

Ohio Balanced Growth Program

Gail Hesse

Ohio Lake Erie Commission

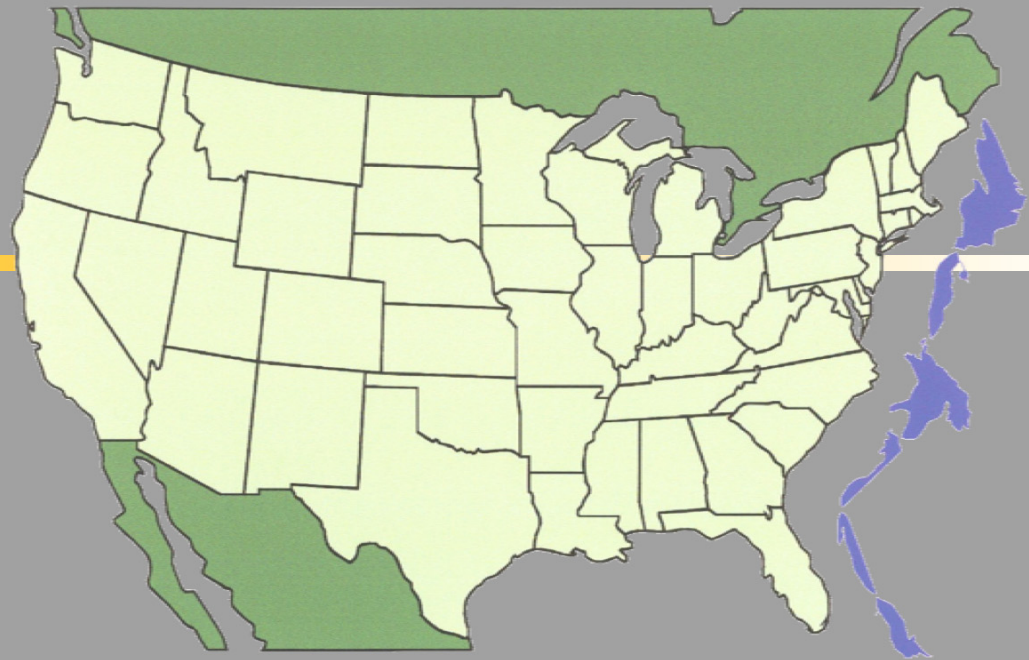
Ohio Water Resources Council

Lake Erie, one of the five Great Lakes, is a body of fresh water with many features.



