

SUMMARY OF THE AMENDMENT TO THE OFFICIAL PLAN



The Official Plan of the MWCD was approved by the Conservancy Court in November of 1934, and revised both in April and June the following year. The next change was not made until seventy years later, when in June of 2005, the Conservancy Court approved the Amendment to the Official Plan, to begin addressing the maintenance needs of the aging flood reduction system, and the many important water quality and watershed management issues faced throughout the Conservancy District. The following categories and sub-categories comprise the types of projects authorized in the Amendment to the Official Plan:

- DS-1 Upgrades and Repairs to Dams, including Hydrogen Sulfide Issues:**
Primarily projects in partnership with US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE).
- DS-2 Stream Gauge Flood Warning Programs:**
Involves partnerships with USACE, the United States Geological Survey, and local government agencies.
- DS-3 Upgrades to Key Culverts and Bridges:**
MWCD will partner with counties, municipalities, and townships to identify needs and complete projects in and around reservoirs and/or where floodwaters are stored.
- DS-4 Debris Removal in Stream Channels:**
MWCD will partner with counties, municipalities, and townships to identify needs and complete projects in the Muskingum River watershed.
- DS-5 Road Relocations and Elevation Upgrades:**
MWCD will serve as a partner to identify, prioritize, and develop projects involving relocation and/or elevation of roads in the watershed.
- DS-6 Flood Mitigation:**
MWCD will assist federal, state, and local governments with flood mitigation projects, including raising, purchasing and demolition of properties located in easement zones or in flood zones downstream. This assistance could take the form of providing local matching funds.
- DS-7 Assist Local Flood Reduction Programs:**
MWCD will support individual counties, municipalities, and townships that develop local flood reduction programs.
- DS-8 Improvements Along the Muskingum River:**
MWCD will cooperate with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources and other local government entities in maintaining the natural and historical resources of the Muskingum River.
- DS-9 Assist in Flood Cleanup:**
MWCD will assist with cleanup services for affected communities and funds to local governments for cleanup operations.
- DS-10 Property Boundary Survey:**
In order to provide more reliable and accurate data to its partner agencies, MWCD will begin the process of surveying its outer boundaries and holdings.

Reservoir Operations

RO-1 Reservoir Inspection:

MWCD will conduct regular inspections of its reservoirs to ensure their overall health and their effective performance as part of the flood-reduction system.

RO-2 Reservoir Maintenance:

MWCD will perform routine and special maintenance projects at its reservoirs.

SP-1 Reduce Shoreline Erosion:

Managing the erosion in the permanent reservoir areas can help maintain maximum flood storage capacity and protect the quality of water in the reservoirs.

SR-1 Dredge Reservoirs:

MWCD will utilize dredging primarily to prolong the useful lifespan of the reservoirs for the purposes for which they were designed and constructed.

WM-1 Planning:

MWCD will work with agencies and groups to analyze and develop projects that benefit residents and the quality of life in the watershed.

WM-2 Support for Farm Conservation and Forest Management Programs:

MWCD will provide local matching funds to those in the agricultural and forestry industries to assist with the introduction and management of land-use practices that protect soils and reduce pollutant loads.

WM-3 Watershed Coordinators:

MWCD watershed specialists would work in partnership with local entities to develop watershed improvement programs, and assist in locating funding for these efforts.

WM-4 Regulatory Compliance:

MWCD will research and manage compliance issues for its present operations and future projects.

WM-5 Establish Basin-wide Geographic Information System:

MWCD will expend funds to implement a basin-wide GIS system, enabling the sharing of data with other agencies and local government.

WM-6 Assist Local Property Owners with Best Management Practices:

MWCD will plan and implement best management practices on private property that improve soils and reduce pollutant loads.

WQ-1 Reduce Pollution Load in Watershed by Improving Wastewater Treatment and Sewers:

MWCD will serve as a resource, local funding match, and catalyst for identification of maintenance and improvement projects related to sewage disposal. It is not the intent of MWCD to construct, operate, or permanently maintain such facilities.

WQ-2 Water Quality Monitoring:

MWCD will gather water quality data in the watershed, serve as a clearinghouse for data, and develop potential improvement strategies where necessary.

WQ-3 Acid Mine Drainage Issues:

Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District

“Responsible stewards dedicated to conservation, recreation and flood control in the Muskingum River Watershed, striving to enhance the quality of life in the region.”

MWCD will provide information and financial assistance for federal, state, and local initiatives that address the damaging effects of acid mine drainage.

WQ-4

Water Supply:

By law and through an operational policy, MWCD reservoirs may be utilized as sources of public drinking water.

WQ-5

Environmental Education:

MWCD will provide outreach programs, through its own programs and in partnership with government and regulatory agencies.