific runoff reduction volumes are set by specifications in the Rainwater and Land Development Manual for the following practices:

- Impervious surface disconnection
- Rainwater harvesting
- Bioretention
- Infiltration basin
- Infiltration trench
- Permeable pavement with infiltration
- Underground storage with infiltration
- Grass swale
- Sheet flow to filter strip
- Sheet flow to conservation area

A runoff reduction approach may be used to meet the groundwater recharge requirements in the Big Darby Creek Watershed. The runoff reduction practices used for groundwater recharge may be used to reduce the WQv requirement, see appendix A for details on groundwater recharge requirements.

In order to promote the implementation of green infrastructure, the Director may consider the use of runoff reducing practices to demonstrate compliance with Part III.G.2.e of this permit for areas of the site not draining into a common drainage system of the site, e.g., sheet flow from

perimeter areas such as the rear yards of residential lots, low density development scenarios, or where the permittee can demonstrate that the intent of pollutant removal and stream protection, as required in Part III.G.2.e of this permit is being addressed through non-structural post-construction BMPs based upon review and approval by Ohio EPA.

- x. Use of Alternative Post-Construction BMPs. This permit does not preclude the use of innovative or experimental post-construction stormwater management technologies. Permittees shall request approval from Ohio EPA to use alternative post-construction BMPs on a case-by-case basis. The permittee shall submit an application (form maintained on the Ohio EPA Website) to Ohio EPA for any proposed alternative post-construction BMP and secure any approval from Ohio EPA before permittees submit an NOI for permit coverage. Where the development project is located within a regulated municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4) community, the use of an alternative practice requires pre-approval by the MS4 before submittal of the application to Ohio EPA. Ohio EPA requires that approvals for alternative post-construction BMPs are finalized.

To use an alternative post-construction BMP, the permittee must demonstrate that use of a BMP listed in Tables 4a and 4b is not feasible and the proposed alternative post-construction BMP meets the following three criteria:

- a. Alternative post-construction BMPs must be capable of providing sustained, long-term treatment of stormwater. It must be durable and maintainable in accordance with industry standards.
- b. Alternative post-construction BMPs shall previously have been tested to confirm stormwater treatment efficacy equivalent to those BMPs listed in Tables 4a and 4b using the protocol described in this permit. BMP testing may include laboratory testing, field testing, or both. For an alternative BMP to be acceptable, the test results must demonstrate that the minimum treatment rate is 80% TSS removal at the design flow rate for laboratory tested BMP. Field test results must demonstrate the minimum treatment rate is 80% TSS removal for influent concentrations equal to or greater than 100 mg/L TSS. If the influent concentration to the proposed alternative BMP is less than 100 mg/L TSS in the field, then the BMP must achieve an average effluent concentration less than or equal to 20 mg/L TSS.
- c. The discharge rate from the proposed alternative practice shall be reduced to prevent stream bed erosion and protect the physical and biological stream integrity unless there will be negligible hydrological impact to the receiving surface water of the state. Discharge rate is considered to have a negligible impact if the permittee can demonstrate that the entire WQv is recharged to groundwater, the larger common plan of development or sale will create less than one acre of impervious surface or the stormwater drainage system of the

development discharges directly into a large river with drainage area equal to 100 square miles or larger upstream of the development site or to a lake where the development area is less than 5 percent of the watershed area, unless a TMDL has identified water quality problems into the receiving surface waters of the state. If the conditions above that minimize the potential for hydrological impact to the receiving surface water of the state do not exist, then the alternative post-construction BMP must prevent stream erosion by reducing the flow rate from the WQV. In such cases, discharge of the WQV must be controlled. A second stormwater BMP that provides extended detention of the WQv may be needed to meet the post-construction criteria.

Alternative BMPs that utilize treatment processes such as filtering or centrifugal separation, rather than a detention and settling volume, must be designed to ensure treatment of 90 percent of the average annual runoff volume. For the design of these BMPs, the water quality flow rate (WQF) shall be determined utilizing the Rational Method (Equation 4) with an intensity (i) appropriate for the water quality precipitation event. This intensity shall be calculated using the table given in Appendix C.

$$WQF = C * i * A \quad \text{(Equation 4)}$$

Where

- WQF = water quality flow rate in cubic feet per second (cfs)
- C = rational method runoff coefficient
- i = intensity (in/hr)
- A = area draining to the BMP (acres)

- xi. Alternative Post-Construction BMP Testing Protocol. For laboratory testing, the alternative BMP shall be tested using sediment with a specific gravity of 2.65, a particle size distribution closely matching the distribution shown in Table 5, and total suspended sediment (TSS) concentrations within 10% of 200 mg/L (180 mg/L – 220 mg/L TSS).

Table 5 Particle Size Distribution for Testing Alternative Post-Construction BMPs

Particle Size (microns)	Percent Finer (%)
1,000	100
500	95
250	90
150	75
100	60
75	50
50	45
20	35
8	20
5	10
2	5

- For field testing, the alternative BMP shall be tested using stormwater runoff from the field, not altered by adding aggregate or subjected to unusually high sediment loads such as those from unstabilized construction disturbance. The stormwater runoff used for field testing shall be representative of runoff from the proposed installation site for the alternative BMP after all construction activities have ceased and the ground has been stabilized. The influent and effluent TSS concentrations of stormwater runoff must be collected in the field.
- Testing of alternative post-construction BMPs shall be performed or overseen by a qualified independent, third-party testing organization;
- Testing shall demonstrate the maximum flow rate at which the alternative post-construction BMP can achieve the necessary treatment efficacy, including consideration for the potential of sediment resuspension;
- Testing shall demonstrate the maximum volume of sediment and floatables that can be collected in the alternative post-construction BMP before pollutants must be removed to maintain 80% treatment efficacy;
- Testing shall indicate the recommended maintenance frequency and maintenance protocol to ensure ongoing performance of the alternative post-construction BMP.

The alternative post-construction BMP testing protocol described in this section is similar to testing requirements specified by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) for stormwater Manufactured Treatment Devices (MTD) and therefore testing results certified by NJDEP shall be accepted by Ohio EPA. For a list of BMPs that have been certified by NJDEP, see the website: www.njstormwater.org.

Another nationally recognized stormwater product testing procedure is the Technology Assessment Protocol – Ecology (TAPE) administered by the State of Washington, Department of Ecology. Testing results for a proposed alternative post-construction BMP certified by TAPE under their general use designation and basic treatment category shall be accepted by Ohio EPA. The State of Washington, Department of Ecology website is <https://ecology.wa.gov/>.

Alternative post-construction BMPs may include, but are not limited to: vegetated swales, vegetated filter strips, hydrodynamic separators, high-flow media filters, cartridge filters, membrane filters, subsurface flow wetlands, multi-chamber treatment trains, road shoulder media filter drains, wetland channels, rain barrels, green roofs, and rain gardens. The Director may also consider non-structural post-construction approaches.

- f. **Surface Water Protection.** If the project site contains any streams, rivers, lakes, wetlands or other surface waters, certain construction activities at the site may be regulated under the CWA and/or state isolated wetland permit requirements. Sections 404 and 401 of the Act regulate the discharge of dredged or fill material into surface waters and the impacts of such activities on water quality, respectively. Construction activities in surface waters which may be subject to CWA regulation and/or state isolated wetland permit requirements include, but are not limited to: sewer line crossings, grading, backfilling or culverting streams, filling wetlands, road and utility line construction, bridge installation and installation of flow control structures. If the project contains streams, rivers, lakes or wetlands or possible wetlands, the permittee shall contact the appropriate U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District Office. (CAUTION: Any area of seasonally wet hydric soil is a potential wetland - please consult the Soil Survey and list of hydric soils for your County, available at your county's Soil and Water Conservation District. If you have any questions about Section 401 water quality certification, please contact the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, Section 401 Coordinator.)

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Section 404 regulation):

- Huntington, WV District (304) 399-5210 (Muskingum River, Hocking River, Scioto River, Little Miami River, and Great Miami River Basins)
- Buffalo, NY District (716) 879-4330 (Lake Erie Basin)
- Pittsburgh, PA District (412) 395-7155 (Mahoning River Basin)
- Louisville, KY District (502) 315-6686 (Ohio River)

Ohio EPA 401/404 and non-jurisdictional stream/wetland coordinator can be contacted at (614) 644-2001 (all of Ohio)

Concentrated stormwater runoff from BMPs to natural wetlands shall be converted to diffuse flow before the runoff enters the wetlands. The flow should be released such that no erosion occurs downslope. Level spreaders may need to be placed in series, particularly on steep sloped sites, to ensure non-erosive velocities. Other structural BMPs may be used between stormwater features and natural wetlands, in order to protect the natural hydrology, hydroperiod, and wetland flora. If the applicant proposes to discharge to natural wetlands, a hydrologic analysis shall be performed. The applicant shall attempt to match the pre-development hydroperiods and hydrodynamics that support the wetland. The applicant shall assess whether their construction activity will adversely impact the hydrologic flora and fauna of the wetland. Practices such as vegetative buffers, infiltration basins, conservation of forest cover, and the preservation of intermittent streams, depressions, and drainage corridors may be used to maintain wetland hydrology.

