

Special Incentives: These are the 25 state programs that include special consideration for Balanced Growth participating communities. A Balanced Growth participating community is one that has passed a resolution of support for a Watershed Balanced Growth Plan that has been endorsed by the state. Underline indicates general category of targeted applicants (see program details for specific eligibility requirements).

More information about each program, including contact information, is available in the complete Inventory of State Programs, Appendix C of the Ohio Balanced Growth Strategy (posted online at <http://balancedgrowth.ohio.gov/BalancedGrowthStrategy.aspx>).

Program	Type	Agency	Purpose	Incentives
Clean Ohio Agricultural Easement Purchase Program PAA/PCA	Grant	ODA	Allows <u>counties, townships, and land trusts</u> to apply to ODA on behalf of farmers for the purchase of agricultural easements that preserve productive farmland for future generations.	Applicants receive up to 3 points for the plan in a participating BG community, and up to 5 points for projects in a participating BG community located in a PCA or PAA in the Tier I part of the review (out of 100 pts). Applicants may receive additional points in Tier II essay question about planning (up to 10 pts of 50 pts)(150 pts total).
Agricultural Security Area PAA/PCA	Tax Credit	ODA	ASAs promote agricultural retention by creating special areas in which agriculture is encouraged and protected. ASAs provide certain benefits to communities and <u>farmers</u> , including protection from non-agricultural development, ensuring a critical mass of land to help keep farming viable, and possible tax benefits for investing in new real agricultural property.	Counties with participating communities may be able to implement local incentives for the ASA in support of PAAs. The ODA Office of Farmland Preservation can assist counties in marketing and/or enrolling properties that support PAAs.
Clean Water Act Section 319 Implementation Grants PCA	Grant	OEPA	Provides financial assistance to <u>local soil and water conservation districts, local watershed groups, local governments and others</u> to implement watershed management actions designed to eliminate impaired waters and reduce nonpoint source pollution in Ohio.	Balanced Growth communities can receive up to two additional points out of a possible 62 on review criteria for proposed projects.

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Water Pollution Control Loan Fund PCA/PDA	Loan	OEPA	Provides low-cost financing and technical assistance to <u>local governments</u> for the planning, design and construction of wastewater facilities improvements, and for the control of nonpoint source pollution of surface and ground waters.	<p>A new loan interest rate discount of 0.1 percent will be available for certain projects that implement a qualifying sustainable growth plan. (See 2012 WPCLF Program Management Plan page 65)</p> <p>The sponsor project for a WRRSP project will not receive the qualifying sustainable growth plan discount solely because it may be sponsoring a qualifying sustainable growth plan WRRSP project. However, if the sponsor project itself should also qualify on its own merits as implementing the qualifying sustainable growth plan, then it would qualify for both the WRRSP discount and the qualifying sustainable growth plan discount. (See 2012 WPCLF Program Management Plan page 66).</p>
Water Supply Revolving Loan Account PDA	Loan	OEPA	Provides low interest loans to <u>eligible public water systems</u> to fund improvements to eliminate public health threats and ensure compliance with federal and state drinking water laws and regulations.	A Balanced Growth Plan may qualify as an Endorsed Protection Plan in the Bonus Points for Effective Management section of the project rankings (up to 5 points). See Final DWAF PY 2013 Program Management and Intended Use Plan, Appendix D, Page 32.

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Section 208 Planning (State Water Quality Management Plan) PCA/PDA	Regulatory	OEPA	Meets requirements in federal regulations; applies knowledge of the water quality problems and threats in a region in developing plans that identify what steps will be taken, by what entities and by when to help improve and maintain good water quality. Provides a mechanism for <u>local communities</u> to strengthen local land use and sewer infrastructure planning; OEPA review of wastewater discharge permits and sewer PTIs in PDAs.	BG participating communities may request that areawide agencies in charge of local 208 plans incorporate features from the local BG plans. "Specific prescriptions" regarding wastewater treatment and disposal options would be binding upon OEPA in permitting actions; permits must be consistent with approved 208 plans.
Ohio Coastal Management Assistance Grant Program PCA/PDA Planning	Grant	ODNR	Provides financial assistance to <u>local governments, state agencies, non-profits and educational institutions</u> for projects that preserve, protect and enhance Lake Erie coastal resources and/or support their sustainable use. Program only available in Lake Erie watershed.	Balanced Growth communities can receive up to six additional points out of a possible 140 on review criteria for proposed projects.
Watershed Coordinator Grant Program PCA	Grant	ODNR, OEPA	Provides <u>non-profits and local governments</u> with four year grants to employ watershed coordinators to plan nonpoint source pollution programs via stakeholder compiled watershed action plans.	No additional points. However, a successful balanced growth plan would reflect well in the application process.
Market Development Grant PDA	Grant	ODNR	Provides grant funds to <u>Ohio businesses and non-profit organizations</u> for costs associated with the development of Ohio markets for recycled or recyclable materials.	Balanced Growth participants should indicate how a proposed market development project relates to BG, thereby strengthening the application.

