

PERSISTENCE. PARTNERSHIP. PROGRESS.

2023 ANNUAL REPORT



A LETTER FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CAROL KAUFFMAN

Dear Members:

Thank you for your unwavering support of the Ohio Environmental Council. It has been tremendous getting to know so many of you since joining the organization as Executive Director in early 2023.

As a longtime supporter of the OEC, I always looked forward to hearing stories of how the state's leading environmental advocacy organization was making a difference. Today, I'm delighted to share those stories of impact.

Some of these stories are celebratory. We defended our democracy from an extreme power grab. We helped secure important federal drinking water regulations. And we are putting unprecedented investments in climate action to work for Ohio communities.

Some of these stories are alarming. Following the toxic train derailment that upended the lives of community members in East Palestine, we continue to advocate for accountability. Despite enormous public resistance, decision makers continue to press forward with plans to frack our state parks and forests.

And some of these stories are not yet finished. We continue to advocate for water quality improvements, a just transition to a clean energy future, a shift to sustainable public land management practices, and a fair redistricting process free of politicians.

Despite the diversity of these stories, there are some constants.

The OEC is persistent in our advocacy. For more than 50 years, Ohioans have been able to count on our organization to advocate for a healthy environment and, more recently, a strong democracy. And thanks to the support of members like you, we're able to put our policy, legal, and communications expertise to work at all levels of government.

The OEC deeply values partnership. In order to address the most pressing environmental and climate issues facing Ohio communities, we must work together. Guided by our values, the OEC is committed to equitably and inclusively collaborating with partners to secure a healthier environment.

Together, we can and will continue to make progress. Despite the heaviness of our work, there is hope. From resounding victories at the ballot box to important policy and legal wins, our advocacy and engagement efforts are making a difference.

I'm proud to lead this incredible organization and work alongside members like you in pursuit of clean air, safe water, vibrant public lands, and a strong democracy for all who call Ohio home. All of us at the OEC appreciate your continued support of this important work.

Warmly,
Carol Kauffman
OEC Executive Director



PERSISTENCE. PARTNERSHIP. PROGRESS.



FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

 @OHIOENVIRO

 /OHIOENVIRONMENTALCOUNCIL

 @OHIOENVIRO

FOR MORE THAN 50 YEARS

The Ohio Environmental Council has worked alongside members and partners like you to speak up and take action to ensure a healthier environment for all who call Ohio home. Together, we will continue to make progress to secure clean air to breathe, safe water to drink, vibrant public lands to enjoy, and a strong democracy that represents all Ohioans.

CLEAN WATER



INCREASING H2OHIO IMPACT

The H2Ohio program has invested in important water quality improvements and critical clean water access for Ohioans in nearly every county across the state since 2019. With the support of members like you, the OEC was able to secure increased investment for this comprehensive, science-based program through the state budget process. We secured additional funding for the Ohio Department of Agriculture to reduce agricultural phosphorus runoff through conservation programs with farmers, the Ohio Department of Natural Resources to expand its successful wetland restoration program, and the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency to continue improving Ohio's wastewater and drinking water infrastructure. Additionally, funding has been extended to support the H2Ohio Rivers Initiative which will work to better protect and restore Ohio's riverways, including assessing emerging contaminants and strategically removing dams.

RESTORING THE OHIO RIVER

The Ohio River is a vital and vibrant natural resource – the backbone of the economy and a critical element of the history and culture of the communities that live along its banks. But a lack of strong water quality standards, paired with the absence of federal investment, leaves this vital river and watershed vulnerable. This year, the OEC and our partners worked together to highlight the need for investment in Ohio River water quality improvements. In April, American Rivers released its latest Most Endangered Rivers report naming the Ohio River as the second-most endangered river in the nation. In June, we participated in the first ever Ohio River Hill day in Washington, D.C. This historic day marked the first time that advocates across the Ohio River watershed came together on Capitol Hill with a unified message that we need congressional support and funding to designate the river as a federally protected water system and commit to funding an Ohio River Restoration Plan.



ADVOCATING FOR A HEALTHIER LAKE ERIE

Harmful algal blooms plague western Lake Erie each summer: threatening drinking water supplies, recreation, and the regional economy. Nutrient pollution, specifically phosphorous, flowing off agricultural lands is the largest unchecked source of pollution driving these massive toxic algae events. This year, we issued a report alongside the Alliance for the Great Lakes highlighting shortcomings in current practices and funding, while providing specific recommendations for Michigan and Ohio to reduce phosphorus inputs to Lake Erie. We utilized the findings of that report to advocate for increased H2Ohio funding and for stronger regulations as the Ohio EPA completed a phosphorous “pollution reduction diet” plan (also known as a Total Maximum Daily Load or TMDL) for Northwest Ohio’s Maumee River Watershed. Despite the best advocacy efforts of many partners, agencies adopted an inadequate plan that fails to effectively address the main type of pollutant impairing our Great Lake. While disappointing, we are determined to use every tool available to advocate for a healthier Lake Erie.