- g. **Other controls.**

- i. **Non-Sediment Pollutant Controls.** In accordance with Part II.E, no solid (other than sediment) or liquid waste, including building materials, shall be discharged in stormwater runoff. The permittee must implement all necessary BMPs to prevent the discharge of non-sediment pollutants to the drainage system of the site or surface waters of the state or an

MS4. Under no circumstance shall wastewater from the washout of concrete trucks, stucco, paint, form release oils, curing compounds, and other construction materials be discharged directly into a drainage channel, storm sewer or surface waters of the state. Also, no pollutants from vehicle fuel, oils, or other vehicle fluids can be discharged to surface waters of the state. No exposure of stormwater to waste materials is recommended. The SWP3 must include methods to minimize the exposure of building materials, building products, construction wastes, trash, landscape materials, fertilizers, pesticides, herbicides, detergents, and sanitary waste to precipitation, stormwater runoff, and snow melt. In accordance with Part II.D.3, the SWP3 shall include measures to prevent and respond to chemical spills and leaks. You may also reference the existence of other plans (i.e., Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasure (SPCC) plans, spill control programs, Safety Response Plans, etc.) provided that such plan addresses conditions of this permit condition and a copy of such plan is maintained on site.

- ii. **Off-site traffic.** Off-site vehicle tracking of sediments and dust generation shall be minimized. In accordance with Part II.D.1, the SWP3 shall include methods to minimize the discharge of pollutants from equipment and vehicle washing, wheel washwater, and other washwaters. No detergents may be used to wash vehicles. Washwaters shall be treated in a sediment basin or alternative control that provides equivalent treatment prior to discharge.
- iii. **Compliance with other requirements.** The SWP3 shall be consistent with applicable State and/or local waste disposal, sanitary sewer or septic system regulations, including provisions prohibiting waste disposal by open burning and shall provide for the proper disposal of contaminated soils to the extent these are located within the permitted area.
- iv. **Trench and ground water control.** In accordance with Part II.C, there shall be no turbid discharges to surface waters of the state resulting from dewatering activities. If trench or ground water contains sediment, it shall pass through a sediment settling pond or other equally effective sediment control device, prior to being discharged from the construction site. Alternatively, sediment may be removed by settling in place or by dewatering into a sump pit, filter bag or comparable practice. Ground water which does not contain sediment or other pollutants is not required to be treated prior to discharge. However, care must be taken when discharging ground water to ensure that it does not become pollutant-laden by traversing over disturbed soils or other pollutant sources.
- v. **Contaminated Sediment.** Where construction activities are to occur on sites with contamination from previous activities, operators shall be aware that concentrations of materials that meet other criteria (is not considered a Hazardous Waste, meeting VAP standards, etc.) may still result in stormwater discharges in excess of Ohio Water Quality Standards. Such discharges are not authorized by this permit. Appropriate BMPs include, but are not limited to:

- The use of berms, trenches, and pits to collect contaminated runoff and prevent discharges;
- Pumping runoff into a sanitary sewer (with prior approval of the sanitary sewer operator) or into a container for transport to an appropriate treatment/disposal facility; and
- Covering areas of contamination with tarps or other methods that prevent stormwater from coming into contact with the material.

Operators should consult with Ohio EPA Division of Surface Water prior to seeking permit coverage.

- h. **Maintenance.** All temporary and permanent control practices shall be maintained and repaired as needed to ensure continued performance of their intended function. All sediment control practices must be maintained in a functional condition until all up-slope areas they control are permanently stabilized. The SWP3 shall be designed to minimize maintenance requirements. The applicant shall provide a description of maintenance procedures needed to ensure the continued performance of control practices.
- i. **Inspections.** The permittee shall assign "qualified inspection personnel" to conduct inspections to ensure that the control practices are functional and to evaluate whether the SWP3 is adequate and properly implemented in accordance with the schedule proposed in Part III.G.1.h of this permit or whether additional control measures are required. At a minimum, procedures in a SWP3 shall provide that all controls on the site are inspected:
- after any storm event greater than one-half inch of rain per 24-hour period by the end of the next calendar day, excluding weekends and holidays unless work is scheduled; and
 - once every seven calendar days.

The inspection frequency may be reduced to at least once every month for dormant sites if:

- the entire site is temporarily stabilized or
- runoff is unlikely due to weather conditions for extended periods of time (e.g., site is covered with snow, ice, or the ground is frozen).

The beginning and ending dates of any reduced inspection frequency shall be documented in the SWP3. Once a definable area has achieved final stabilization, the area may be marked on the SWP3 and no further inspection requirements shall apply to that portion of the site.

Following each inspection, a checklist must be completed and signed by the qualified inspection personnel representative. Inspection reports may be prepared, signed, and kept electronically, rather than in paper form, if the records are: (a) in a format that can be read in a similar manner as a paper record; (b) legally dependable with no less evidentiary value than their paper equivalent; and (c) immediately accessible to the inspector during an inspection to the same extent as a paper copy stored at the site would be, if the records were stored in

paper form. For additional guidance on the proper practices to follow for the electronic retention of inspection report records, refer to this general permit's Fact Sheet at <https://epa.ohio.gov/divisions-and-offices/surface-water/permitting/storm-water-discharges-from-small-and-large-construction-activities--general-permit>. At a minimum, the inspection report shall include:

- i. the inspection date;
- ii. names, titles, and qualifications of personnel making the inspection;
- iii. weather information for the period since the last inspection (or since commencement of construction activity if the first inspection) including a best estimate of the beginning of each storm event, duration of each storm event, approximate amount of rainfall for each storm event (in inches), and whether any discharges occurred;
- iv. weather information and a description of any discharges occurring at the time of the inspection;
- v. location(s) of discharges of sediment or other pollutants from the site;
- vi. location(s) of BMPs that need to be maintained;
- vii. location(s) of BMPs that failed to operate as designed or proved inadequate for a particular location;
- viii. location(s) where additional BMPs are needed that did not exist at the time of inspection; and
- ix. corrective action required including any changes to the SWP3 necessary and implementation dates.

Disturbed areas and areas used for storage of materials that are exposed to precipitation shall be inspected for evidence of or the potential for pollutants entering the drainage system. Erosion and sediment control measures identified in the SWP3 shall be observed to ensure that those are operating correctly. Discharge locations shall be inspected to ascertain whether erosion and sediment control measures are effective in preventing significant impacts to the receiving waters. Locations where vehicles enter or exit the site shall be inspected for evidence of off-site vehicle tracking.

The permittee shall maintain for three years following the submittal of a notice of termination form, a record summarizing the results of the inspection, names(s) and qualifications of personnel making the inspection, the date(s) of the inspection, major observations relating to the implementation of the SWP3 and a certification as to whether the facility is in compliance with the SWP3 and the permit and identify any incidents of non-compliance. The record and certification shall be signed in accordance with Part V.G. of this permit.

- i. **When practices require repair or maintenance.** If the inspection reveals that a control practice is in need of repair or maintenance, with the exception of a sediment settling pond, it shall be repaired or maintained within 3 days of the inspection. Sediment settling ponds shall be repaired or maintained within 10 days of the inspection.
- ii. **When practices fail to provide their intended function.** If the inspection reveals that a control practice fails to perform its intended

function and that another, more appropriate control practice is required, the SWP3 shall be amended and the new control practice shall be installed within 10 days of the inspection.

- iii. **When practices depicted on the SWP3 are not installed.** If the inspection reveals that a control practice has not been implemented in accordance with the schedule contained in Part III.G.1.h of this permit, the control practice shall be implemented within 10 days from the date of the inspection. If the inspection reveals that the planned control practice is not needed, the record shall contain a statement of explanation as to why the control practice is not needed.
3. **Approved State or local plans.** All dischargers regulated under this general permit must comply, except those exempted under state law, with the lawful requirements of municipalities, counties and other local agencies regarding discharges of stormwater from construction activities. All erosion and sediment control plans and stormwater management plans approved by local officials shall be retained with the SWP3 prepared in accordance with this permit. Applicable requirements for erosion and sediment control and stormwater management approved by local officials are, upon submittal of a NOI form, incorporated by reference and enforceable under this permit even if they are not specifically included in an SWP3 required under this permit. When the project is located within the jurisdiction of a regulated municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4), the permittee shall certify that the SWP3 complies with the requirements of the stormwater management program of the MS4 operator.
4. **Exceptions.** If specific site conditions prohibit the implementation of any of the erosion and sediment control practices contained in this permit or site-specific conditions are such that implementation of any erosion and sediment control practices contained in this permit will result in no environmental benefit, then the permittee shall provide justification for rejecting each practice based on site conditions. Exceptions from implementing the erosion and sediment control standards contained in this permit will be approved or denied on a case-by-case basis.

The permittee may request approval from Ohio EPA to use alternative methods to satisfy conditions in this permit if the permittee can demonstrate that the alternative methods are sufficient to protect the overall integrity of receiving streams and the watershed. Alternative methods will be approved or denied on a case-by-case basis.

PART IV. NOTICE OF TERMINATION REQUIREMENTS

A. Failure to notify.

The terms and conditions of this permit shall remain in effect until a signed Notice of Termination (NOT) form is submitted and permit coverage is terminated by Ohio EPA. Failure to submit an NOT constitutes a violation of this permit and may affect the ability of the permittee to obtain general permit coverage in the future.

B. When to submit an NOT.

1. Permittees wishing to terminate coverage under this permit shall submit an NOT form in accordance with Part V.G. of this permit. Compliance with this permit is required until an NOT form is submitted and permit coverage is terminated by Ohio EPA. Prior to submitting the NOT form, the permittee shall conduct a site inspection in accordance with Part III.G.2.i of this permit and have a maintenance plan in place to ensure all post-construction BMPs will be maintained in perpetuity.
2. All permittees shall submit an NOT form within 45 days of completing all permit requirements. Enforcement actions may be taken if a permittee submits an NOT form without meeting one or more of the following conditions:
 - a. Final stabilization (see definition in Part VII) has been achieved on all portions of the site for which the permittee is responsible (including, if applicable, returning agricultural land to its pre-construction agricultural use);
 - b. Another operator(s) has assumed control over all areas of the site that have not been finally stabilized;
 - c. A maintenance plan is in place to ensure all post construction BMPs are adequately maintained in the long-term;
 - d. For non-residential developments, all elements of the stormwater pollution prevention plan have been completed, the disturbed soil at the identified facility have been stabilized and temporary erosion and sediment control measures have been removed at the appropriate time, or all stormwater discharges associated with construction activity from the identified facility that are authorized by the above referenced NPDES general permit have otherwise been eliminated. (i) For residential developments only, temporary stabilization has been completed and the lot, which includes a home, has been transferred to the homeowner; (ii) final stabilization has been completed and the lot, which does not include a home, has been transferred to the property owner; (iii) no stabilization has been implemented on a lot, which includes a home, and the lot has been transferred to the homeowner; or
 - e. An exception has been granted under Part III.G.4.

