

Public Involvement & Outreach:

MAAC Meetings (Quarterly)

MAAC members met regularly to discuss program and project planning, and the status of projects in progress.

5th Annual Water Quality Boat Cruise (August 2019)

This cruise took place to mark the anniversary of the 2014 Toledo Water Crisis. Attendees were treated to a scenic cruise along the lower Maumee River while listening to regional experts explain water quality issues, AOC projects and proposed solutions.

Data Management & Delisting System (DMDS) - Update (August 2019)

This tool provides its users the ability to track restoration progress and projects in the Maumee AOC. Many aspects of this web-based platform were updated in 2019 to make it more current, comprehensive and user-friendly.

Advisory Committee Members

The MAAC is composed of representatives across many types of organizations, including nonprofits, academia, business/industry, local government, and the general public. For a complete list of current members, please visit maumeeaac.org.

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Maumee AOC

In 1987, the joint U.S.-Canada Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement formed the Area of Concern (AOC) program. This program, specific to the Great Lakes Region, defines AOCs as "geographic areas where significant impairment of beneficial uses has occurred as a result of human activities at the local level." Due to significant habitat alteration, industrial impacts, uncontrolled sewage overflows, and struggling wildlife in the greater Toledo and outlying areas, the Maumee AOC was designated. Waterways included in this AOC are the lower Maumee River, Ottawa River, Swan Creek, Toussaint River, and numerous smaller tributaries.

Since its AOC designation, an active group of community members and representatives from local nonprofit organizations, businesses and government have worked to address the Maumee AOC's 10 designated BUIs. This group, currently called the Maumee AOC Advisory Committee (MAAC), works as an advisory committee to Ohio EPA, identifying solutions to improve fishable, swimmable and drinkable waters within the AOC. MAAC members help to organize public education opportunities and identify valuable restoration projects. This ongoing collaboration of partners and volunteers is organized by the MAAC's facilitating organization, Partners for Clean Streams.



This product or publication was financed in part or totally through a grant from the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency with the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative. The contents and views, including any opinions, findings, or conclusions or recommendations, contained in this product or publication are those of the authors and have not been subject to any Ohio Environmental Protection Agency or administrative review and may not necessarily reflect the views of the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency and no official endorsement should be inferred.

MAUMEE AOC

★ 2019
ANNUAL REPORT



What is a BUI?

A beneficial use impairment (BUI) refers to an impairment of a specific condition in an Area of Concern (AOC). BUIs can reference negative conditions in a chemical, physical or biological component of an area, and these conditions are typically significant enough to result in harm to specific segments of our waterways. There are 14 BUIs in total but not all are applicable to each AOC. The Maumee AOC began with 10 BUIs, but one has been removed and nine remain. All BUIs designated for an AOC must be removed before that AOC can be considered for delisting (i.e., removed from the AOC program).

		Status (2019)
BUI 1	Restrictions on fish and wildlife consumption	
	1a: Fish: Target met in 2018	
	1b: Wildlife: In progress (data under review)	
BUI 3	Degradation of fish and wildlife populations	
	3a: Fish: In progress (MAP list in development)	
	3b: Wildlife: Target met in 2017	
BUI 4	Fish tumors or other deformities	
	4a: Tumors and deformities (DELTs): In progress (data under review)	
	4b: Tumors and deformities (bullhead): In progress (data under review)	
BUI 6	Degradation of benthos: In progress (MAP List in development)	
BUI 7	Restriction on dredging activities: In progress (data under review)	
BUI 8	Eutrophication or undesirable algae	
	8a: Eutrophication (dissolved oxygen): Target met in 2014	
	8b: Eutrophication (persistent growth): In progress (data under review)	
BUI 10	Beach closings	
	10a: Beach advisories: In progress (Study in progress)	
	10b: Class-A type streams: Target met in 2018	
	10c: Chemical contact: Target met in 2019	
BUI 11	Degradation of aesthetics: In progress (data under review)	
BUI 12	Added costs to agriculture or industry: Removed in 2015	
BUI 14	Loss of fish and wildlife habitat	
	14a: Fish: In progress (MAP List in development)	
	14b: Wildlife: In progress (MAP List being implemented)	

Beneficial Use Impairment

AOC Delisting Process

Each AOC may be delisted after undergoing steps 1-6 below for each designated BUI:

- 1. Monitoring and Assessment
- 4. Meet BUI Restoration Targets
- 2. Management Action Project (MAP) List in Development
- 5. Formal BUI Removal
- 3. MAP Implementation
- 6. Formal AOC Delisting



Populations of wild turkeys and sandhill cranes are improving.