SUPPORTED BY THE OEC LAW CENTER

FIGHTING FOREVER CHEMICALS

For years, the OEC and our members have called for more stringent water standards to address per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, also known as PFAS. PFAS are a family of nearly 5,000 chemicals used to make many common products, from food packaging to firefighting foams. They have been dubbed “forever chemicals” for their ability to linger in the environment, including in our drinking water and waterways.

This year, we applauded the U.S. EPA as it issued its first national drinking water standard to limit the amount of PFAS in drinking water — an important first step in the fight against forever chemicals. Our advocacy team presented on the importance of PFAS regulation to community leaders across the state, amplified lawsuits to hold the polluting industries accountable for PFAS pollution, and continues to advocate at all levels of government.

YOUR IMPACT BY THE NUMBERS

50 YEARS OF THE LANDMARK CLEAN WATER ACT

On the banks of the Cuyahoga River, U.S. EPA Administrator Michael Regan, national water quality experts, OEC staff, and our partners celebrated the 50th anniversary of the passage of the Clean Water Act in Fall 2022.

\$270 MILLION FOR H2OHIO

Secured for H2Ohio programs in the state budget for 2024-2025, including \$15 million for the H2Ohio Rivers Initiative.

\$242.9 MILLION FOR DRINKING WATER STATE REVOLVING FUND INVESTMENTS IN OHIO'S WATER INFRASTRUCTURE

The U.S. EPA awarded millions of dollars through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law to the state of Ohio to help upgrade aging water infrastructure, including lead pipes, and address emerging contaminants to provide safe drinking water to communities throughout Ohio.

ENERGY



SUPPORTED BY THE OEC LAW CENTER

MAXIMIZING FEDERAL INVESTMENTS IN OHIO'S CLEAN ENERGY FUTURE

The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law was signed into law in 2021 and the Inflation Reduction Act was signed into law in August 2022. Since then, the OEC has continued to advocate that the state of Ohio take full advantage of these once-in-a-generation pieces of legislation, ensuring all Ohioans can access the new jobs, energy savings, and a cleaner environment. The OEC has focused on equitable implementation of both statewide and local grant opportunities, ensuring that the state of Ohio continues to pursue the maximum amount of federal funding available, state agencies prioritize energy justice and grid resilience in their work, and communities of all sizes are connected with the right partners and programs to meet the needs of their residents. We're excited to continue working with communities and partners to put these dollars to work for Ohioans and tackle the climate crisis.

SUPPORTING RENEWABLE ENERGY PROJECTS AT THE OHIO POWER SITING BOARD

Despite many legislative roadblocks, we are working together to accelerate our state's just transition to a clean, renewable energy future. Over the past year, OEC legal experts successfully advocated for several important projects at the Ohio Power Siting Board — and beyond. We were proud to support several OEC members in raising their voices in support of renewable energy projects. We intervened in support of the 144 megawatt Blossom Solar project in Morrow County, which had overwhelming local support, as well as the 140 megawatt Dixon Run Solar project in Jackson County, which will be built on a brownfield site previously used for surface strip mining. Both of these important projects will move forward. We also intervened in the Oak Run case in Madison County. If approved, this will be the largest agrivoltaic project (growing crops amongst the solar panels) in the country with up to 800 megawatts of solar and 300 megawatts of energy storage.

But that's not all. This year, the Ohio Supreme Court also unanimously agreed that the 300 megawatt Emerson Creek Wind Farm was correctly certified by the Ohio Power Siting Board and can now begin construction in Erie and Huron Counties. OEC legal experts submitted supporting arguments for this court case that made an impact on the decision.

Utility-scale wind and solar projects are an excellent source of renewable energy for the state of Ohio that benefit our local economies and decrease Ohio's carbon footprint. Together, we'll continue to advocate for a just transition away from fossil fuels, and toward cleaner, healthier, and more sustainable sources of energy.



SUPPORTED BY THE OEC LAW CENTER

PURSUING ENERGY JUSTICE AT THE PUCO

Over the past year, the OEC's Energy Team has engaged in several efforts to advocate for energy justice at the Power Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO). We're committed to ensuring Ohioans have access to accessible, affordable, and clean energy, and have a say in how those decisions are made. Alongside our partners, the OEC has utilized our legal and advocacy expertise to intervene in cases involving utility companies including AEP Ohio and FirstEnergy. In the AEP Ohio case, for example, the OEC and partners successfully advocated to decrease the burden AEP Ohio's application would have on customer bills, increase the programs related to grid stability, and ensure that those customers hit hardest by the climate crisis and rising rates received some additional protection. While the FirstEnergy's case recently kicked off, you can count on the OEC to push for transparency and accountability throughout the process — just as we did in the fight against House Bill 6.

Finally, we continue to monitor the pending cases and audits related to the ongoing House Bill 6 scandal, including audits focused around the OVEC coal plants, which are currently still being bailed out by Ohio ratepayers. We'll continue to fight until Ohioans are no longer bailing out these outdated, polluting coal plants on their monthly bills.