C. How to submit an NOT.

To terminate permit coverage, the permittee shall submit a complete and accurate Notice of Termination (NOT) form using Ohio EPA's electronic application form which is available through the Ohio EPA eBusiness Center at: <https://ebiz.epa.ohio.gov/>. Submission through the Ohio EPA eBusiness Center will require establishing an Ohio EPA eBusiness Center account and obtaining a unique Personal Identification Number (PIN) for final submission of the NOT. Existing eBusiness Center account holders can access the NOT form through their existing account and submit using their existing PIN. Please see the following link for guidance: <https://epa.ohio.gov/divisions-and-offices/surface-water/permitting/electronic-business-services-sub/streams>. Alternatively, if you are unable to access the NOT form through the agency eBusiness Center due to a demonstrated hardship, the NOT may be submitted on paper NOT forms provided by Ohio EPA. NOT information shall be typed on the form. Please contact

Ohio EPA, Division of Surface Water at (614) 644-2001 if you wish to receive a paper NOT form.

PART V. STANDARD PERMIT CONDITIONS.

A. Duty to comply.

The permittee shall comply with all conditions of this permit. Any permit noncompliance constitutes a violation of ORC Chapter 6111 and is grounds for enforcement action.

Ohio law imposes penalties and fines for persons who knowingly make false statements or knowingly swear or affirm the truth of a false statement previously made.

B. Continuation of an expired general permit.

An expired general permit continues in force and effect until a new general permit is issued.

C. Need to halt or reduce activity not a defense.

It shall not be a defense for a permittee in an enforcement action that it would have been necessary to halt or reduce the permitted activity in order to maintain compliance with the conditions of this permit.

D. Duty to mitigate.

The permittee shall take all reasonable steps to minimize or prevent any discharge in violation of this permit which has a reasonable likelihood of adversely affecting human health or the environment.

E. Duty to provide information.

The permittee shall furnish to the director, within 10 days of written request, any information which the director may request to determine whether cause exists for modifying, revoking and reissuing, or terminating this permit or to determine compliance with this permit. The permittee shall also furnish to the director upon request copies of records required to be kept by this permit.

F. Other information.

When the permittee becomes aware that he or she failed to submit any relevant facts or submitted incorrect information in the NOI, SWP3, NOT or in any other report to the director, he or she shall promptly submit such facts or information.

G. Signatory requirements.

All NOIs, NOTs, SWP3s, reports, certifications or information either submitted to the director or that this permit requires to be maintained by the permittee, shall be signed.

1. These items shall be signed as follows:

- a. For a corporation: By a responsible corporate officer. For the purpose of this section, a responsible corporate officer means:
 - i. A president, secretary, treasurer or vice-president of the corporation in charge of a principal business function or any other person who performs similar policy or decision-making functions for the corporation; or
 - ii. The manager of one or more manufacturing, production or operating facilities, provided, the manager is authorized to make management decisions that govern the operation of the regulated facility including having the explicit or implicit duty of making major capital investment recommendations and initiating and directing other comprehensive measures to assure long-term environmental compliance with environmental laws and regulations; the manager can ensure that the necessary systems are established or actions taken to gather complete and accurate information for permit application requirements; and where authority to sign documents has been assigned or delegated to the manager in accordance with corporate procedures;
 - b. For a partnership or sole proprietorship: By a general partner or the proprietor, respectively; or
 - c. For a municipality, State, Federal or other public agency: By either a principal executive officer or ranking elected official. For purposes of this section, a principal executive officer of a Federal agency includes (1) the chief executive officer of the agency or (2) a senior executive officer having responsibility for the overall operations of a principal geographic unit of the agency (e.g., Regional Administrators of U.S. EPA).
2. All reports required by the permits and other information requested by the director shall be signed by a person described in Part V.G.1 of this permit or by a duly authorized representative of that person. A person is a duly authorized representative only if:
- a. The authorization is made in writing by a person described in Part V.G.1 of this permit and submitted to the director;
 - b. The authorization specifies either an individual or a position having responsibility for the overall operation of the regulated facility or activity, such as the position of manager, operator of a well or well field, superintendent, position of equivalent responsibility or an individual or position having overall responsibility for environmental matters for the company. (A duly authorized representative may thus be either a named individual or any individual occupying a named position); and
 - c. The written authorization is submitted to the director.
3. Changes to authorization. If an authorization under Part V.G.2 of this permit is no longer accurate because a different individual or position has responsibility for the overall operation of the facility, a new authorization satisfying the requirements of Part V.G.2 of

this permit must be submitted to the director prior to or together with any reports, information or applications to be signed by an authorized representative.

H. Certification.

Any person signing documents under this section shall make the following certification:

"I certify under penalty of law that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gathered and evaluated the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system or those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations."

I. Oil and hazardous substance liability.

Nothing in this permit shall be construed to preclude the institution of any legal action or relieve the permittee from any responsibilities, liabilities or penalties to which the permittee is or may be subject under section 311 of the CWA or 40 CFR Part 112. 40 CFR Part 112 establishes procedures, methods and equipment and other requirements for equipment to prevent the discharge of oil from non-transportation-related onshore and offshore facilities into or upon the navigable surface waters of the state or adjoining shorelines.

J. Property rights.

The issuance of this permit does not convey any property rights of any sort, nor any exclusive privileges, nor does it authorize any injury to private property nor any invasion of personal rights, nor any infringement of Federal, State or local laws or regulations.

K. Severability.

The provisions of this permit are severable and if any provision of this permit or the application of any provision of this permit to any circumstance is held invalid, the application of such provision to other circumstances and the remainder of this permit shall not be affected thereby.

L. Transfers.

Ohio NPDES general permit coverage is transferable. Ohio EPA must be notified in writing sixty days prior to any proposed transfer of coverage under an Ohio NPDES general permit. The transferee must inform Ohio EPA it will assume the responsibilities of the original permittee transferor.

M. Environmental laws.

No condition of this permit shall release the permittee from any responsibility or requirements under other environmental statutes or regulations.

N. Proper operation and maintenance.

The permittee shall at all times properly operate and maintain all facilities and systems of treatment and control (and related appurtenances) which are installed or used by the permittee to achieve compliance with the conditions of this permit and with the requirements of SWP3s. Proper operation and maintenance requires the operation of backup or auxiliary facilities or similar systems, installed by a permittee only when necessary to achieve compliance with the conditions of the permit.

O. Inspection and entry.

The permittee shall allow the director or an authorized representative of Ohio EPA, upon the presentation of credentials and other documents as may be required by law, to:

1. Enter upon the permittee's premises where a regulated facility or activity is located or conducted or where records must be kept under the conditions of this permit;
2. Have access to and copy at reasonable times, any records that must be kept under the conditions of this permit;
3. Inspect at reasonable times any facilities or equipment (including monitoring and control equipment); and
4. Sample or monitor at reasonable times, for the purposes of assuring permit compliance or as otherwise authorized by the Clean Water Act, any substances or parameters at any location.

P. Duty to Reapply.

If the permittee wishes to continue an activity regulated by this permit after the expiration date of this permit, the permittee must apply for and obtain a new permit.

Q. Permit Actions.

This permit may be modified, revoked and reissued, or terminated for cause. The filing of a request by the permittee for a permit modification, revocation and reissuance, or termination, or a notification of planned changes or anticipated noncompliance does not stay any permit condition.

R. Bypass.

The provisions of 40 CFR Section 122.41(m), relating to "Bypass," are specifically incorporated herein by reference in their entirety. For definition of "Bypass," see Part VII.C.

S. Upset.

The provisions of 40 CFR Section 122.41(n), relating to "Upset," are specifically incorporated herein by reference in their entirety. For definition of "Upset," see Part VII.GG.

T. Monitoring and Records.

The provisions of 40 CFR Section 122.41(j), relating to "Monitoring and Records," are specifically incorporated herein by reference in their entirety.

U. Reporting Requirements.

The provisions of 40 CFR Section 122.41(l), relating to "Reporting Requirements," are specifically incorporated herein by reference in their entirety.

V. General Effluent Limitation

The effluent shall, at all times, be free of substances:

1. In amounts that will settle to form putrescent, or otherwise objectionable, sludge deposits; or that will adversely affect aquatic life or waterfowl;
2. Of an oily, greasy, or surface-active nature, and of other floating debris, in amounts that will form noticeable accumulations of scum, foam, or sheen;
3. In amounts that will alter the natural color or odor of the receiving water to such degree as to create a nuisance;
4. In amounts that either singly or in combination with other substances are toxic to human, animal, or aquatic life;
5. In amounts that are conducive to the growth of aquatic weeds or algae to the extent that such growth become inimical to more desirable forms of aquatic life, or create conditions that are unsightly, or constitute a nuisance in any other fashion;
6. In amounts that will impair designated instream or downstream water uses.