Project Work: 2019

Progress on approved BUI 14b Wildlife Habitat Management Action Projects

- Target acreage is 3,427 acres**
- 20 projects (some with multiple parts/phases)
 - ➔ 3 projects are complete = 30 acres (1%)
 - ➔ 14 Design/Build In Progress = 2948 acres (86%)
 - ➔ 2 Engineering/Design In Progress = 299 acres (9%)
 - ➔ 1 Application In Progress/Funding Pending = 152 acres (4%)

Significant Planning Work

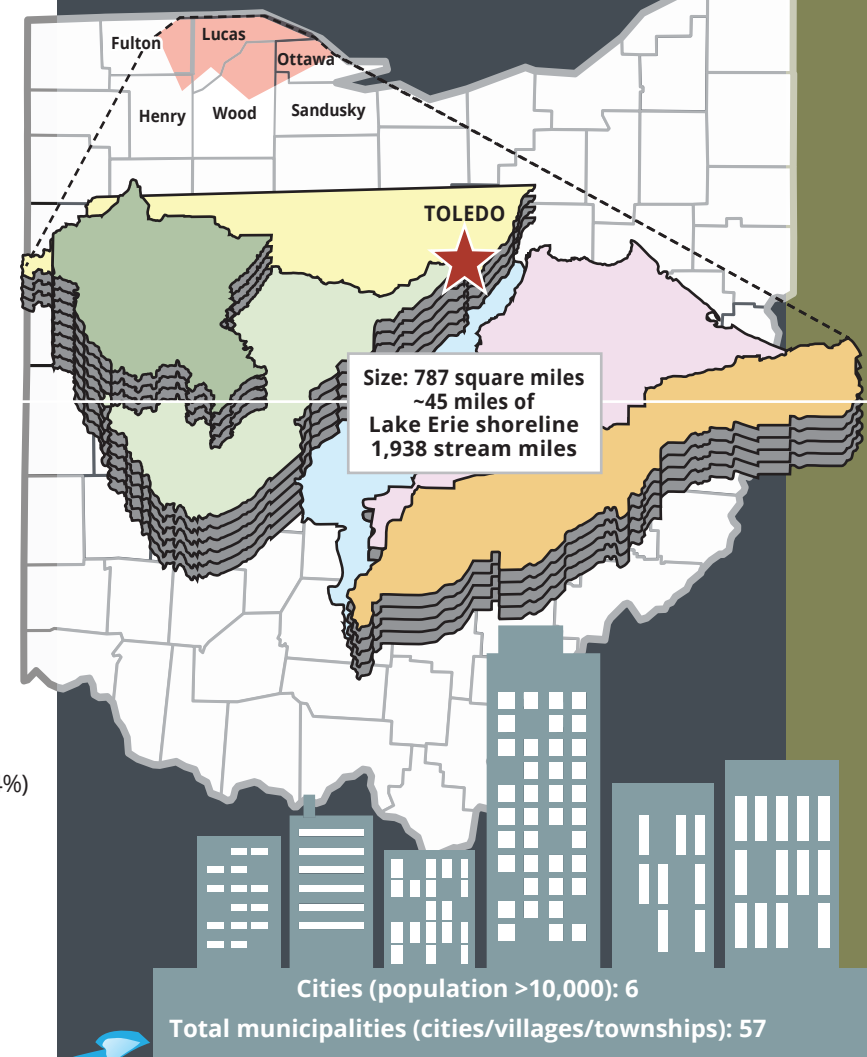
The Maumee Area of Concern Advisory Committee (MAAC) continued planning work in 2019 to address three aquatic life BUIs: 3a. Degradation of fish population, 6. Degradation of benthos, and 14a. Loss of fish habitat. The goal over the course of the year was to continue the development of a comprehensive Management Action Project (MAP) List that contained restoration projects designed to resolve these impairments.

Throughout the year, the MAAC Aquatic BUI Subcommittee met many times, to identify, refine and prioritize projects and strategies to address these three BUIs. Next steps in this process, to be carried out from 2020-2024, include finalizing project funding & lead agencies, project implementation, and project site monitoring.



Sandhill cranes

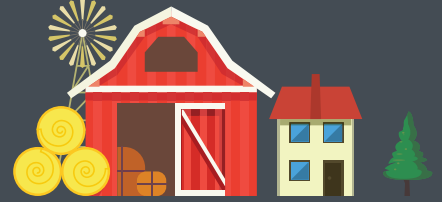
Maumee AOC Metrics



Number of independent watersheds: 11

Land Usage

- Agricultural: ~60%
- Developed land: ~30%
- Wetland/forest/grassland/shrub/open water: ~10%



Number of people living in AOC: ~ 558,000