CUTTING DANGEROUS METHANE EMISSIONS

From the state to the federal level, the OEC continues to advocate for policies and programs to cut dangerous methane emissions. These pollutants exacerbate climate change and cause severe health impacts within our communities, threatening the well-being of our people and planet. During the state budget process in 2023, the OEC joined a coalition of unlikely allies to protect critical dollars that are largely used to cap orphaned oil and gas wells through the Ohio Department of Natural Resources' Ohio Oil and Gas Well Fund. Not only is this program one of the oldest and most successful programs in the country, but there is also a great need to plug more than 20,000 abandoned wells across Ohio to stop the release of methane and other chemical pollution into our environment.

At the federal level, the U.S. EPA announced new rules to cut harmful methane emissions from active oil and gas operations across the country in December 2023. This rulemaking was the direct result of public comments made by hundreds of thousands of people — including OEC members like you. We continue to advocate for stronger regulations to hold the oil and gas industry accountable for their promises to reduce methane pollutants and address the climate crisis.

YOUR IMPACT BY THE NUMBERS

\$8.06 BILLION & 5,400+ NEW JOBS

IN OHIO AS A RESULT OF THE INFLATION REDUCTION ACT

According to an October 2023 Climate Power report, the Inflation Reduction Act has already spurred more than \$8 billion in investment and helped create or move forward more than 5,400 good-paying clean energy jobs in Ohio.

2 IMPORTANT ENERGY BILLS

TO REDUCE CARBON EMISSIONS AND SUPPORT A HEALTHIER ENVIRONMENT

This year, we have tracked two important pieces of energy legislation moving through the Ohio Statehouse. House Bill 79 would establish Ohio's voluntary energy efficiency programs, which are a crucial step for reducing emissions and modernizing the electric grid. House Bill 197 would establish a community solar pilot program and an Appalachian-focused solar development program.

205 OHIOANS ENGAGED

AT THE INTERSECTION OF ENERGY & LAW

More than 200 individuals have been involved in the OEC's ongoing energy law education efforts, including our 2022 Ohio Public Interest Environmental Law Conference and ongoing education series with partners.

PUBLIC LANDS



SUPPORTED BY THE OEC LAW CENTER

HARD-FOUGHT VICTORY FOR OHIO'S ONLY NATIONAL FOREST

Support from members like you ensures the OEC can utilize its legal strength to protect the health of our forests and public lands year after year. In 2018, we learned the “Sunny Oaks” logging project sought to clearcut thousands of acres of Ohio’s only national forest in Southeast Ohio. Over the next three years, we submitted public comments in defense of the forest. A month after the U.S. Forest Service opened the project for bidding in August 2021, the OEC filed our lawsuit, *Ohio Environmental Council v. United States Forest Service* in federal district court. And this year, we argued our case in front of the judge.

Ultimately, the court agreed with the OEC that the Forest Service failed to explain how it would implement the logging project. Because the environmental impacts of the project were deemed “highly uncertain,” the court issued an injunction that prohibits logging on a majority of the project’s acres unless and until the agency completes supplemental National Environmental Policy Act analysis. Nearly 1,500 acres of public forest are still standing. The Court’s ruling is an important and hard-fought legal victory — for the protection of the environment, for the OEC, and for our thousands of members and supporters.



SUPPORTED BY THE OEC LAW CENTER

JOINING FORCES TO PROTECT OHIO'S PUBLIC LANDS

During the 134th General Assembly lame duck session, legislators rushed House Bill 507 through at the last minute, combining wildly disparate subjects together into an ultimately dangerous bill for our environment. Ohio lawmakers knew Ohioans would oppose defining natural gas as green energy and mandating oil and gas leasing on public lands, yet it added those provisions to an agricultural bill, and sent the unconstitutional legislation to Governor DeWine’s desk for signature.

In an adamant effort to stop Ohioans’ beloved public lands from forced fossil fuel leasing, the OEC and our partners filed a lawsuit against HB 507 alongside our environmental partners in April 2023. While we await the final decision in the case, the OEC has continued to work alongside amazing grassroots advocates with Save Ohio Parks and members like you to speak out against fracking our state parks and wildlife areas. We reported on the potential environmental health and justice impacts of such activity in our technical comments. We rallied at Salt Fork State Park and the Statehouse. We responded to a fossil fuel industry effort to flood the leasing commission with allegedly fake public comments. And with your support, we’ll continue to do all we can to protect these special places and every person who visits them.



SUPPORTED BY THE OEC LAW CENTER

DESIGNATING THE DARBY

For decades, scientists have recognized the Big and Little Darby Creeks as some of the most biologically diverse streams of their size. They are significant not only in Central Ohio, but in the entire Midwest and the nation. Advocates have long understood that without stronger protections, we will lose the outstanding ecological integrity, breathtaking beauty, and numerous recreational opportunities provided by these waterways. That is why the OEC and our partners began pushing for protections in the 1970s. And that is why we came together again in early 2023 to call on the Ohio EPA to designate the Big and Little Darby Creeks as Outstanding National Resource Waters — the strongest protection under the Clean Water Act. Several organizations and over 3,000 people submitted public comments in support of the designation for the creeks.