PART VI. REOPENER CLAUSE

If there is evidence indicating potential or realized impacts on water quality due to any stormwater discharge associated with construction activity covered by this permit, the permittee of such discharge may be required to obtain coverage under an individual permit or an alternative general permit in accordance with Part I.C of this permit or the permit may be modified to include different limitations and/or requirements.

Permit modification or revocation will be conducted according to ORC Chapter 6111.

PART VII. DEFINITIONS

- A. **"Act"** means Clean Water Act (formerly referred to as the Federal Water Pollution Control Act or Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972) Pub. L. 92-500, as amended Pub. L. 95-217, Pub. L. 95-576, Pub. L. 96-483, Pub. L. 97-117 and Pub. L. 100-4, 33 U.S.C. 1251 et. seq.
- B. **"Bankfull channel"** means a channel flowing at channel capacity and conveying the bankfull discharge. Delineated by the highest water level that has been maintained for a sufficient period of time to leave evidence on the landscape, such as the point where the natural vegetation changes from predominantly aquatic to predominantly terrestrial or the point at which the clearly scoured substrate of the stream ends and terrestrial vegetation begins.

- C. **“Bankfull discharge”** means the streamflow that fills the main channel and just begins to spill onto the floodplain; it is the discharge most effective at moving sediment and forming the channel.
- D. **“Best management practices (BMPs)”** means schedules of activities, prohibitions of practices, maintenance procedures and other management practices (both structural and non-structural) to prevent or reduce the pollution of surface waters of the state. BMP's also include treatment requirements, operating procedures and practices to control plant and/or construction site runoff, spillage or leaks, sludge or waste disposal or drainage from raw material storage.
- E. **“Bypass”** means the intentional diversion of waste streams from any portion of a treatment facility.
- F. **“Channelized stream”** means the definition set forth in Section 6111.01 (M) of the ORC.
- G. **“Commencement of construction”** means the initial disturbance of soils associated with clearing, grubbing, grading, placement of fill, or excavating activities or other construction activities.
- H. **“Concentrated stormwater runoff”** means any stormwater runoff which flows through a drainage pipe, ditch, diversion or other discrete conveyance channel.
- I. **“Director”** means the director of the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency.
- J. **“Discharge”** means the addition of any pollutant to the surface waters of the state from a point source.
- K. **“Disturbance”** means any clearing, grading, excavating, filling, or other alteration of land surface where natural or man-made cover is destroyed in a manner that exposes the underlying soils.
- L. **“Drainage watershed”** means for purposes of this permit the total contributing drainage area to a BMP, i.e., the “watershed” directed to the practice. This would also include any off-site drainage.
- M. **“Final stabilization”** means that either:
 - 1. All soil disturbing activities at the site are complete and a uniform perennial vegetative cover (e.g., evenly distributed, without large bare areas) with a density of at least 70 percent cover for the area has been established on all unpaved areas and areas not covered by permanent structures or equivalent stabilization measures (such as the use of mulches, rip-rap, gabions or geotextiles) have been employed. In addition, all temporary erosion and sediment control practices are removed and disposed of and all trapped sediment is permanently stabilized to prevent further erosion; or
 - 2. For individual lots in residential construction by either:
 - a. The homebuilder completing final stabilization as specified above or

- T. "NOI" means notice of intent to be covered by this permit.
- U. "NOT" means notice of termination.
- V. "Operator" means any party associated with a construction project that meets either of the following two criteria:
1. The party has day-to-day operational control of all activities at a project which are necessary to ensure compliance with a SWP3 for the site and all permit conditions including the ability to authorize modifications to the SWP3, construction plans and site specification to ensure compliance with the General Permit, or
 2. Property owner meets the definition of operator should the party which has day to day operational control require additional authorization from the owner for modifications to the SWP3, construction plans, and/or site specification to ensure compliance with the permit or refuses to accept all responsibilities as listed above (Part VII.V.1).

Subcontractors generally are not considered operators for the purposes of this permit. As set forth in Part I.F.1, there can be more than one operator at a site and under these circumstances, the operators shall be co-permittees.

- W. "Ordinary high water mark" means that line on the shore established by the fluctuations of water and indicated by physical characteristics such as clear, natural line impressed on the bank, shelving, changes in the character of soil, destruction of terrestrial vegetation, the presence of litter and debris, or other appropriate means that consider the characteristics of the surrounding areas.
- X. "Owner or operator" means the owner or operator of any "facility or activity" subject to regulation under the NPDES program.
- Y. "Permanent stabilization" means the establishment of permanent vegetation, decorative landscape mulching, matting, sod, rip rap and landscaping techniques to provide permanent erosion control on areas where construction operations are complete or where no further disturbance is expected for at least one year.
- Z. "Percent imperviousness" means the impervious area created divided by the total area of the project site.
- AA. "Point source" means any discernible, confined and discrete conveyance, including but not limited to, any pipe, ditch, channel, tunnel, conduit, well, discrete fissure, container, rolling stock, concentrated animal feeding operation, landfill leachate collection system, vessel or the floating craft from which pollutants are or may be discharged. This term does not include return flows from irrigated agriculture or agricultural stormwater runoff.
- BB. "Qualified inspection personnel" means a person knowledgeable in the principles and practice of erosion and sediment controls, who possesses the skills to assess all conditions at the construction site that could impact stormwater quality and to assess

the effectiveness of any sediment and erosion control measures selected to control the quality of stormwater discharges from the construction activity.

- CC. "Rainwater and Land Development" is a manual describing construction and post-construction best management practices and associated specifications. A copy of the manual is maintained on the Ohio EPA website.
- DD. "Riparian area" means the transition area between flowing water and terrestrial (land) ecosystems composed of trees, shrubs and surrounding vegetation which serve to stabilize erodible soil, improve both surface and ground water quality, increase stream shading and enhance wildlife habitat.
- EE. "Runoff coefficient" means the fraction of total rainfall that will appear at the conveyance as runoff.
- FF. "Sediment settling pond" means a sediment trap, sediment basin or permanent basin that has been temporarily modified for sediment control, as described in the latest edition of the Rainwater and Land Development manual.
- GG. "State isolated wetland permit requirements" means the requirements set forth in Sections 6111.02 through 6111.029 of the ORC.
- HH. "Stormwater" means stormwater runoff, snow melt and surface runoff and drainage.
- II. "Steep slopes" means slopes that are 15 percent or greater in grade. Where a local government or industry technical manual has defined what is to be considered a "steep slope," this permit's definition automatically adopts that definition.
- JJ. "Stream edge" means the ordinary high water mark.
- KK. "Subcontractor" – for the purposes of this permit, an individual or company that takes a portion of a contract from the general contractor or from another subcontractor.
- LL. "Surface waters of the state" or "water bodies" means all streams, lakes, reservoirs, ponds, marshes, wetlands or other waterways which are situated wholly or partially within the boundaries of the state, except those private waters which do not combine or effect a junction with natural surface or underground waters. Waters defined as sewerage systems, treatment works or disposal systems in Section 6111.01 of the ORC are not included.
- MM. "SWP3" means stormwater pollution prevention plan.
- NN. "Upset" means an exceptional incident in which there is unintentional and temporary noncompliance with technology based permit effluent limitations because of factors beyond the reasonable control of the permittee. An upset does not include noncompliance to the extent caused by operational error, improperly designed treatment facilities, inadequate treatment facilities, lack of preventive maintenance, or careless or improper operation.

- OO. “Temporary stabilization” means the establishment of temporary vegetation, mulching, geotextiles, sod, preservation of existing vegetation and other techniques capable of quickly establishing cover over disturbed areas to provide erosion control between construction operations.

- PP. “Water Quality Volume (WQ_v)” means the volume of stormwater runoff which must be captured and treated prior to discharge from the developed site after construction is complete.

APPENDICES

Appendix A Big Darby Creek Watershed

CONTENTS OF THIS APPENDIX

- A.1 Permit Area
- A.2 TMDL Conditions
- A.3 Sediment Settling Ponds and Sampling
- A.4 Post-Construction Stormwater Management Selection
- A.5 Riparian Setback Requirements
- A.6 Riparian Setback Mitigation
- A.7 Groundwater Recharge Requirements
- A.8 Groundwater Recharge mitigation
- Attachment A-A: Big Darby Creek Watershed Map
- Attachment A-B: Stream Assessment and Restoration

A.1 Permit Area.

This appendix to Permit OHC00006 applies to the entire Big Darby Creek Watershed located within the State of Ohio. Please see Attachment A for permit area boundaries.

A.2 TMDL Conditions.

This general permit requires control measures/BMPs for construction sites that reflect recommendations set forth in the U.S. EPA approved Big Darby Creek TMDL.

A.3 Sediment Settling Ponds and Sampling

Sediment settling ponds additional conditions. The sediment settling pond shall be sized to provide a minimum dewatering volume of 134 cubic yards per acre of drainage area and maintain a target discharge performance standard of 45 mg/l Total Suspended Solids (TSS) or 50 Nephelometric Turbidity Units (NTUs) up to a 0.75-inch rainfall event within a 24-hour period. Unless infeasible, sediment settling ponds must be dewatered at the pond surface using a skimmer or equivalent device. The depth of the sediment settling pond must be less than or equal to five feet. Sediment must be removed from the sediment settling pond when the design capacity has been reduced by 40 percent (This is typically reached when sediment occupies one-half of the basin depth).

Silt Fence and Diversions. For sites five or more acres in size, the use of sediment barriers as a primary sediment control is prohibited. Centralized sediment basins shall be used for sites 5 or more acres in size. Diversions shall direct all stormwater runoff from the disturbed areas to the impoundment intended for sediment control. The sediment basins and associated diversions shall be implemented prior to the major earth disturbing activity.

