

(7/16/04 version)

## **WATERSHED ACTION PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION: 1999 WATERSHED ORGANIZATION SURVEY RESULTS**

### **Cost of Organizing and Sustaining a Watershed Group, Survey Results**

A 1999 Ohio State University Extension survey was sent to approximately 100 known watershed organizations, with 26 responding. The 26 responding organizations provided the following data.

- **Range of years in existence:** 2 to 30;
- **1998 range of annual average incomes:** \$456.00 to \$1 million;
- **Sources of income:**
  - 40% grants (primarily Ohio EPA Section 319 grants);
  - 26% membership dues;
  - 13% private corporate donations;
  - 8% private donations;
  - 8% Other (includes timber sales, program service fees, contracts, fund-raising auctions, project income, conservation set aside, rental income, oil and gas lease income, profit from retail sales (e.g., bookstore and birdseed), interest and dividends, and gain on the sale of investments).
- **Focus areas:** general watershed protection (31%), land; trust operation (20%), and wetlands preservation (15%); Note: that these statistics do not tally to 100% because a number of the groups indicated that they had multiple focus areas; however, the survey results were tallied only for those groups that identified a single focus area.
- **Organization goals:** education and outreach, preservation and protection of waterways, promotion of land-use planning, recreation, agricultural best management practices, analysis of resource issues, and development of watershed action plans;

Complete survey results are available at <http://ohioline.osu.edu/ws-fact/0002.html>.