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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MORPC Announces \$1.5 Million of Clean Ohio Conservation Funds Available for Franklin County, Ohio

(Columbus –February 5, 2013) The Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) announces the availability of approximately \$1.5 million of Clean Ohio Conservation Funds (COCF) to be awarded in Round 7B for District 3-Franklin County from the Natural Assistance Resource Council. The COCF is part of the Clean Ohio program approved by voters in 2008. The COCF can be used to acquire green space and/or restore riparian corridors. Local governments, park and joint recreation districts, conservancy districts, soil and water conservation districts, and non-profit organizations located in Franklin County are all eligible to apply for these grant funds.

“To date more than \$25.7 million has been awarded in Clean Ohio Conservation funds in Franklin County. Last year \$979,771 was awarded to the Franklin County Drainage Engineer to acquire and restore 38 acres of land along the Holton County Ditch, a tributary of Big Walnut Creek in Groveport,” states Wilma Yoder, District 3 Liaison. “In the same year, the Franklin County Metro Parks was awarded \$907,500 to purchase 127 acres of land located off State Route 104 in Jackson Township to become part of a new Metro Park planned in south-central Franklin County.”

A preliminary screener and a final application are required. The preliminary screener will be used to determine if the project is eligible. The deadline for the preliminary screener is April 1, 2013 by 5:00 p.m. and the final application is due on May 1, 2013 by 5:00 p.m.

Application documents and information are available under the “Center for Energy & Environment – Clean Ohio Fund” tab on the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission’s website at www.morpc.org or by clicking [here](#).

For questions or to schedule time to discuss this funding program, please contact Wilma Yoder at wyoder@morpc.org or 614-233-4175.

MORPC is a voluntary association of 41 local governments in central Ohio serving the region through planning, direct service, public policy information and innovative programming and intergovernmental coordinating services in the areas of transportation, land use, energy conservation, the environment and housing.