The permittee shall sample in accordance with sampling procedures outlined in 40 CFR 136. Sampling shall occur as follows:

- i. Occur at the outfall of each sediment settling pond associated with the site. Each associated outfall shall be identified by a three-digit number (001, 002, etc.);

- ii. The applicable rainfall event for sampling to occur shall be a rainfall event of 0.25-inch to a 0.75-inch rainfall event to occur within a 24-hour period. Grab sampling shall be initiated at a site within 14 days, or the first applicable rainfall event thereafter, once upslope disturbance of each sampling location is initiated and shall continue on a quarterly basis. Quarterly periods shall be represented as January - March, April - June, July - September and October - December. Sampling results shall be retained on site and available for inspection.

If any sample is greater than the performance standard of 45 mg/l TSS or 50 NTUs, the permittee shall modify the SWP3 and install/implement new control practice(s) within 10 days to ensure the performance standard is maintained. Within 3 days of improvement(s), or the first applicable rainfall event thereafter, the permittee shall resample to ensure SWP3 modifications maintain the performance standard target.

For each sample taken, the permittee shall record the following information:

- the outfall and date of sampling;
- the person(s) who performed the sampling;
- the date the analyses were performed on those samples;
- the person(s) who performed the analyses;
- the analytical techniques or methods used; and
- the results of all analyses.

Both quarterly and sampling results following a discharge target exceedance shall be retained on site and available for inspection.

A.4 Post-Construction Stormwater Management Selection.

For all construction activities authorized under this permit that fall within the watershed of the Big Darby Creek, a Table 4b practice shall be used to treat stormwater runoff for pollutants, to reduce adverse impacts on receiving waters, and to further support groundwater recharge if feasible. The applicant must provide a justification in the SWP3 why the use of table 4b practices are not feasible. The justification must address limiting factors which would prohibit the project going forward should Table 4b practices be required. Please note that practices selected will require approval from the regulated MS4.

A.5 Riparian Setback Requirements.

The SWP3 shall clearly delineate the boundary of required stream setback distances. No construction activity shall occur, without appropriate mitigation, within the delineated setback boundary except activities associated with restoration or recovery of natural floodplain and channel form characteristics as described in Attachment B, stormwater conveyances from permanent treatment practices and approvable utility crossings. Such conveyances must be designed to minimize the width of disturbance. If intrusion within the delineated setback boundary is necessary to accomplish the purposes of a project, then mitigation shall be required in accordance with Appendix A.6 of this permit. Streams requiring protection under this section are defined as perennial, intermittent or jurisdictional ephemeral streams with a defined bed, bank or channel. National Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) soil survey maps should be used as one

reference and the presence of a stream requiring protection should also be confirmed in the field. Any required setback distances shall be clearly displayed in the field prior to any construction related activity.

Riparian setbacks distance shall be delineated based upon one of the following two methods:

- i. The setback distance shall be sized as the greater of the following:
 1. The regulatory 100-year floodplain based on FEMA mapping;
 2. A minimum of 100 feet from the top of the streambank on each side; or
 3. A distance calculated using the following equation:

$$W = 133DA^{0.43} \quad \text{(Equation 1, Appendix A)}$$

where:

DA = drainage area (mi²)

W = total width of riparian setback (ft)

W shall be centered over the meander pattern of the stream such that a line representing the setback width would evenly intersect equal elevation lines on either side of the stream.

If the DA remains relatively constant throughout the stretch of interest, then the DA of the downstream edge of the stretch should be used. Where there is a significant increase in the DA from the upstream edge to the downstream edge of the area of interest, the setback width shall increase accordingly.

- ii. **Stream Restoration with 100 feet (each side) Riparian Setback.** Each stream segment within the proposed site boundaries can be assessed in accordance with Attachment B, Part 1. In the event the stream segment is classified as a "Previously Modified Low Gradient Headwater Stream", the permittee has the option to restore the stream segment in accordance with Attachment B and include a 100-foot water quality setback distance from the top of the streambank on each side. In the event the stream segment exceeds the minimum criteria in Attachment B to be classified as a "Previously Modified Low Gradient Headwater Stream," this Appendix A, Attachment B may be considered on a case-by-case basis.

No structural sediment controls (e.g., the installation of sediment barriers or a sediment settling pond) or structural post-construction controls shall be used in a surface water of the State or the delineated setback corridor.

Previously developed projects (as defined in Part III.G.2.e.) located within the delineated setback boundary are exempt from Riparian Setback Mitigation (A.6) provided the proposed project does not further intrude into the delineated setback boundary.

Linear transportation projects which are caused solely by correcting safety related issues, mandates of modern design requirements and/or resulting from other mitigation activities are exempt from Riparian Setback Mitigation (Appendix A, A.6) if less than one acre of total new right-of-way is associated with the project.**A.6 Riparian Setback Mitigation.**

The mitigation required for intrusion into the riparian setback shall be determined by the horizontal distance the intrusion is from the stream. Up to three zones will be used in determining the required mitigation. Zone 1 extends from 0 to 25 feet from the stream edge. Zone 2 extends from 25 to 100 feet from the stream edge, and Zone 3 extends from 100 feet to the outer edge of the setback corridor. Intrusion into these zones will require the following mitigation within the same Watershed Assessment Unit (12-digit HUC scale):

- i. Four times the total area disturbed in the stream and within Zone 1 of the site being developed shall be mitigated within Zone 1 of the mitigation location.
- ii. Three times the area disturbed within Zone 2 of the site being developed shall be mitigated within Zones 1 and/or 2 of the mitigation location.
- iii. Two times the area disturbed within Zone 3 of the site being developed shall be mitigated within any zone of the mitigation location.

In lieu of mitigation ratios found within in this section, linear transportation projects which result in total new right-of-way greater than one acre and less than two acres, which are caused solely by correcting safety related issues, mandates of modern design requirements and/or resulting from other mitigation activities, shall provide Riparian Setback Mitigation at a ratio of 1.5 to 1.

All mitigation shall, at a minimum, include conserved or restored setback zone and should be designed to maximize the ecological function of the mitigation. Including mitigation at the stream edge along with associated setback areas is one way to maximize ecological function. Mitigation shall be protected in perpetuity by binding conservation easements or environmental covenants which must be recorded within 6 months of receiving permit authorization. Granting of binding conservation easements or environmental covenants protected in perpetuity for land outside of disturbed area but within a required riparian setback counts towards required mitigation.

Mitigation may also be satisfied by approved pooled mitigation areas and in-lieu fee sponsored mitigation areas. Mitigation resulting from State or Federal environmental regulations may be adjusted in recognition of these requirements.

A.7 Groundwater Recharge Requirements.

The SWP3 shall ensure that the overall site post-development groundwater recharge equals or exceeds the pre-development groundwater recharge. The SWP3 shall describe the conservation development strategies, BMPs and other practices deemed necessary by the permittee to maintain or improve pre-development rates of

groundwater recharge. Pre-development and post-development groundwater recharge shall be calculated using the following equation:

i. $Vre_x = A_x * Dre_x / 12$ (Equation 2, Appendix A)

where:

- X = represents a land use and hydrologic soil group pair
- Vre_x = volume of total annual recharge from land use-soil group X (in acre-ft)
- Dre_x = depth of total annual recharge associated with land use-soil group X from Tables 1 or 2 (in inches)
- A_x = area of land use-soil group X (in acres)

Table A-1 values should be used for land where the underlying geology indicates a potential for downward migration of groundwater. Table A-1 values represent the combined total groundwater recharge potential including groundwater contribution to stream baseflow and to the underlying bedrock aquifer. The potential for downward migration can be determined from a comparison of the potentiometric maps for the glacial and bedrock aquifers. Use Table A-2 when this potential is unlikely to exist. See attachment B for a map of Table A-1 and A-2 areas. Detailed potentiometric maps for the Franklin county portion of the Darby watershed, and coarse potentiometric maps for the Darby watershed outside of Franklin County and hydrologic soil group data are available at:

<https://epa.ohio.gov/divisions-and-offices/surface-water/permitting/stormwater-program>.

Table A-1 (Appendix A) Annual Average Expected Total Groundwater Recharge³

	Density (DU ¹ /acre)	% Impervious	Recharge (Inches) by Hydrologic Soil Group ²			
			A	B	C	D
Apply the following land covers when calculating an area-weighted average value for the site.⁴						
Woods / Forest	-	-	17.0	16.6	15.6	14.6
Brush	-	-	17.0	16.6	15.6	14.6
Meadow	-	-	17.0	16.5	15.4	14.4
Managed Wood	-	-	16.9	16.0	14.7	13.4
Pasture	-	-	16.5	15.9	14.4	13.0
Row Crop	-	-	15.8	14.2	11.9	8.1
Urban Grasses	-	-	15.7	15.7	14.2	12.7
Impervious	-	-	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Alternatively, the following land use average values may be applied to the site as a whole.⁵						
Low Density Residential	0.5	12%	15.7	15.7	14.2	12.7
Low Density Residential	1	20%	14.8	14.8	13.7	12.2
Medium Density Residential	2	25%	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
Medium Density Residential	3	30%	11.2	11.2	11.2	11.2
Medium Density Residential	4	38%	9.6	9.6	9.6	9.6
High Density Residential	≥5	65%	7.3	7.3	7.3	7.3
Commercial & Road Right-of-Way ⁴	-	90%	4.3	4.3	4.3	4.3

¹ DU = Dwelling Units

² Hydrologic soil group designations of A/D, B/D, and C/D should be considered as D soils for this application.

³ These values apply when recharge of the aquifer is expected; recharge to the bedrock aquifer can be expected when the potentiometric head of the glacial aquifer is greater than the bedrock aquifer.