And our collective advocacy worked! Over the summer, the Ohio EPA announced it was extending existing protections for Big Darby Creek from Franklin County to Madison County and in Plain City. In the fall, the Ohio EPA announced a rulemaking process to consider classifying Big and Little Darby Creeks as Outstanding National Resource Waters. We'll continue to make secure protections for this beloved watershed by working together.

YOUR IMPACT BY THE NUMBERS

528,747 PUBLIC COMMENTS

IN SUPPORT OF CLIMATE FORESTS

OEC members were among more than half a million individuals who submitted comments to the U.S. Forest Service in support of mature and old-growth forests, which are critical in our fight against climate change.

110 DEDICATED INDIVIDUALS

JOIN OEC PUBLIC LANDS ACTION TEAM

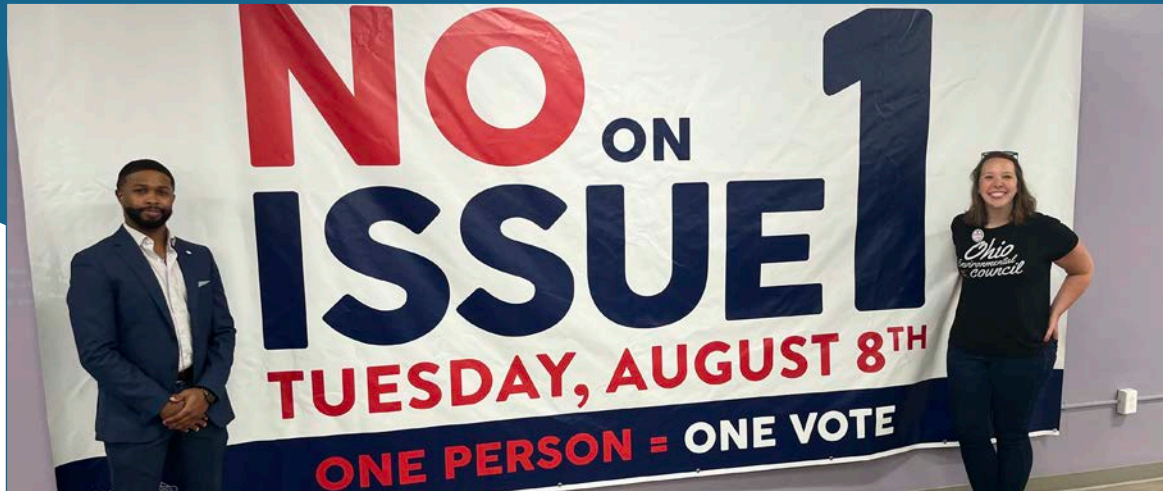
To stop fracking in Ohio's beloved public parks and forests, more than one hundred OEC members signed up to take action, by submitting public comments and attending important events., to stop fracking in Ohio's beloved public parks and forests.

3,000 PUBLIC COMMENTS

IN FAVOR OF DARBY PROTECTIONS

In February 2023, thousands of advocates from across the country — including hundreds of members like you — called on the Ohio EPA to enact the strongest protections under the Clean Water Act to protect the Big and Little Darby Creeks.

DEMOCRACY



DEFENDING OUR DEMOCRACY

Over the past year, Ohioans fought unprecedented, persistent attacks on our democracy. Extreme politicians and corrupt special interests attempted to end Ohio's 100+ year old tradition of majority rule and make it even more difficult for Ohioans to place issues on the ballot. During the 134th General Assembly lame duck session, we were able to take quick action, coordinate with partners, and organize hundreds of Ohioans to defeat these anti-democracy efforts. Unfortunately, when lawmakers returned to the Statehouse in early 2023, they passed similar legislation and even created an August Special Election in an attempt to sneak the issue past voters. But Ohioans overwhelmingly stopped them, decisively voting down this unfair constitutional amendment.

Defeating Issue 1 in August was a critical step in securing a healthy democracy equipped to fight for a healthy environment. The OEC was proud to work in coalition with more than 250 organizations and thousands of dedicated Ohioans to educate and engage voters across the state ahead of the August Special Election. Your support enabled the OEC to reach millions of Ohioans through print and digital communications, host events across the state, and hold important educational conversations — including a live stream with House Minority Leader Allison Russo.

Protecting Ohio's environment and defending our democracy is a team effort. Together, we will continue to use our collective power to ensure a stronger democracy that works for every Ohioan, their communities, and our environment.



ORGANIZING AT THE LOCAL LEVEL

Over the past year, the OEC launched a new on-the-ground program in the city of Reynoldsburg with our partners at the Ohio Organizing Collaborative. Our goal is not only to advance climate action, but also to also strengthen our democracy. Historically redlined neighborhoods in this Central Ohio community disproportionately face the impacts of climate change and other environmental injustices. These same neighborhoods also have lower voter registration and voter turnout rates when compared to other parts of the region. With the support of members like you, we are driving civic engagement efforts through door-to-door canvassing, print and digital "Get Out the Vote" communications, hosting conversations at our community garden plot, and sharing meals with local leaders. As a result, we've seen higher than anticipated voter engagement and growing interest in developing the Reynoldsburg Climate Action Plan.