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Scrap Tire Grant PDA	Grant	ODNR	Provides grant funds to <u>Ohio businesses and educational institutions</u> for costs associated with the development of markets for scrap tires or scrap tire material.	Balanced Growth participants should indicate how a proposed scrap tire project relates to BG, thereby strengthening the application.
Land & Water Conservation Fund PCA	Grant	ODNR	Provides financial assistance to <u>local governments</u> to acquire and/or development properties for outdoor recreation.	Balanced Growth communities can receive up to 10 additional points out of a possible 145 on review criteria for proposed projects.
Nature Works PCA	Grant	ODNR	Provides financial assistance to <u>local governments</u> to acquire and/or development properties for outdoor recreation.	Balanced Growth communities can receive up to 10 additional points out of a possible 150 on review criteria for proposed projects.
Streams & Storm Water Program PCA/PDA Planning	Tech. Assist.	ODNR	Provides technical assistance to <u>local government, business and individuals</u> in the areas of site development, storm water management, stream mitigation, rehabilitation and restoration (mitigation review and design assistance).	Prioritize staff resources toward watersheds with endorsed Watershed Balanced Growth Plans.
Statewide Geologic Mapping Program PCA/PDA Planning	Tech. Assist.	ODNR	Performs the necessary field, laboratory and administrative tasks to map and make public reports on the geology and mineral resources of each county in Ohio.	Technical (geological) information in support of Balanced Growth Plan, including special studies that may be requested by WPPs.
Recreation Harbor Evaluation Program PDA	Grant	ODNR	Provides financial assistance to <u>local political subdivisions</u> on the Ohio River and Lake Erie and its tributaries to address dredging needs for recreational boating harbors and channels.	Balanced Growth communities can receive up to 15 additional points out of a possible 115 on review criteria for proposed projects.

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Ohio Lake Erie Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) and Scioto River Watershed CREP PAA/PCA	Grant	ODNR	Improves water quality by reducing sediment pollution and field runoff through the installation of filter strips, riparian buffers, wetland, hardwood trees, wildlife habitat and field windbreaks by <u>farmers</u> .	Prioritize some remaining state matching funds and in-kind staff assistance for Balanced Growth communities.
National Flood Insurance Program Community Rating System PCA	Insurance Discount	ODNR	Provides subsidized flood insurance in <u>local communities</u> that adopt and enforce flood damage reduction regulations. Also, communities participating in the NFIP have access to all aspects of disaster assistance. The CRS rewards those communities that are doing more than the minimum National Flood Insurance Program requirements to help their residents prevent or reduce flood losses.	Balanced Growth communities are, by definition, likely to be performing land use planning activities to forward sustainable development practices. Communities participating in CRS can apply for points based on BG planning activities to achieve discounted flood insurance premiums.
Floodplain Mgmt. Tech Asst. Program PCA Planning	Tech. Assist.	ODNR	Provides technical and planning assistance to <u>local governments</u> in order to reduce flood loss and preserve natural benefit and function of floodplain resources in Ohio.	NFIP participation and local adopted floodplain management regulations gives communities eligibility for state and federal disaster relief funds. Additionally, NFIP participating communities with FEMA-approved hazard mitigation plans are eligible for an array of pre- and post-disaster mitigation funds. BG plans may support these requirements.
Dam Safety Technical Assistance PCA/PDA Planning	Tech. Assist.	ODNR	Provides technical assistance to <u>local communities</u> about the location and extent of dam failure inundation areas.	Inclusion of strategies and actions to address dam failure risk in Balanced Growth Plans can easily be incorporated into mitigation plans.

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Office of Redevelopment Technical Assistance	Tech. Assist.	ODSA	<p>The Office is able to provide assistance in several ways:</p> <p>Helping to identify the most appropriate technical and financial resources that can support PCAs and PDAs identified in your plan;</p> <p>Providing guidance on identifying other sources of support and on how to best utilize those sources;</p> <p>Simplifying your interaction with the ODSA by providing a knowledgeable, central contact; and</p> <p>Keeping you informed of the latest program and policy updates that may affect implementation of your plan.</p>	Prioritize staff resources toward watersheds with endorsed Watershed Balanced Growth Plans.
Lake Erie Protection Fund PCA/PDA Planning	Grant	OLEC	Provides funds to <u>non-profits or units of government (local, state, or federal, including universities)</u> for research that will benefit Lake Erie or to supplement state commitments to policies and programs pertaining to water quality and resource protection in the Lake Erie watershed.	Funding is reserved for one Balanced Growth project per year of up to \$15,000; additional Balanced Growth projects will receive priority consideration in funding decisions.
Dam Safety Loan Program PDA	Loan	OWDA	Provides below market rate loans to <u>local governments</u> to protect dam structures.	Additional ½ percentage point discount on loans to BG participating communities.
Fresh Water Loan Group PDA	Loan	OWDA	Provides market rate loans to <u>local governments</u> that are making improvements to their drinking water treatment, wastewater treatment or storm water treatment systems.	Additional ½ percentage point discount on loans to BG participating communities.

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Community Assistance Loan Program PDA	Loan	OWDA	Provides below market rate loans to <u>local governments</u> that are making improvements to their drinking water treatment or wastewater treatment systems.	Additional ½ percentage point discount on loans to BG participating communities.
Transportation Review Advisory Council (TRAC) Funds PDA	State Expenditure (projects chosen competitively)	ODOT	Selects the major new capacity projects to be constructed in a six-year period. Major new capacity projects are those which cost ODOT more than \$5 million and does one or more of the following: increase mobility, provide connectivity, increase the accessibility of a region for economic development, increase the capacity of a transportation facility, or reduce congestion.	No additional points. However, a successful balanced growth plan would reflect well in the project consideration process under the new guidelines for the program.