4). These values may be used where total pervious and impervious areas within the development are tabulated separately..

5 These values may only be used for an area as a whole (includes impervious and pervious areas).

Table A-2 (Appendix A) Annual Average Expected Baseflow Recharge³

	Density (DU ¹ /acre)	% Impervious	Recharge (Inches) by Hydrologic Soil Group ²			
			A	B	C	D
Apply the following land covers when calculating an area-weighted average value for the site.⁴						
Woods / Forest	-	-	11.8	11.4	10.7	9.9
Brush	-	-	11.7	11.4	10.7	9.9
Meadow	-	-	11.8	11.3	10.6	9.8
Managed Wood	-	-	11.7	11.0	10.0	9.1
Pasture	-	-	11.3	11.0	9.9	8.9
Row Crop	-	-	11.1	10.1	9.0	6.2
Urban Grasses	-	-	11.2	11.2	10.3	9.3
Impervious	-	-	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Alternatively, the following land use average values may be applied to the site as a whole.⁵						
Low Density Residential	0.5	12%	11.2	11.2	10.3	9.3
Low Density Residential	1	20%	9.5	9.5	9.0	8.6
Medium Density Residential	2	25%	7.8	7.8	7.8	7.8
Medium Density Residential	3	30%	7.6	7.6	7.6	7.6
Medium Density Residential	4	38%	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.5
High Density Residential	≥5	65%	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0
Commercial & Road Right-of-Way ⁴	-	90%	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9

¹ DU = Dwelling Units

² Hydrologic soil group designations of A/D, B/D, and C/D should be considered as D soils for this application.

³ These values apply when no recharge of the aquifer is expected.

⁴ These values may be used where total impervious and pervious areas are tabulated separately.

⁵ These values may only be used for an area as a whole (includes impervious and pervious areas).

Table A-3 (Appendix A) Land Use Definitions

Land Use	Definition
Woods / Forest	Areas dominated by trees. Woods are protected from grazing and litter and brush adequately cover the soil.
Brush	Brush, weeds, grass mixture where brush is the major element and more than 75% of the ground is covered.
Meadow	Continuous grass, protected from grazing, generally mowed for hay.
Managed Wood	Orchards, tree farms, and other areas planted or maintained for the production of fruits, nuts, berries, or ornamentals.
Pasture	Pasture, grassland, or range where at least 50% of the ground is covered and the area is not heavily grazed.
Row Crop	Areas used to produce crops, such as corn, soybeans, vegetables, tobacco, and cotton.
Urban Grasses	Vegetation (primarily grasses) planted in developed settings for recreation, erosion control, or aesthetic purposes. Examples include parks, lawns, golf courses, airport grasses, and industrial site grasses.
Residential	Areas with a mixture of constructed materials and vegetation; the average % imperviousness and number of dwelling units per acre to determine the appropriate density is specified.
Commercial	Includes infrastructure (e.g. roads, railroads, etc.) and all highly developed areas not classified as High Intensity Residential.

- ii. The pre-development ground water recharge volume shall be calculated by determining the area of each land use-soil type pairing on the site of interest. The recharge associated with each such pairing multiplied by the area will give the pre-development volume of total groundwater recharge. The same shall be done for the post-development land use-soil type pairings.

Any activity that is expected to produce stormwater runoff with elevated concentrations of carcinogens, hydrocarbons, metals, or toxics is prohibited from infiltrating untreated stormwater from the area affected by the activity. The groundwater recharge mitigation requirement for areas affected by such activities must be met by methods which do not present a risk of groundwater contamination. The following land uses and activities are typically deemed stormwater hotspots:

Vehicle salvage yards and recycling facilities

- vehicle service and maintenance facilities (i.e. truck stops, gas stations)
- fleet storage areas (i.e. bus, truck)
- industrial sites subject to industrial stormwater permitting requirements
- bulk terminals
- marinas
- facilities that generate or store hazardous materials
- other land uses and activities as designated by individual review

The following land uses and activities are not normally considered hotspots:

- residential streets and rural highways
- residential development
- institutional development
- commercial and office developments
- non-industrial rooftops
- pervious areas, except golf courses and nurseries

The applicant may use structural BMPs within drinking water source protection areas for community public water systems only to the extent that the structural BMP(s) does not cause contaminants in the recharge waters to impact the ground water quality at levels that would cause an exceedance of the drinking water Maximum Contaminant Levels (OAC Section 3745-81 and 3745-82). To obtain a map of drinking water source protection areas for community public water systems contact Ohio EPA's Division of Drinking and Ground Waters at (614) 644-2752.

Linear transportation projects which are caused solely by correcting safety related issues, mandates of modern design requirements and/or resulting from other mitigation activities are exempt from Groundwater Recharge Mitigation (Appendix B, A.8) if less than one acre of total new right-of-way is associated with the project.

Protection of open space (infiltration areas) shall be by binding conservation easements that identify a third-party management agency, such as a

homeowners' association/condominium association, political jurisdiction or third-party land trust.

A.8 Groundwater Recharge Mitigation.

If the post-development recharge volume is less than the pre-development recharge volume, then mitigation will be required. Two options are available for most applications:

- i. The preferred method is to convert additional land to land use with higher recharge potential. The difference in groundwater recharge between the existing and converted land use recharge is the amount which can be used as recharge credit. Off-site Groundwater Recharge Mitigation shall occur within the same Watershed Assessment Unit (12-digit HUC scale) as the permitted site and preferably up-gradient and within a 2-mile radius.

Mitigation shall be protected in perpetuity by binding conservation easements or environmental covenants which must be recorded within 6 months of receiving permit authorization. Granting of binding conservation easements or environmental covenants protected in perpetuity for land outside of the disturbed area, but within a required riparian setback counts towards required mitigation. Mitigation may also be satisfied by approved pooled mitigation areas and in-lieu fee sponsored mitigation areas.

- ii. On-site structural and non-structural practices may also be used to achieve groundwater mitigation requirements by retaining and infiltrating on-site a minimum volume of stormwater runoff based on the area and hydrologic soil groups of disturbed soils. If these infiltrating practices are incorporated upstream of the water quality volume treatment practice, the volume of groundwater being infiltrated may be subtracted from the water quality volume for the purpose of meeting post-construction requirements. The on-site retention requirement is determined by the following formula:

$$V_{\text{retention}} = A_{\text{HSG-A}} * 0.90 \text{ in} + A_{\text{HSG-B}} * 0.75 \text{ in} + A_{\text{HSG-C}} * 0.50 \text{ in} + A_{\text{HSG-D}} * 0.25 \text{ in}$$

(Equation 3, Appendix A)

Where,

$V_{\text{retention}}$ = volume of runoff retained onsite using an approved infiltration practice

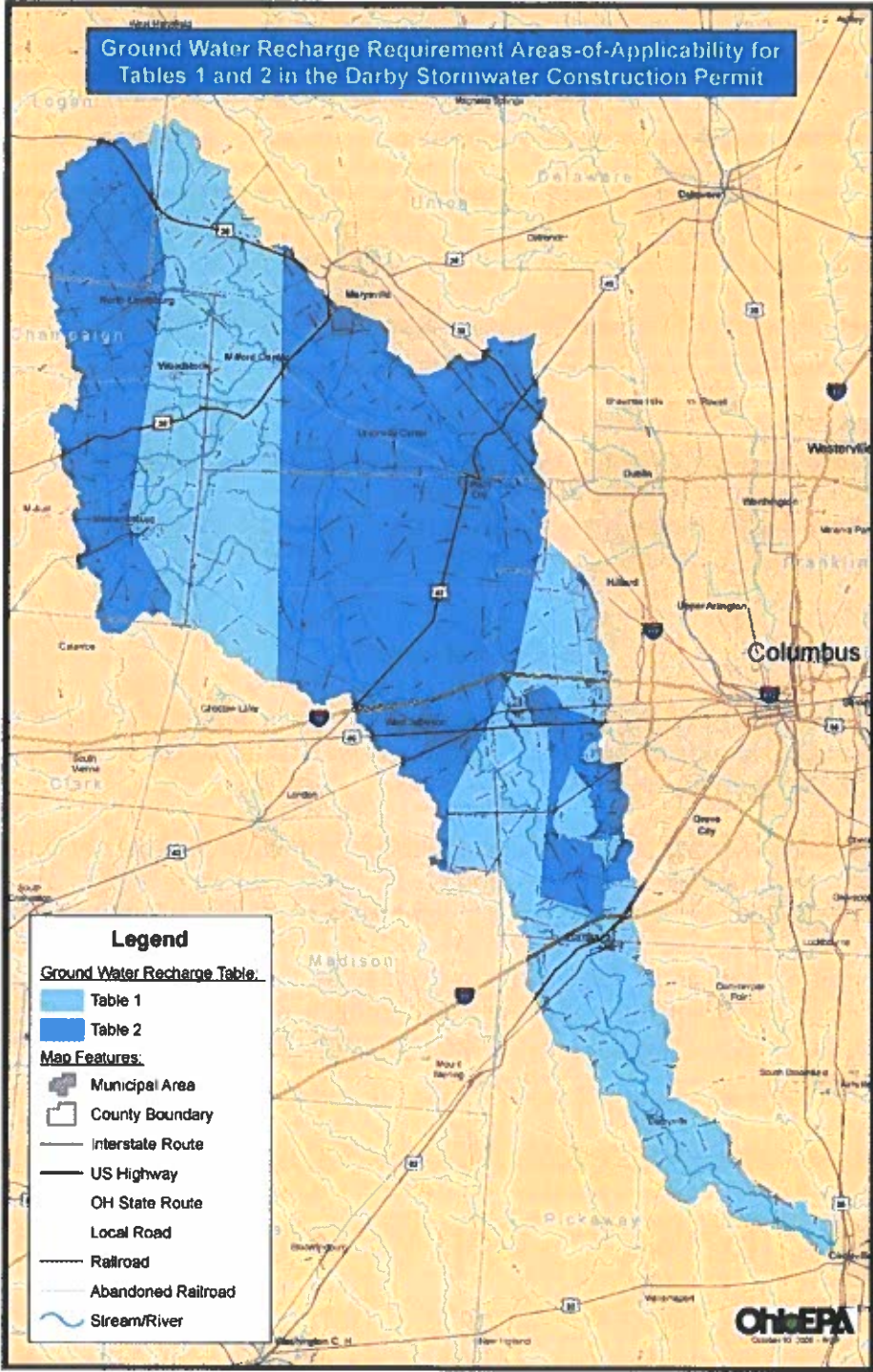
$A_{\text{HSG-x}}$ = area of each hydrologic soil group within the disturbed area

