Stream System Manager

Multi-Objective Floodplain Management

Utilizing floodplains to improve community benefits

Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District
Protecting Your Health and Environment

Description: Multi-objective floodplain management will reduce the impacts of stormwater runoff and flooding within the District through a broad spectrum of activities. Floodplain management is part of the National Flood Insurance Program through which individual communities address regulatory, insurance, and flood loss reduction considerations. Multi-objective approaches address other community goals and issues that are compatible with floodplain management in ways that enhance the overall community. Using this approach, communities will benefit by reduced flood losses, reduced costs for flood insurance, and increased community benefits, such as added stream corridor parks, increased recreational opportunities, preserved natural areas, and cleaner water.

OBJECTIVES

- Manage stormwater to minimize flood losses to both life and property.
- Capitalize upon opportunities to meet multiple community goals and provide multiple benefits.
- Serve as a technical resource regarding floodplain management to local communities.
- Work with local communities to help lower their costs for flood insurance policies.

DISTRICT ROLES

- Provide technical assistance for community floodplain management.
- Coordinate regional stormwater/floodplain management training.
- Seek opportunities for state flood mitigation grant funding for member communities.
- Assist in identifying, developing and funding multi-objective projects.
- Manage stormwater to minimize flood losses of life and property.

KEY CONSIDERATIONS

- Encourage communities to join the National Flood Insurance Program and enforce its provisions.
- Leverage stormwater management fees as matching funds on projects.
- Contribute to reducing cost of flood insurance through specific stormwater management programs that can reduce stormwater and/or flood impacts.
- Realize more funding and support through a multi-objective approach.
- Prioritize short/long-term community needs through a multi-objective approach.
- Encourage communities to utilize NFIP programs to address multiple local concerns including flooding, environmental, water quality, recreation, etc.
- Provide stakeholder coordination to educate citizens, property owners, businesses, and organizations about multi-objective floodplain management to provide balanced public input, to develop political support, and to improve program effectiveness.

EXAMPLES

Multi-objective floodplain management projects fall within six categories of activities that have been proven to reduce flood losses. The District will assist interested communities with these activities:

☑ Prevention
- o Floodplain Regulations
- o Master Drainage Planning
- o Design standards

☑ Property Protection
- o Elevation/Relocation
- o Flood Insurance
- o Construction materials

☑ Natural Resource Protection
- o Wetlands/Riparian Setbacks
- o Streambank stabilization
- o Open Space

☑ Emergency Services
- o Back-up power
- o In-stream spill response
- o Communications

☑ Structural Projects
- o Retention/Detention
- o Channels and culverts
- o Flood control structures

☑ Public Information
- o Floodplain mapping
- o Web-enabled stream data
- o “How-To” guides