SUPPORTED BY THE OEC LAW CENTER

FIGHTING FOR FAIR MAPS

We know a healthy environment requires a healthy democracy, which is why we are persistent in our fight for fair maps. For too long, politicians have unfairly designed Ohio's electoral maps to preserve political power and silence the voice of our communities. Because of these maps, our legislators often fail to respond to Ohio voters' views on pressing issues like renewable energy and the fight against climate change.

Ohioans voted for two redistricting reform measures in 2015 and 2018 to help guide the drawing of Ohio's new state legislative and congressional districts. Unfortunately, these measures did not create fair maps when they were redrawn in 2021. Despite many lawsuits, Ohio's Statehouse maps are still gerrymandered. Clearly, the current process is not working. We need a new, independent process that puts the power back in citizens' hands. That's why the OEC joined partners in 2023 to support the Citizens Not Politicians campaign. This ballot initiative would create an independent Citizen Redistricting Commission — one that's driven by Ohioans just like you.

When we create fair, competitive, and representative district maps, we can make progress on effective and equitable environmental policy that will last for generations. We're grateful for your persistent partnership in this effort.

YOUR IMPACT BY THE NUMBERS

**250
ORGANIZATIONS**

COLLABORATING ACROSS THE STATE TO
PROTECT MAJORITY RULE

We were proud to work in coalition with more than 250 organizations and thousands of dedicated Ohioans to educate and engage voters across the state ahead of the August Special Election.

**5,986
REYNOLDSBURG
HOUSEHOLDS**

REACHED THROUGH OUR CIVIC
ENGAGEMENT TACTICS

Together, we're increasing voter engagement and driving work to develop the Reynoldsburg Climate Action Plan.

**7 MAJOR OHIO
SUPREME COURT
VICTORIES**

IN SUPPORT OF FAIR MAPS

A bipartisan majority on the state's highest court ruled in favor of fair statehouse and congressional maps, including litigation brought by the OEC and our partners in 2022. Unfortunately, we still have gerrymandered maps which is why we're endorsing a new, independent process.

FIELD ADVOCACY

Across Ohio, OEC's Field Advocacy Team aims to expand the network of locally elected environmental champions, galvanize local environmental coalitions around shared agendas, and build equitable partnerships with local frontline organizations. Learn more about the progress we're making with partners:



BUILDING A BETTER TABLE IN THE MAHONING VALLEY

One of the best ways to make a difference is by taking action on issues in your community. Over the past two years, OEC's Northeastern Ohio Regional Director has collaborated with several community partners to host our "Building a Better Table" series designed to empower residents with the knowledge, skills, and confidence to affect change within the systems that most impact their community. More than 30 participants have taken part in the program, which was intentionally designed to build authentic relationships and mutual trust between participants looking to advocate for a healthier environment and more inclusive community. We're excited to continue this important work with the support of members like you.



ACTING ON CLIMATE IN CINCINNATI

This year, the City of Cincinnati unanimously adopted the 2023 Green Cincinnati Plan, setting a strong example for prioritizing environmental justice in city-level climate action plans by embedding equity, inclusion, and community voices throughout the process. OEC's Southwestern Ohio Regional Director was selected to lead the Community Activation Subcommittee. All in all, over 1,600 residents participated in over 40 public meetings, including 150 residents from frontline communities most impacted by climate change. The Committee synthesized more than 3,000 resident recommendations into 40 high-impact emissions reduction strategies across eight focus areas of the Plan — with the ultimate goal of achieving an aggressive 50% carbon emissions reduction by 2030 and carbon neutrality by 2050.



ADVANCING ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY PRIORITIES IN GREATER CLEVELAND

The OEC is proud to work alongside partners with tremendous community engagement and technical expertise to address issues of environmental justice and climate action in the Greater Cleveland area. Following the development of comprehensive environmental policy platforms for both the city in 2021 and county in 2022, the OEC and Alliance for the Great Lakes have regularly convened partner organizations to collaborate and strategically advance policy priorities. Over the past year, we've helped facilitate important conversations between community partners and key administrative leaders, including Cleveland Mayor Justin M. Bibb, Cuyahoga County Executive Chris Ronayne, as well as members of council. We were pleased to present on these efforts at several important events like the inaugural Greater Cleveland Decarbonization Summit and a meeting with U.S. Department of Energy's Director of Diversity and Economic Impact, Shalanda Baker.



COLLABORATING ON CLIMATE ACTION IN SOUTHEAST OHIO

Throughout 2023, OEC’s Southeastern Ohio Regional Director collaborated closely with community leaders and partners to prioritize climate action. This work included hosting important conversations on the historic environmental justice impacts of extractive industries on the region as well as conversation on the current costs of climate change. It involved engaging local elected officials in the City of Athens, Athens County, and Perry County in discussions related to sustainability, emergency management planning, and community forestry. And it included supporting bold legal action and community organizing efforts to stop clearcutting and fracking projects on our public lands. Collectively, we’re making progress in support of a healthier environment.