Table A-4: Hydrologic Soil Groups and On-site Retention Depth per Acre

Hydrologic Soil Group	HSG A	HSG B	HSG C	HSG D
Retention Depth (inches)	0.90	0.75	0.50	0.25

Retention volume ($V_{\text{retention}}$) provided by selected practices shall be determined using the runoff reduction method criteria as outlined in Part III.G.2.e, Ohio EPA's Runoff Reduction spreadsheet and supporting documentation in the Rainwater and Land Development manual. Hydrologic soil group (HSG) areas are to be determined by using the current version of SURRGO or Web Soil Survey soils information.

Appendix A Attachment B: Groundwater Recharge Areas



A more detailed map can be viewed at:
<https://epa.ohio.gov/divisions-and-offices/surface-water/permitting/stormwater-program>

Appendix A Attachment B

Part 1 Stream Assessment

This assessment will determine if a stream is considered a previously channelized, low-gradient headwater stream (a drainage ditch may be a natural stream that has been channelized and can be restored) which would be applicable for stream restoration in lieu of protecting a setback as per Appendix A. A.5.i and ii.

In the event the assessment of the stream, meets all the criteria listed below, restoration (provided 401/404 permits are authorized) as depicted in Part 2 of this attachment, may be a means of reducing the setback distance required by A.5.i. (Appendix A).

Previously Channelized Low-Gradient Headwater Streams, shall for the purposes of this permit, be defined as having all of the following characteristics:

- Less than 10 square miles of drainage area
- Low gradient and low stream power such that despite their straightened and entrenched condition incision (down-cutting) is not evident
- Entrenched, entrenchment ratio < 2.2
- Straight, sinuosity of the bankfull channel < 1.02

Part 2 Restoration

Restoration shall be accomplished by any natural channel design approach that will lead to a self-maintaining reach able to provide both local habitat and watershed services (e.g. self-purification and valley floodwater storage).

- a. Construction of a floodplain, channel and habitat via natural channel design;
- b. Floodplain excavation necessary to promote interaction between stream and floodplain;
- c. Include a water quality setback of 100 feet from top of the streambank on each side.

The primary target regardless of design approach shall be the frequently flooded width, which shall be maximized, at 10 times the channel's self-forming width. Five times the self-forming channel width may still be acceptable particularly on portions of the site if greater widths are achieved elsewhere.

**Appendix B
Olentangy River Watershed**

CONTENTS OF THIS APPENDIX

- B.1 Permit Area
- B.2 TMDL Conditions
- B.3 Riparian Setback Requirements
- B.4 Riparian Setback Mitigation
- Attachment B-A: Area of Applicability for the Olentangy Watershed (Map)
- Attachment B-B: Stream Assessment and Restoration

B.1 Permit Area.

This appendix to Permit OHC00006 applies to specific portions of the Olentangy River Watershed located within the State of Ohio. The permit area includes the following 12-digit Hydrologic Unit Codes (HUC-12) within the Olentangy River Watershed:

12-Digit Hydrologic Unit Codes

12-Digit Hydrologic Unit Codes (HUC)	Narrative Description of Sub-Watershed
05060001 09 01	Shaw Creek
05060001 09 02	Headwaters Whetstone Creek
05060001 09 03	Claypool Run-Whetstone Creek
05060001 10 07	Delaware Run-Olentangy River
05060001 11 01	Deep Run-Olentangy River
05060001 11 02 (Only portion as depicted in Attachment A)	Rush Run-Olentangy River

Please see Attachment A (Appendix B) for permit area boundaries. An electronic version of Attachment A can be viewed at <https://epa.ohio.gov/divisions-and-offices/surface-water/permitting/stormwater-program>

B.2 TMDL Conditions.

This general permit requires control measures/BMPs for construction sites that reflect recommendations set forth in the U.S. EPA approved Olentangy TMDL.

B.3 Riparian Setback Requirements.

The permittee shall comply with the riparian setback requirements of this permit or alternative riparian setback requirements established by a regulated MS4 and approved by Ohio EPA. The SWP3 shall clearly delineate the boundary of required stream setback distances. The stream setback shall consist of a streamside buffer and an outer buffer. No construction activity shall occur, without appropriate mitigation, within the streamside buffer except activities associated with stormwater conveyances from permanent treatment practices, approvable utility crossings and restoration or recovery of floodplain and channel form characteristics as described in Attachment B. Stormwater conveyances must be designed to minimize the width of disturbance. Construction activities requiring mitigation for intrusions within the outer buffer for the Olentangy River mainstem and perennial streams are described in Appendix B.4.

If intrusion within the delineated setback boundary is necessary to accomplish the purposes of a project, then mitigation shall be required in accordance with Appendix B.3. of this permit. Streams requiring protection under this section have a defined bed and bank or channel and are defined as follows:

- The Olentangy River mainstem;
- Perennial streams have continuous flow on either the surface of the stream bed or under the surface of the stream bed;
- Intermittent streams flow for extended periods of time seasonally of a typical climate year; and
- Jurisdictional Ephemeral streams are normally dry and only flow during and after precipitation runoff (episodic flow).

National Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) soil survey maps should be used as one reference and the presence of a stream requiring protection should also be confirmed in the field. Any required setback distances shall be clearly displayed in the field prior to any construction related activity.

Riparian setbacks shall be delineated based upon one of the following two methods:

- i. The required setback distances shall vary with stream type as follows:
 - a. The setback distances associated with the mainstem of the Olentangy River shall consist of:
 - (1) A streamside buffer width of 100 feet as measured horizontally from the ordinary high water mark per side; and
 - (2) An outer buffer width sized to the regulatory 100-year floodplain based on FEMA mapping. No impervious surfaces shall be constructed without appropriate mitigation and moderate to substantial fill activities with no impervious surface may require appropriate mitigation pending an individual approval by Ohio EPA.
 - b. The setback distance associated with perennial streams, other than the Olentangy mainstem, shall consist of:
 - (1) A streamside buffer width of 80 feet per side measured horizontally from the ordinary high water mark; and
 - (2) An outer buffer width sized to the regulatory 100-year floodplain based on FEMA mapping. In the event the regulatory 100-year floodplain is not established, the outer buffer width shall be calculated using the following equation and measured horizontally from the ordinary high water mark. No impervious surfaces, structure, fill, or activity that would impair the floodplain or stream stabilizing ability of the outer buffer shall occur without appropriate mitigation:

$$W = 143DA^{0.41} \quad \text{(Equation 1 Appendix B)}$$

where:

DA = drainage area (mi²)

W = total width of riparian setback (ft)

W shall be centered over the meander pattern of the stream such that a line representing the setback width would evenly intersect equal elevation lines on either side of the stream.

If the DA remains relatively constant throughout the stretch of interest, then the DA of the downstream edge of the stretch should be used. Where there is a significant increase in the DA from the upstream edge to the downstream edge of the area of interest, the setback width shall increase accordingly.

c. The setback distance associated with intermittent streams and jurisdictional ephemeral streams shall be a streamside buffer width of 30 feet per side measured horizontally from the centerline of the stream. No outer buffer is required for intermittent and ephemeral streams.

- ii. Stream Restoration with 100 feet (each side) Riparian Setback. Each stream segment within the proposed site boundaries can be assessed in accordance with Attachment B. In the event the stream segment is classified as a "Previously Modified Low Gradient Headwater Stream", the permittee has the option to restore the stream segment in accordance with Attachment B and include a 100 feet water quality setback distance from the top of the streambank on each side. In the event the stream segment exceeds the minimum criteria in Attachment B to be classified as a "Previously Modified Low Gradient Headwater Stream", this may be considered on a case-by-case basis.

No structural sediment controls (e.g., the installation of sediment barriers or a sediment settling pond) or structural post-construction controls shall be used in a stream or the streamside buffer. Activities and controls that would not impair the floodplain or stream stabilizing ability of the outer buffer can be considered.

Redevelopment projects (i.e., developments on previously developed property) located within the delineated setback boundary is exempt from Riparian Setback Mitigation (B.3) provided the proposed project does not further intrude the delineated setback boundary.

B.4 Riparian Setback Mitigation.

