

Natural Resources Assistance Council Appointment Procedures

<http://clean.ohio.gov/GreenSpaceConservation/GreenSpaceConservationNRACAP.htm>

Each district public works integrating committee, or if applicable, its executive committee, shall appoint an eleven member Natural Resources Assistance Council.

Of the eleven members, one shall be a member of the appointing integrating committee and one shall represent a soil and water conservation district that is located within the geographical jurisdiction of the appointing integrating committee. The nine other members of the council shall be appointed from the following categories or organizations, units of government, or agencies and shall include at least one member from each of those categories.

1. A county, municipal corporation, township, conservancy district, regional or joint district or unit of local government, or regional or joint political subdivision that is located within the geographical jurisdiction of the appointing integrating committee;
2. A conservation organization, an environmental advocacy organization, and organization with a primary interest in watershed protection and restoration, the department of natural resources, the environmental protection agency, or the United States natural resources conservation service;
3. A city park system or metropolitan park system or a board of park commissioners from a county that is located within the geographical jurisdiction of the appointing integrating committee, a statewide parks and recreation organization, or the United States national park service.
4. A statewide organization representing agriculture, and organization representing forestry interests, the department of agriculture, or the United States department of agriculture;
5. An organization representing business, local Realtors, or a planning agency, including a Port. authority, located within the geographical jurisdiction of the appointing integrating committee.

No organization, unit of government, or agency that is listed above shall be represented by more than one member on the council at any given time. The membership of the council shall reflect the demographic and economic diversity of the population located within the geographic area represented by the council.

Nominees must represent a recognized organization or entity from one of the groupings defined in Section 164.21 (A) of the Ohio Revised Code. Recognized organizations are those who are members of the Ohio Conservation and Environmental forum, or who provided formal testimony on H.B.3 in the House or Senate, or are local, state or federal agencies as defined in Section 164.21 (A), or those who provide the Ohio Public Works Commission with documentation of there purpose relative to Section 164.21 (A).

Exception: Nominations for the member which shall be a member of the appointing integrating committee shall be accepted and voted upon at a public meeting of the respective integrating committee, and nominations for the member which shall represent a soil and water conservation district shall be accepted by letter from the soil and water conservation district(s) within the respective integrating committee and be voted upon at a public meeting.

Nominations shall be submitted to the respective district integrating committee's Liaison on or before September 7, 2001.

Nominees desiring confirmation of receipt of their nomination shall include a self addressed return envelope with first class postage with their nomination. District Liaison's shall provide nominees requesting confirmation with a photo copy of their nomination containing a date received stamp or notation of the date received and the initials of the Liaison.

District committees or, if applicable, their executive committee, shall meet to consider all nominations received and by vote at a public meeting appoint members of their respective Natural Resources Assistance Council within 90 days of the effective date of House Bill No. 3 (Tentatively, October 22, 2001).

Nominees shall be provided with advance notice of the date, time and location of the integrating committee meeting at which their nomination will be considered.

Of the eleven members of each Natural Resources Assistance Council four (4) shall be appointed for an initial term of one year, four (4) shall be appointed for an initial term of two years, and three (3) shall be appointed for an initial term of three years. The term of all initial appointments shall be determined by random drawing at an open meeting of the respective integrating committee.

District integrating committees shall provide the Commission a list of appointments to their respective Natural Resources Assistance Council on the attached Member Registry form with copies of the appointees nomination form on or prior to October 22, 2001.

Final determination of questioned eligibility or appointments shall be made by the Ohio Public Works Commission.

Questions relative to the nomination and appointment process should be directed to the Director of the Ohio Public Works Commission at 614-664-1836.

Released: July 24, 2001

Status: Ongoing

Distribution: District chairs, liaisons, interested parties.

Natural Resources Assistance Council Members: Responsibilities

<http://clean.ohio.gov/GreenSpaceConservation/GreenSpaceConservationNRAC.Responsibilities.htm>

Natural Resource Assistance Councils required to be organized under Section 164.21 (A) of the Ohio Revised Code have the following responsibilities:

- "A natural resources assistance council shall elect a chairperson, a vice chairperson, and other officers that the council considers appropriate." O.R.C. 164.21 (B)
- "A council may adopt bylaws governing its operation, including bylaws that establish the frequency of regular meetings and any necessary procedures." O.R.C. 164.21 (B)
- "A natural resources assistance council shall establish a prioritization and selection methodology system for applications submitted under section 164.23 of the Revised Code. The methodology shall be submitted to and approved by the director of the Ohio public works commission." O.R.C. 164.24 (B)
- "Natural resources assistance councils shall review and approve or disapprove applications in accordance with sections 164.20 to 164.27 of the Revised Code for grants for projects..."defined in section 164.22 (A) and 164.22 (B) of the Revised Code.
- Natural resources assistance councils shall forward approved projects to the Ohio Public Works Commission for final approval.

Following appointment, the initial meeting of each council shall be convened by the council member who is a member of the appointing integrating committee, and who shall serve as interim chairperson until the council elects officers required by O.R.C. 164.21 (B).

Each council will be provided with a model methodology for consideration in fulfilling the requirements of section 164.24 (B) of the Revised Code. Commission staff members will be available to provide technical assistance and policy guidance.

After the initial organization of each council it is anticipated that councils will need to meet at least two to three times a year.

Released: August 10, 2001

Status: Ongoing

Distribution: Interested parties