

Balanced Growth Planning in the Upper Scioto Watershed

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Adapted from the Ohio Balanced Growth Program Frequently Asked Questions (www.balancedgrowth.ohio.gov)

BALANCED GROWTH PLANNING

What is Balanced Growth Planning?

Balanced Growth Planning is a voluntary, incentive-based initiative that brings watershed communities together to develop a strategy that considers the relationship between land use and water quality and promotes long-term economic competitiveness, ecological health, and quality of life. The state offers special incentives for Balanced Growth Planning communities. These incentives can include extra points on grant applications, low-interest loans, and more.

Don't we already have programs to deal with flooding, erosion, and water quality?

Yes, but they deal with correcting past problems. Balanced Growth is intended to prevent future problems by encouraging local governments to plan for the location of (re)development and for areas that should be conserved.

Does this program create unfunded mandates?

No. The program is both voluntary and locally driven and will only occur where local governments decide to participate.

How does Balanced Growth save tax dollars?

Watershed based planning and implementation of Best Local Land Use Practices reduces redundant expenditures for infrastructure and encourages redevelopment in areas where infrastructure already exists. Costs are also reduced by maintaining "green" infrastructure such as forests for filtering rain water and floodplains for mitigating flood hazards.

UPPER SCIOTO PLANNING PARTNERSHIP

Community representatives and stakeholders in the Upper Scioto Watershed worked together to develop the Upper Scioto Watershed Balanced Growth Plan. Early in the planning process, the partnership established goals to guide the development of the plan.

Goals for the Upper Scioto Balanced Growth Plan

Work together as a watershed partnership to achieve common planning goals and to address shared social, economic, and environmental concerns.

- Protect, preserve, restore, and enhance the environment, the Upper Scioto river, open space, recreation areas, and areas that serve natural functions in the watershed. Improve access to these areas.
- Preserve and enhance the unique characteristics of communities within the watershed, whether they are rural, urban, agricultural, suburban, or old town centers.
- Plan for sustainable growth by maximizing efficient use of infrastructure to promote economic development and to achieve a healthy balanced between land uses in the watershed and in the relationship between the natural and built environments.

For more information, visit our website at balancedgrowthplanning.morpc.org

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PRIORITY AREAS

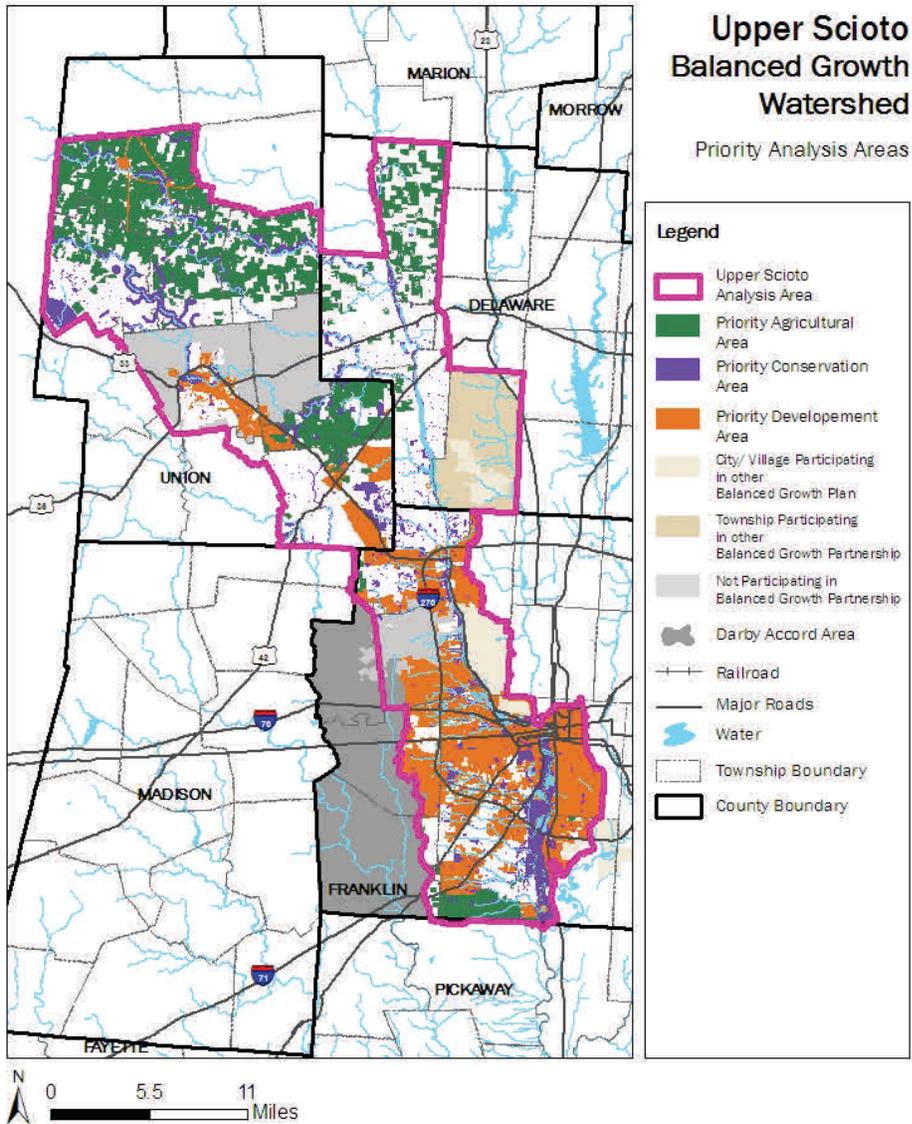
What are Priority Areas?

- Areas that have been locally targeted for conservation, (re)development, or continued agricultural use.
- There is no change in the owner's property rights due to designation as a priority area.

Priority Conservation Area: An area where local communities are encouraged to promote the conservation of land for its unique natural, cultural, recreational or historical value.

Priority Development Area: An area targeted for future development or redevelopment where the local communities will promote use of the land, community services, and existing or planned infrastructure with maximum efficiency while minimizing the impact on the watershed.

Priority Agricultural Area: An area that local communities target for continued, expanded and/or intensified agricultural activities due to historical, cultural, natural, or human-created traits which make it conducive to agriculture and related activities while minimizing the impact on the watershed.



The information shown on this map is compiled from various sources made available to us which we believe to be reliable.
N/AAGIS Center for Energy & Environment, Upper Scioto Watershed BGM Maps for Documents (US_FULL_PriorityMap.mxd)
April 2012

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