ACROSS THE ORGANIZATION AND MOVEMENT

RESPONDING TO THE TOXIC TRAIN DERAILMENT IN EAST PALESTINE

Since the devastating Norfolk Southern train derailment in East Palestine in February 2023, staff members from across the OEC have worked alongside partners and community leaders to monitor the impact of the toxic chemical release on the affected community, provide ongoing legal resources for residents, and develop long-term regulatory and policy solutions to ensure an environmental disaster like this never happens again. We also responded to lawmakers’ questions and organized a state lawmaker briefing to help connect decision makers to experts who could provide accurate information about the environmental disaster. The OEC is committed to amplifying the messaging of our partners at the grassroots level in support of the community. We continue to stand in solidarity with our partners fighting for transparency, accountability, and justice.

MEETING OHIOANS ACROSS THE STATE

Over the course of the past year, staff participated in more than 100 community conversations, educational forums, technical conferences, policy briefings, rallies, and other events across the Buckeye State with partners and members like you. From Cincinnati to Youngstown, Athens to Cleveland, online and at in-person gatherings, one thing is certain: we are stronger, smarter, and more effective when we learn, work, and advocate together.

INVESTING IN EMERGING LEADERS

Thanks to supporters like you, we are able to invest in tomorrow’s environmental movement through our Emerging Leaders program. The Emerging Leaders program equips participants with the skills and training to create a better environment and a stronger community by connecting young professionals (18-40) from diverse backgrounds to environmental issues at home and across the globe. As part of this important program, our staff has supported an Emerging Leaders Council through an intensive six month training program. The 2023 Emerging Leaders Council’s advocacy capstone project, Urban Shift: Columbus’ Climate Future and You, focused on how Columbus’ current rezoning initiative can make the city more accessible, affordable, sustainable, and climate resilient as it continues to grow.

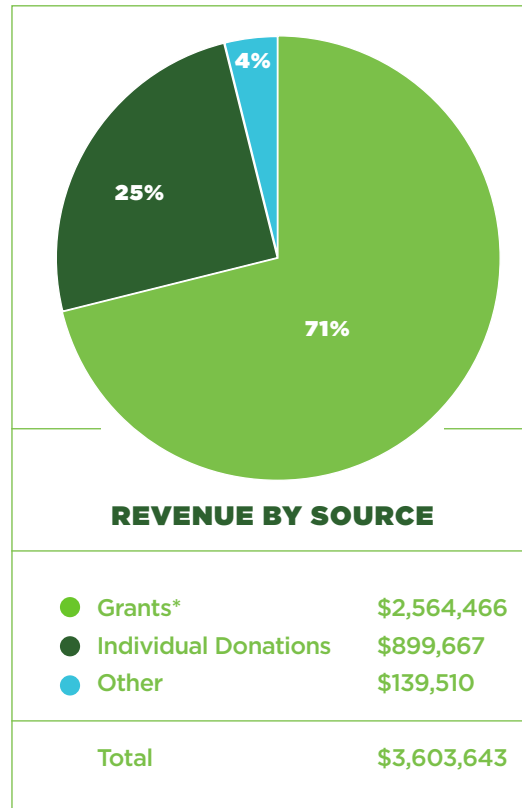
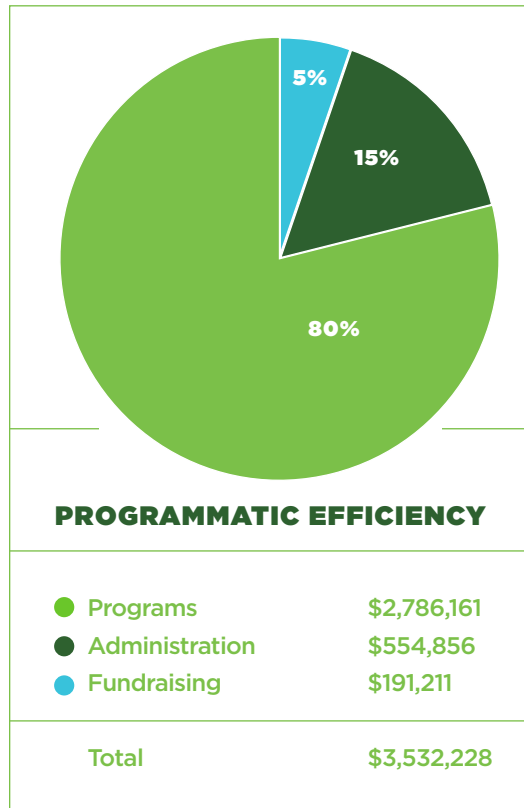
OEC AND OEC WORKERS UNITED RENEW COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT

In June, the OEC was proud to renew our collective bargaining agreement with OEC Workers United. In the fight to secure clean air, vibrant public lands, safe drinking water, and a healthy democracy for all who call Ohio home, we must have workers who feel supported. We believe this agreement empowers staff in our joint fight and provides them with the resources to sustainably support Ohio’s environmental movement. The OEC is a proud, long-term partner of labor unions. Unions make our world better, and the labor movement has been central to major advancements in the protection of people and the environment.



