



## DU ENHANCES 1,000 ACRES OF PUBLIC LAND

★ **O**hio Division of Wildlife (ODOW), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Ottawa Soil & Water Conservation District (OSWCD), the Ottawa County Engineer, and private landowners partnered with DU to enhance four coastal wetlands totaling 254 acres at Little Portage Wildlife Area in Ottawa County. More than \$4 million of H2Ohio and Pittman-Robertson funding were invested in this project to improve Lake Erie's water quality by filtering 400 acres of agricultural drainage.



★ **A**t Ottawa NWR's Navarre Marsh Unit, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR), and Vistra Corp assisted with installing three pump structures and a large water control structure to restore water level management capability and fish passage. The project, which impacts 779 acres, will improve water quality, pumping nutrient-rich water from Lake Erie and filtering it through the wetlands before returning it to Erie. Nearly \$3 million of H2Ohio, USFWS Midwest Coastal Program, USFWS Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Restoration Act, and Great Lakes Restoration Initiative funding was used for this project.



## LAND PROTECTION EXPANDS PUBLIC ACCESS

**G**reat Lakes Restoration Initiative and H2Ohio funds were used to purchase three properties that expand public access in northwest Ohio. DU acquired the 64-acre Camp Sabroske property and donated the land to Ottawa NWR. DU also purchased the 68-acre Kuhn-Zuver property and donated it to ODOW to expand Tiffin River Wildlife Area. Finally, DU acquired a 50-acre Fulton County property at auction and donated it to the ODNR Division of Forestry to expand Maumee State Forest. There are plans for wetland and upland restoration projects on each of these properties.



## NAWCA FUNDS PAIR OF LAKE ERIE PROJECTS

**I**n 2023, DU submitted two \$3 million North American Wetlands Conservation Act (NAWCA) proposals. Both were approved for funding in the summer of 2024. The first grant is for the Western Lake Erie Coastal Project – Phase I. DU will partner with 12 agencies and organizations, securing \$6.3 million in matching funds (in addition to the \$3 million grant) to implement more than 20 conservation projects to protect or restore 3,717 acres. The second grant is for Lake Erie Coastal Wetlands – Phase IV. DU will partner with 11 agencies and organizations, securing \$7.3 million in matching funds to implement projects that will protect or restore nearly 2,900 acres.



## CONVERTING ROW CROPS TO CONSERVATION ACRES

**A**s part of the USFWS's Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Restoration Act, DU, ODOW, USFWS Partners for Fish and Wildlife, and OSWCD worked with landowners to restore wetlands and native grasslands on private property in northwest Ohio. Phase IV of the program, which operates on a three-year cycle, concluded in 2024, restoring 261 wetland and 111 grassland acres. Four of these projects converted

agriculture fields into wetlands and had significant water quality benefits so ODNR added over \$700,000 of H2Ohio dollars to pool with GLFWRA funds to complete them. DU is currently administering the Phase V grant, which is expected to restore more than 200 acres.





## OHIO 2025 State Report

### MEMBERSHIP

Grand Total: 17,691

**Members: 17,383**

General Members: 15,392

Greenwings: 952

Legacy Greenwing Members: 38

Sponsor Members: 1,001

**Major Sponsors: 308**

**Feather Society Members: 80**

### STATE FUNDRAISING

Total event income dollars raised:

\$2,188,956

Number of committees: 50

Number of fundraising events: 164

Local chapter volunteers: 575

### FY24 FALL FLIGHTS INVESTMENTS TO CANADIAN PROJECTS

Total Contributions:

\$5,503,828.67

Location of projects: Ontario:

Southwestern Ontario Landscape

Initiative and Southern Ontario

Habitat Initiative, Hullet WMA;

Manitoba (historic)

### CONTACT INFORMATION

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### US CONSERVATION PROGRAMS

Total Acres Conserved in  
the state (*historically since*  
FY1984): **98,921**

Total Acres of Conservation  
in the state (FY2024): **13,867**

Amount spent on projects in  
the state: **\$53,600,386**

Amount spent on projects in  
MS Flyway (*through FY24*):  
**\$794,952,058**

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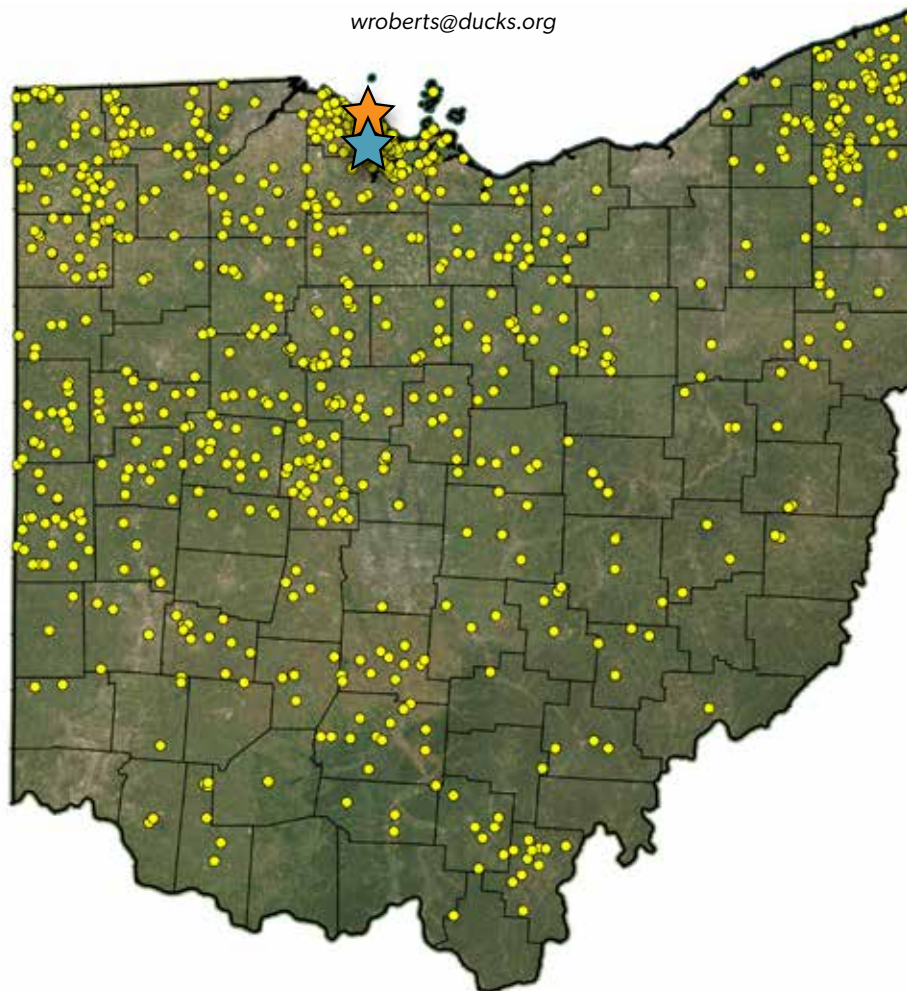
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