Great Lakes Coastlines

Lake Superior
Lake Huron
Lake Michigan
Lake Erie
Lake Ontario





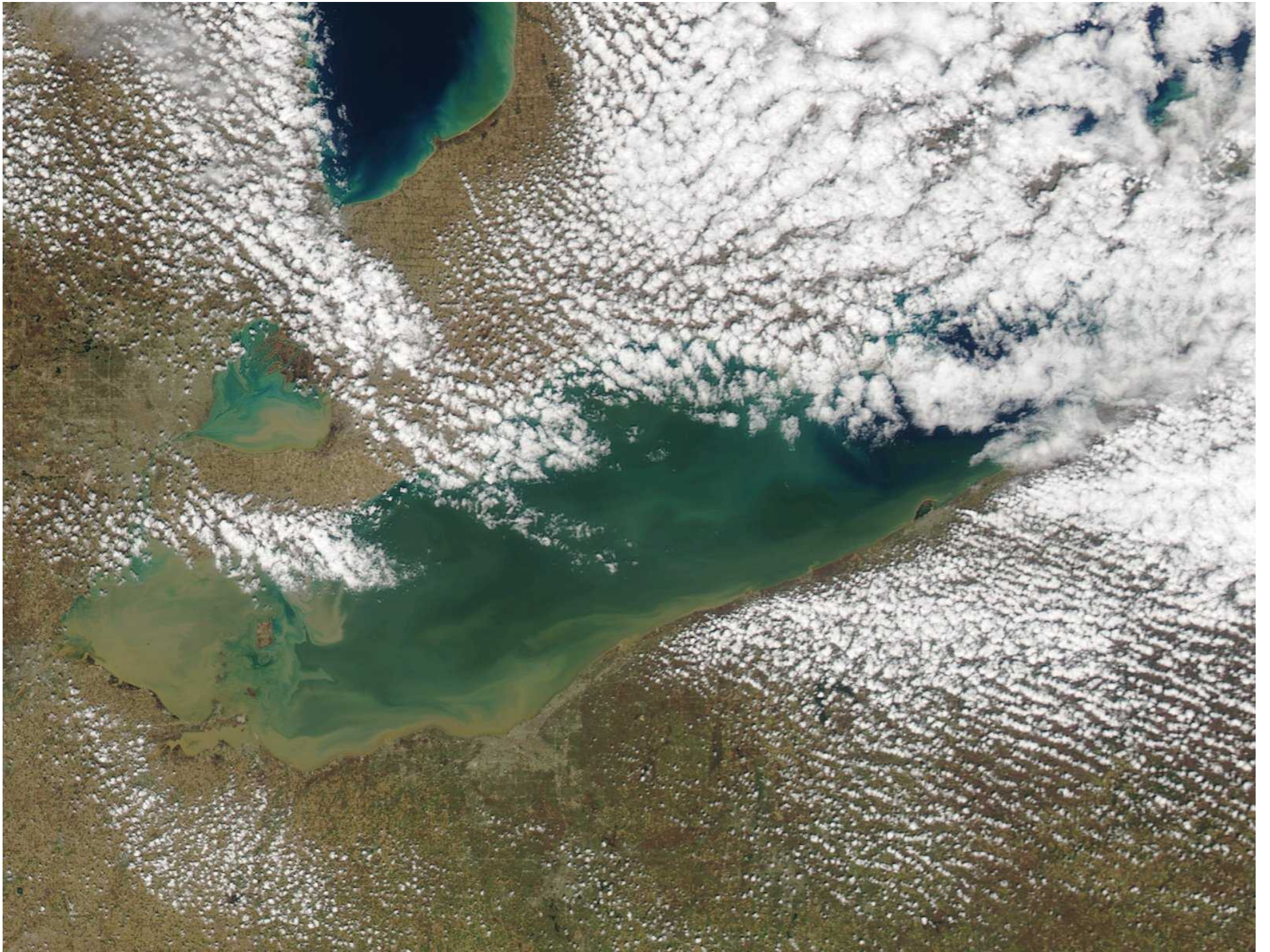


Ohio What is the Ohio Balanced Growth Program?

- A planning framework for local decision making
 - Balanced Growth Watershed Plans
- Best Local Land Use Practices
 - Resources including reference material, technical assistance and workshops







Linking Land Use and Lake Erie

Best Local Land Use Practices



Linking Land Use and Lake Erie:
A Planning Framework for Achieving Balanced
Growth in the Ohio Lake Erie Watershed

Ohio Lake Erie Commission



Linking Land Use and Lake Erie:
Best Local Land Use Practices

Ohio Lake Erie Commission

A Planning Framework

Integrating water resources management with local planning and decision-making

Balanced Growth Watershed Planning

- voluntary
- locally led
- incentive-based
- support through alignment of state policies and programs

Priority Development Area

- Locally designated areas targeted for development or redevelopment
- Maximize development potential and efficient use of infrastructure
- Promote revitalization of existing urban areas