THE OEC IS A CAREFUL STEWARD OF YOUR INVESTMENT IN A CLEANER, HEALTHIER OHIO.

FY 2023: JULY 1, 2022 TO JUNE 30, 2023**



*The grant revenue reported includes a revenue hold-over for future fiscal years as a result of GAAP accounting guidance related to grant revenue recognition.

**These numbers include in-kind contributions and corresponding expenses, plus restricted contributions.



LEGACY CLUB

*An asterisk denotes a Legacy Club member who has passed away. We are especially grateful to these generous donors who have included the OEC in their wills.

Anonymous (3)
Penny Allen
Marketa Anderson
Michele Simmons
Kathy Barber*
Dayna Baird Payne
Richard Behymer*
Carol Bertrand
Linda Butler
Beth Crane
Ryan Donzelli
Ruth Ellen Butler
Joan Eshler
Babette Gorman
Peter Griesinger
Vincent Hand
Patricia Hammel
Helen Horn
Andrea Jones
Rosemary Joyce
Maryann Kafer
William Katzin, MD, PhD
Jeremy and Susan Studer King
Paul King
Jane King
Nancy Kremer
Calvin and Ilene Kunin
Alan Lapp
Bruce Loomis
John Marshall
Heather Taylor-Miesle
Kristen Moosmiller
Molly Muth
Janice Oakley
Joanne Osgood
Anne Powell Riley
GK Richards
Helen Richards*
Marty Sabol
Donald and Jeanie Sampson
Lynn Schreiber*
Steve Sedam
Rick and Jan Segal
Jack Shaner
Jeanne Smith*
Joe Sommer
Wendy Stewart
Chris Thorman
Ellen Weston
Gene and Sandy Wright
Laurie Johnston

Learn more about the Legacy Club at
WWW.THEOEC.ORG/BEQUESTS

DONOR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We value each and every contribution that is made in support of our collective mission to secure healthy air, land, and water for all who call Ohio home. Each contribution is important to building a broad, equitable base of support to protect our environment. This list represents only a fraction of the generous Ohioans who make our work possible. Thank you to all our donors, group members, community supporters, and volunteers. Below, we've listed the grantors, organizations, and individual donors who gave \$1,000 or more between July 1, 2022 and June 30, 2023. We thank these donors—and everyone who made gifts of less than \$1,000.

o° Living
Adelaide and David Davies
Al and Mary Compaan
Alan and Susan Lapp
Alliance for the Great Lakes
American Rivers
Andrea Jones
Ann Geddes
Ann Hagerman and Vincent Hand
Brewster Rhoads and Ann Lugbill
Annette McCormick
Apex Clean Energy Holdings, LLC
Arthur V.N. Brooks
Barb Andreas and Dennis Cooke
Barry Cik
Becky Wright
Ben Branch and Joan Campbell
Bradford Albrinck
Brian Blair and Susan Spinelli
Brian Roe and Elena Irwin
Bruce & Erica Greer Family Foundation
Calvin and Ilene Kunin
Carol and Robert Bertrand
Carol Kauffman
Chapin Boyer
Char and Chuck Fowler Family Foundation
Charles Stewart Mott Foundation
Cheri Brown and Pete Precario
Chris Schroeder
Claire Galed
Clif Bar Family Foundation
Clyde Gosnell and Louise Warner
Community Shares of Mid-Ohio
Conroy Funeral Home, Inc.
D. R. Clark
Dan and Lori Nelson
Dan Barash and Maureen Zorndorf
Daniel Medalie and Diana Prufer
Dave and Carole Ebner
David and Inez Myers Foundation
David and Laura Sangree
Dianne and Art Krumsee
DNO Produce, Inc.
Heather Taylor-Miesle and Donald Miesle
Doug Bell
Elizabeth Matthews Memorial Fund
Ellen Greene Bush
Energy Foundation
Ettinger Foundation
McClelland Fund, Foundation for Appalachian Ohio
Gena and Mike Shelton
The Richards Family
Gina and Andy Stevenson

Graham and Sharon Mitchell
Hal Candee
Harold and Melanie Oyster
Healing Our Waters - Great Lakes Coalition
Hubay Dougherty
Impact Assets
Babette Gorman and Jack Buckingham
Jack Davis and Vivian Witkind Davis
James and Dorothy Keith
James and Elizabeth Taylor
Jane Mykrantz
Janis Johnson
Jeremy and Susan King
Jill and Brandon Evans
Joann and Philip Hawley
Joel Knepp and Lynda McClanahan
John and Francille Firebaugh
John and Margaret Krieger
John Barber
John Funk
John Marshall and Angela Plummer
Johnson Ohana Charitable Foundation
Joseph Jerdonek
Joyce M. and Herbert W. Stielau Foundation
Julia Backoff and Christopher Burke
Julie Lange Peyton
Karen and Michel Soubeyrand
Kay and Howard Stierwalt
Ken Martin
Kenneth Dahms
Khanh Nguyen
Larry and Janet Robertson
Laura Prins
Laurie and Dan Roche
Laurie Johnston
League of Conservation Voters
League of Conservation Voters Education Fund
Lex Kridler
Linda Bunyan
Linda Butler and Steven Nissen
Luke Henningsen
Lynn Meloy and Lyle Cain
Marilyn and Michael Baumer
Mary Duffey and Tony Logan
Mary Lazarus
Mary Maxwell
Mason Pilcher
Matthew and Linda Smith
Mattlin Foundation
Maury Walsh and Beth Lenoble
Melodee Kornacker and Al Moore
Meshewa Farm Foundation
Mike Krippendorf and Dorothy Noyes