The mitigation required for intrusion into the riparian setback of the **Olentangy River mainstem or perennial streams** shall be determined by the horizontal distance the intrusion is from the stream. Up to three zones will be used in determining the required mitigation. Zone 1 extends from 0 to 30 feet from the stream edge. Zone 2 extends from 30 feet to the outer edge of the streamside buffer. Zone 3 extends from the outer edge of the streamside buffer to the outer edge of the outer buffer. Intrusion into these zones will require the following mitigation within the same Watershed Assessment Unit

(12-digit HUC scale). Alternative mitigation, within the permit area, may be considered on a case-by-case basis:

1. Four (4) times the total area disturbed in the stream within Zone 1 of the site being developed shall be mitigated; or, two (2) times the total area disturbed in the stream within Zone 1 shall be mitigated within the watershed of the immediate receiving stream, and the entire required setback of the site shall be protected by binding conservation easements or environmental covenants.
2. Three (3) times the area disturbed within Zone 2 of the site being developed shall be mitigated within Zones 1 and/or 2 of the mitigation location; or, one and one-half (1.5) times the total area disturbed within Zone 2 shall be mitigated within the watershed of the immediate receiving stream, and the entire required setback of the site shall be protected in perpetuity by binding conservation easements or environmental covenants.
3. Two (2) times the area to be mitigated within Zone 3 of the site being developed shall be mitigated within any Zone of the mitigation location; or, one (1) times the total area to be mitigated within any zone shall be mitigated within the watershed of the immediate receiving stream, and the entire required setback of the site shall be protected in perpetuity by binding conservation easements or environmental covenants.

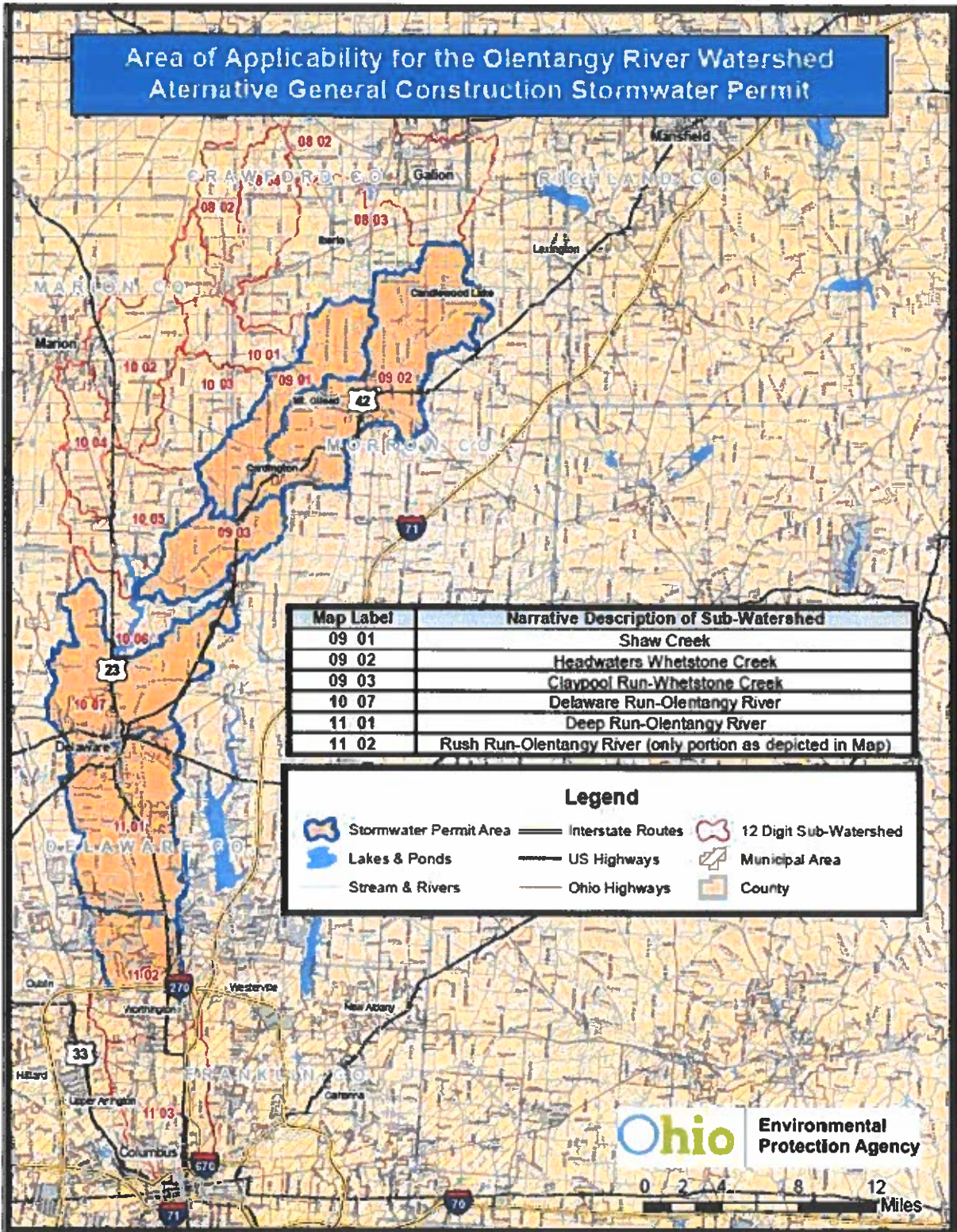
The mitigation required for intrusion into the riparian setback of an **intermittent stream** shall be four (4) times the total area disturbed within the riparian setback of the site being developed shall be mitigated; or two (2) times the total area disturbed within the riparian setback shall be mitigated within the watershed of the immediate receiving stream, and the entire required setback of the site shall be protected in perpetuity by binding conservation easements or environmental covenants.

The mitigation required for intrusion into the streamside buffer of a **jurisdictional ephemeral stream** shall be two (2) times the total area disturbed within the riparian setback of the site being developed shall be mitigated; or one (1) times the total area disturbed within the riparian setback shall be mitigated within the watershed of the immediate receiving stream, and the entire required setback of the site shall be protected in perpetuity by binding conservation easements or environmental covenants.

All mitigation shall, at a minimum, include conserved or restored setback zone, and should be designed to maximize the ecological function of the mitigation. Including mitigation at the stream edge along with associated setback areas is one way to maximize ecological function. Mitigation shall be protected in perpetuity by binding conservation easements or environmental covenants which must be recorded within 6 months of permit authorization. Granting of binding conservation easements or environmental covenants protected for land outside of disturbed area, but within a required riparian setback counts towards required mitigation.

Mitigation may also be satisfied by approved pooled mitigation areas and in-lieu fee sponsored mitigation areas. Mitigation resulting from State or Federal environmental regulations may be adjusted in recognition of these requirements.

Appendix B Attachment A Applicable Portions of the Olentangy Watershed



A more detailed map can be viewed at:
<https://epa.ohio.gov/divisions-and-offices/surface-water/permitting/stormwater-program>

Appendix B Attachment B

Part 1 Stream Assessment

This assessment will determine if a stream is considered a previously channelized, low-gradient headwater stream (a drainage ditch may be a natural stream that has been channelized and can be restored) which would be applicable for stream restoration in lieu of protecting an outer 'no build' setback as per Appendix B B.2i. and ii.

In the event the assessment of the stream meets all the criteria listed below, restoration as depicted in Part 2 of this attachment or natural channel design could be performed, provided 401/404 permits are authorized, and may be a means of reducing the setback distance required by B.2.i. (Appendix B).

Previously Modified, Low-Gradient Headwater Streams shall, for the purposes of this permit, be defined as having all of the following characteristics:

- Less than 10 square miles of drainage area;
- Low gradient and low stream power such that incision (down-cutting) is not evident;
- Entrenched such that the ratio of the frequently flooded width to the bankfull width is less than 2.2; and
- Straight with little or no sinuosity present such that the ratio of the bankfull channel length to the straight-line distance between two points is less than 1.02.

Part 2 Restoration

Restoration shall be accomplished by any natural channel design approach that will lead to a self-maintaining reach able to provide both local habitat and watershed services (e.g. self-purification and valley floodwater storage).

- a. Construction of a floodplain, channel and habitat via natural channel design;
- b. Floodplain excavation necessary to promote interaction between stream and floodplain;
- c. Include a water quality setback of 100 feet from top of the streambank on each side.

The primary target shall be a frequently flooded width of 10 times the channel's self-forming width. Five times the self-forming channel width may be acceptable if sufficient elements of natural channel design are included in the restoration project.

Appendix C. Rainfall Intensity for Calculation of Water Quality Flow (WQF)

DURATION t_c (minutes)	WATER QUALITY INTENSITY [i_{wq}] (inches/hour)	DURATION t_c (minutes)	WATER QUALITY INTENSITY [i_{wq}] (inches/hour)
5	2.37	33	0.95
6	2.26	34	0.93
7	2.15	35	0.92
8	2.04	36	0.90
9	1.94	37	0.88
10	1.85	38	0.86
11	1.76	39	0.85
12	1.68	40	0.83
13	1.62	41	0.82
14	1.56	42	0.80
15	1.51	43	0.78
16	1.46	44	0.77
17	1.41	45	0.76
18	1.37	46	0.75
19	1.33	47	0.74
20	1.29	48	0.73
21	1.26	49	0.72
22	1.22	50	0.71
23	1.19	51	0.69
24	1.16	52	0.68
25	1.13	53	0.67
26	1.10	54	0.66
27	1.07	55	0.66
28	1.05	56	0.65
29	1.03	57	0.64
30	1.01	58	0.64
31	0.99	59	0.63
32	0.97	60	0.62

Note: For $t_c < 5$ minutes, use $i = 2.37$ in/hr; for $t_c > 60$ minutes, use $i = 0.62$ in/hr. For all other t_c , use the appropriate value from this table.

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Handwritten title or header text, possibly a name or subject.

The table is a large grid with approximately 10 columns and 15 rows. The text within the cells is handwritten and difficult to read due to the image quality. The table appears to be organized into several sections or columns, possibly representing different categories or data points. Some cells contain numbers, while others contain longer phrases or symbols. The overall structure suggests a detailed record or ledger.

Handwritten text at the bottom of the page, possibly a signature, date, or concluding remarks.