Priority Conservation Area

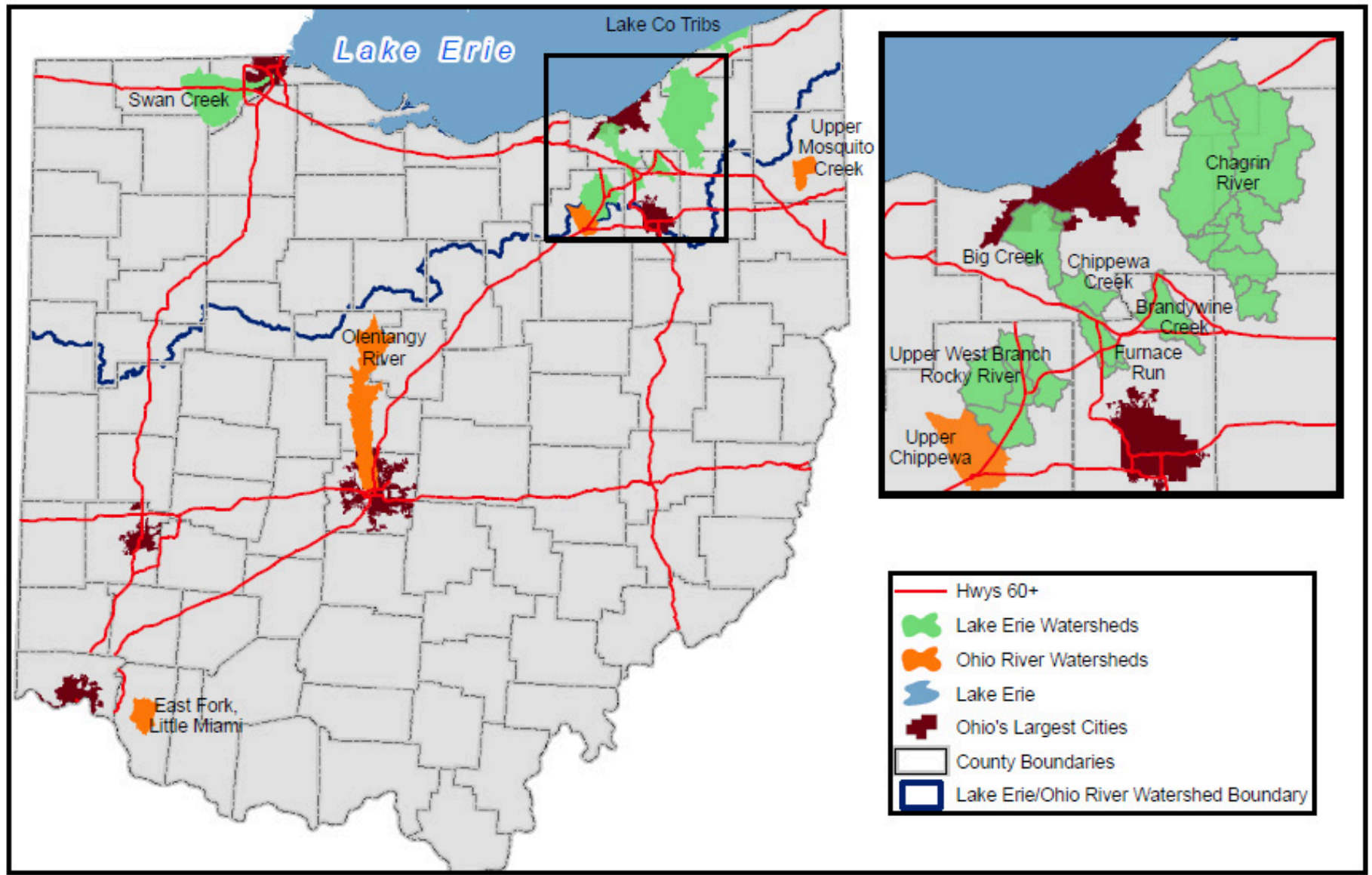
- Locally designated areas targeted for protection and restoration
- Identify critically important ecological, recreational, heritage, *agricultural*, and public access areas



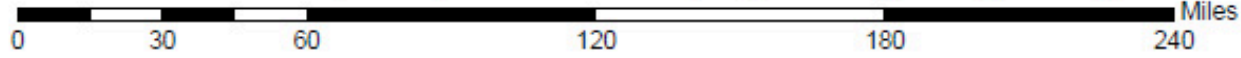
Local Approval

- Approval by 75% of jurisdictions in the watershed
 - Total number of jurisdictions
 - Land area
 - Population
- Approval for:
 - development of the Plan
 - Adoption of final Plan
- Next step: State review for endorsement

Balanced Growth Planning Partnership Watersheds



Watersheds listed have formed partnerships and have endorsed plans, are actively planning, or have applied for funding to develop plans (May, 2011). balancedgrowth.ohio.gov



Best Local Land Use Practices: Resources

- Best Local Land Use Practices document – issues, guidance, recommendations
- Model and Example regulations
- Education and technical workshops
- Case studies and cost-benefit research
- DVD for elected officials and business interests [\(see video on web\)](#)
- Ongoing technical assistance

In review

2012

Balanced Growth Strategy

- Synthesizes program elements
- Identifies State activity to update and improve Balanced Growth Program
- Emerged from program experience with the pilot projects & recommendations from the Smart Growth Leadership Institute
- **Highest priority action:** updating and enhancing the special incentives available to participating communities with state endorsed Watershed Balanced Growth Plans

Ohio | Balanced Growth



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Best Local Land Use Practices

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