Mr. Robert R. Swab
Nancy London and John Petersen
National Wildlife Federation
New Morning Energy LLC
New Venture Fund
NorthAvenue Financial Advocates
Pari Sabety and Mark Shanahan
Paul and Catherine Knoop
Paul Hammond and Tracee Laing
Paul King
Peggy Malone
Peter and Joanne Griesinger
Philip Obbard
Phyllis H. & William H. Evans Charitable Foundation
Rebecca Karason
Rich and Kathy Shank
Richard Lapedes and Maureen Lynch
Elizabeth Crane and Richard McKee
Rick and Alita Rogers
Robert and Mary Wagner
Robert Longsworth
Dedee O'Neil
RE-AMP Network
Ruth Prochaska
Sam Schwab
Sandra Chiaramonte and Russell Scholl
Sandra Meyer
ScottsMiracle-Gro Foundation
Sears-Swetland Family Foundation
Steve Gassman
Sue and George Klein
Suzanne Gray
Ted and Frances Strickland
Terry Gamble Boyer
The Cleveland Foundation
The Columbus Foundation
The George Gund Foundation
The Nature Conservancy in Ohio
The Noon Whistle Fund
The Ohio State University
The Thomas C. and Mary Ann Hays Family Charitable Trust
Thomas and Sarah Ruggles
Thomas Hoyt and Katharine Brooks Jones Family Fund
Thomas McDowell
Thomas Winston
Tides Foundation
Tom and Tracy Tappan
Trip and Lexie Lazarus
W.B. Clapham and Anita Stoll
William and Aggie Martin
William and Lynn Ondrey Gruber
William and Patricia Hanavan
William Katzin, MD, PhD and Katherine Solender

We work very hard to ensure all donors are listed correctly; however, we do make mistakes. Please e-mail OEC@theOEC.org with any questions or corrections.

THANK YOU

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Rich Shank, Board President
Jeniece Brock
Marianne Eppig
Daniel Marks Gray
Peter R. Griesinger
William M. Ondrey Gruber, JD
Andy Jones, MS, CPM
Rebecca Karason, CEM
William Katzin, MD, PhD
Ben Kessler

Krista Magaw, MS
Graham Mitchell, MES
Francisco "Paco" Ollervides, PhD
Sam Schwab
Jennifer Sconyers
Mike Shelton
Alex Slaymaker
Andrew Watterson
Tom Winston, PE

OEC STAFF

Emily Bacha
VP, Public Affairs

Briones Bedell
Membership Engagement
Manager

Pete Bucher
Chief of Staff

Christopher Colón
Northeast Ohio
Regional Director

Franklin Davis
Director of Climate and
Democracy Organizing

Riley Dean
Political Associate

Katie Diaz
Operations Director

Spencer Dirrig
Political Director

Dante Ferguson
Chief People Officer

Melanie Houston
Managing Director of Water
Policy & Chief of
Organizational Planning

Cassie Johnson
Communications Associate

Kylie Johnson
Southwest Ohio
Regional Director

Nathan Johnson Esq.
Senior Attorney
Land and Water

Carol Kauffman
Executive Director

Emily Kelly
Agriculture and Water
Coordinator

Rafe Lewis
Engagement and Advocacy
Strategy Director

Alaina McCleery
Director of Individual
Giving

Samantha Miller
Director of Grants
Management

Karin Nordstrom
Clean Energy Attorney

Annalisa Rocca
Drinking Water Manager
and Events Organizer

Nolan Rutschilling
Managing Director of
Energy Policy

Caitlin Schomberg
Administrative Associate

Dena Sico
VP, Advancement

Brian D. Siggers
Cleveland Metro Advocacy
Director

Molly Jo Stanley
Southeast Ohio
Regional Director

Chris Tavenor Esq.
Managing Director of
Democracy Policy &
Associate General Counsel

Marisa Twigg
Creative and
Communications Director



Ohio Environmental Council

1145 Chesapeake Avenue, Suite I
Columbus, Ohio 43212

Address service requested

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Columbus, OH
Permit No. 1404

The Ohio Environmental Council Action Fund conducted OEC's statehouse lobbying, campaign tactics, and legislative communications. You can learn more about the Ohio Environmental Council Action Fund at www.OECActionFund.org

100% Recycled Paper